

+ Life Unlimited

Annual Report and Accounts 2020

Smith+Nephew



Our Purpose

Life Unlimited captures the essence of our purpose to improve the health issues that hinder people from living their lives to the fullest. We design and make technology that takes the limits off living, and we help healthcare professionals achieve the same goal. Together we improve life, while also improving performance.

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+ Our Performance

Our performance in 2020 reflected the significant impact of COVID-19 across our markets.

Group revenue \$4,560m	Earnings per share (EPS) 51.3¢	Adjusted Earnings per share¹ (EPSA) 64.6¢
Reported -11.2%	Underlying¹ -12.1%	-25%
		-37%

Dividend per share 37.5¢	Operating profit \$295m	Trading profit¹ \$683m
Unchanged	-64%	-42%

Return on invested capital¹ (ROIC) 7.1%	Operating profit margin 6.5%	Trading profit margin¹ 15.0%
-340bps	-940bps	-780bps

R&D expenditure \$307m	Cash generated from operations \$972m	Trading cash flow¹ \$690m
+5%	-29%	-29%

HCPs trained 185,000+	Product donations \$4.7m
+67%	

>> KPIs on pages 18–19

>> Financial review on pages 20–23

¹ These non-IFRS financial measures are explained and reconciled to the most directly comparable financial measure prepared in accordance with IFRS on pages 222–226.

We are a leading portfolio medical technology company

Life Unlimited. Smith+Nephew exists to restore people's bodies and their self-belief.

18,000
employees supporting
healthcare professionals
in over

100
countries, for more than

160+
years

Smith+Nephew has been responding to COVID-19 since January 2020, first in China, and then across all of our markets globally.

[» See page 10](#)

Our strategy

Five strategic imperatives form our value creation plan for the medium term.

- 1 Achieve the full potential of our portfolio
- 2 Transform the business through enabling technologies
- 3 Expand in high-growth segments
- 4 Strengthen talent and capabilities
- 5 Become the best owner

Our culture

Our culture pillars guide our behaviours and build winning spirit:

- » Care
- » Collaboration
- » Courage
- » See page 30

Innovation

Innovation is at the heart of Smith+Nephew. We deliver new products that empower healthcare professionals with options to improve patient outcomes. We develop technology through our global Research & Development (R&D) programme, and also acquire exciting technologies where we can add value and make a meaningful difference to our customers and their patients.

Manufacturing and Quality

At Smith+Nephew we take great pride in our manufacturing expertise. Our main manufacturing facilities in the Americas, Europe and Asia continued to deliver our vital products in 2020 despite COVID-19.

Medical Education

Every year Smith+Nephew provides medical education and training to tens of thousands of surgeons and nurses to help improve patient outcomes through the safe and effective use of our products.

» See pages 36–43

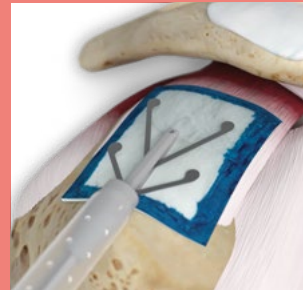
We serve our customers through three global franchises

» Read more about our three global franchises on pages 44–51



Orthopaedics

Orthopaedics includes an innovative range of Hip and Knee Implants used to replace diseased, damaged or worn joints, robotics-assisted enabling technologies that empower surgeons, and Trauma products used to stabilise severe fractures and correct bone deformities.



Sports Medicine & ENT

Our Sports Medicine and Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) businesses offer advanced products and instruments used to repair or remove soft tissue. They operate in growing markets where unmet clinical needs provide opportunities for procedural and technological innovation.



Advanced Wound Management

Our Advanced Wound Management portfolio provides a comprehensive set of products to meet broad and complex clinical needs, to help healthcare professionals reduce the human and economic consequences of wounds.

Emerging stronger from a challenging year

Dear Shareholder

The 2020 financial performance was disappointing when set against the high expectations we had for the year.

Revenue was impacted by COVID-19 restrictions in all of our markets and the resultant postponement of elective surgeries. Faced with these challenges, management took the decision that Smith+Nephew had the financial strength to weather this storm whilst continuing to invest in the business and our strategy. As a result, jobs were protected and we proceeded with our plans to invest behind product launches, R&D and acquisitions, offset by some discretionary one-off cost savings.

The combination of the lower revenue and the sustained commitment to investment had an impact on margin, and consequently earnings, for the year. Looking ahead, we expect these investments to drive recovery and deliver higher growth over time. This, in turn, will support recovery in earnings.

Leadership

In July we welcomed Anne-Françoise Nesmes as the Company's new Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Anne-Françoise is an established finance leader who has demonstrated her effectiveness supporting ambitious strategic, investment and efficiency programmes in her past roles, including CFO of Merlin Entertainments and Dechra Pharmaceuticals.

Graham Baker stood down as CFO in April for a new opportunity, and left with our best wishes for the future. The Board is grateful to Ian Melling, Senior Vice President Group Finance, who served as interim CFO between Graham leaving and Anne-Françoise joining.

Smith+Nephew has a strong, stable and highly experienced leadership team and the Board has noted the team spirit developing between Roland, Anne-Françoise and the whole Executive Committee.

We aim for our Board to have a wide range of background, skills and experiences and were pleased to welcome new colleagues with significant experience of leadership in medtech within our major markets of the US, Europe and China. More details on changes to the Board can be found on [page 66](#) onwards.

Annual General Meeting

A highlight in our calendar is the Annual General Meeting, with its opportunity to interact directly with many of our private shareholders. Unfortunately this could not take place in the usual manner in 2020. Rather we held a small official meeting, followed by a virtual question and answer session. I thank everyone involved in delivering this unique event, and also thank shareholders who submitted questions and dialled-in to the virtual session.

“
We expect these investments to drive recovery and deliver higher growth steadily over time. This, in turn, will support recovery in earnings.”

Roberto Quarta
Chair



“Smith+Nephew has a strong, stable and highly experienced leadership team.”

37.5¢
per share dividend
unchanged from
2019

Given the ongoing lockdown restrictions, which we expect to continue for some time, we shall be livestreaming our 2021 AGM from our Expert Connect Centre in Watford, UK, to enable all shareholders to participate electronically and safely whilst still being able to vote, speak and raise questions. More details are contained in the Notice of Meeting. We very much hope to be able to revert to an in-person meeting in 2022, as well as continuing to livestream.

Dividend

Smith+Nephew has paid a dividend every year since its shares were first listed on the London Stock Market in 1937. This reflects our long-standing commitment to delivering value while also investing for the future. In 2020, the Board determined that the Company's strong balance sheet, effective response to COVID-19 and our desire to balance the needs of all our stakeholders, gave us the confidence to ensure shareholders benefitted from an annual distribution.

Therefore, the Board is recommending a Final Dividend of 23.1¢ per share, which, together with the Interim Dividend of 14.4¢ per share, will give a total distribution of 37.5¢ per share, unchanged from 2019 and maintaining our progressive dividend policy.

Culture

The Board wanted to ensure that COVID-19 did not stop our commitment to engage beyond the senior leadership team to take stock of the culture and morale within Smith+Nephew. Prior to the crisis, individual Board members had started a series of face-to-face listening sessions with employees. As we moved to an online environment we were able to continue this process with Board colleagues hosting video calls with employees across US, Europe and Asia Pacific. The invaluable insights from these meetings are covered in the Compliance & Culture Committee report on page 98.

Your Board is proud of how Smith+Nephew's employees and management team have conducted themselves in 2020. In the face of an unprecedented global situation, they have continued to serve our customers today whilst making solid progress in transforming the Company for the future. On behalf of the whole Board, I would like to thank the team for their dedication and fortitude.

Yours sincerely,



Roberto Quarta
Chair

»» Our governance
report starts on
page 66

“Your Board is proud of how Smith+Nephew's employees and management team have conducted themselves in 2020.”

Innovation-led and focused on growth

Dear Shareholder

In 2020 Smith+Nephew faced unprecedented challenges as COVID-19 disrupted our business in every market. Trading across the year was impacted, with the second quarter being particularly badly affected as healthcare systems shut down elective procedures to focus on providing treatment to COVID-19 patients.

Throughout this period we prioritised the health and safety of employees, continued to support our customers and communities, and at the same time undertook important work to strengthen the Group. This included increasing investment in R&D, launching multiple new products, and making strategic acquisitions in higher growth segments.

I am proud of the approach we took and the progress we made.

Guided by our culture

Faced with a global pandemic we could easily have made excuses. We did not. Instead, our employees worked together to care for our customers, our communities and one another to further our purpose of Life Unlimited.

From our sales representatives who slept in their cars outside of hospitals to make sure they were there for the customers who needed them, to our team who mobilised quickly to develop a ventilator prototype, to our employees with health care training who returned to their communities to help treat those with COVID-19, to our essential workers who continued to come to our sites to manufacture and deliver product to our customers – across the business our teams demonstrated our culture pillars of Care, Collaboration and Courage.

We made significant improvement in our engagement as measured by our Global Employee Survey. We also reinforced our commitment to Inclusion and Diversity by beginning a Standing Together initiative, as well as launching several Employee Inclusion Groups, furthering our long-term strategic priority to strengthen our workforce.

We also made positive steps towards meeting the ambitious targets set out in our new sustainability strategy. These are focused on creating a lasting positive impact on our communities, minimising our environmental impacts, innovating sustainably and creating products that enable people to live their life to the full.

You can read more about all of these initiatives in this report.

>> Investing in our people page 28

“
Faced with a global pandemic we could easily have made excuses.
We did not.”

Roland Diggelmann
Chief Executive Officer



2020 performance

We entered 2020 full of optimism following record revenue in 2019 and a growth rate we had not delivered for many years. However, COVID-19 hit early in the year, first in China, an important market for us, and, soon after, all of our markets were affected. As a result, our 2020 revenue and profit were both down year-on-year.

The impact of COVID-19 was most pronounced on our Orthopaedic Reconstruction, Sports Medicine and ENT businesses, driven by lower levels of elective surgery.

Our Advanced Wound Management and Trauma businesses remained more resilient across the year.

The second quarter was particularly difficult, with revenue falling by nearly 30%. We saw some improvement in the summer and autumn, but rates of COVID-19 infection increased again from mid-October onwards. Encouragingly the overall effect on the business was less severe than we saw earlier in the year, as some healthcare systems were able to maintain non-COVID care at a higher rate than before.

Even within this disappointing year there were milestones of note. We sold our millionth PICO[®] 7 Negative Pressure Wound Therapy system and two millionth OXINIUM[®] hip or knee implant. And the success of recently launched products, such as our OR30[®] Dual Mobility Hip and EVOS[®] System in Trauma, demonstrated that true innovation will always drive demand.

We also adapted in how we served our customers. A highlight of this was our medical education team, which pivoted to online and delivered a record number of training courses across the year.

New innovation

Smith+Nephew is an innovation-led business. In 2020 we invested a record \$307 million in R&D and delivered important launches. These included cutting-edge digital solutions, such as a new robotics system, a suite of connected sports medicine surgical tools for the operating room and a business and patient management platform to help customers expand outpatient care. Despite the challenges, we intentionally maintained our focus on developing and launching new products so that we could regain momentum as our markets recovered.

Investing in businesses and technologies in higher-growth segments is at the core of our acquisition strategy. The pandemic did not stop us from making important progress here too. In January 2020 we acquired the developer of Tula[®], a new system for in-office delivery of ear tubes to treat recurrent or persistent ear infections. And in September we announced the acquisition of an extremity orthopaedics business that will significantly strengthen our portfolio in this higher growth area.

You can read more about the work of our R&D team, our product launches and acquisitions later in this report.

>> Delivering innovation page 36

2 million

implants made from OXINIUM have been used in the treatment of patients

Two million patients have been treated with implants made from OXINIUM Technology – Smith+Nephew's proprietary oxidised zirconium alloy used in hip and knee replacements.

OXINIUM is a unique material that combines the strength of metal with the wear resistance of ceramic. Its hardness, low-friction and resistance to roughening and abrasion makes it ideal for a wide variety of hip and knee applications.

The evidence behind OXINIUM is compelling. Four major registries around the world have shown OXINIUM to be the best performing hip bearing on the market¹⁻⁴ and it is the only bearing technology with published results of 45 million knee cycles in vitro wear simulation testing, simulating 30 years of normal activity.^{5,6}

OXINIUM Technology is a key component in several advanced products offered through Smith+Nephew's innovative hip and knee portfolios. This includes the POLAR3[®] Total Hip Solution, the OR30[®] Dual Mobility Hip System and the JOURNEY[®] II Total and Unicompartmental Knee Systems.

>> References available on page 238



Our strategic imperatives

Grow + Together + Effectively

- 1 Achieve the full potential of our portfolio
- 2 Transform the business through enabling technologies
- 3 Expand in high-growth segments
- 4 Strengthen talent and capabilities
- 5 Become the best owner

2021 priorities

Our three priorities for 2021 build on the work undertaken and investments made in 2020 and are underpinned by our strategic imperatives.

Return to top-line growth and recapture momentum

Our first priority for 2021 is to return to top-line growth and recapture the momentum we were building prior to COVID-19, with the ultimate aim of increasing earnings through operating leverage. This priority aligns with the first three of our Strategic Imperatives targeted at improving revenue growth.

Our focus here is to drive higher returns from our differentiated product portfolio. Our recent experience of launching innovative products demonstrates that our emphasis on commercial excellence can enhance growth. Many of our recent new product launches are at early stages, and there is considerable scope to expand them both to new customers, and into new markets. As an example, later this year our new robotics platform CORI will launch in Europe and India, important markets for surgical robotics.



In 2021 we expect to again invest more in R&D as we continue to develop innovation that improves outcomes for patients and customers and meets unmet clinical needs. We have a strong pipeline across the franchises with many launches planned, including further digital technologies, subject to completion of necessary regulatory reviews, clearances and approvals. These include a cementless knee, a next-generation single-use negative pressure wound therapy system and upgrades to our robotics and connected tower platforms. We also have a significant programme of innovation planned for China, including new products made in China for China.

We also expect to make progress in delivering value from recently acquired assets. In particular there are opportunities to drive synergistic growth in Trauma & Extremities, Sports Medicine Joint Repair, ENT and Advanced Wound Bioactives. For instance, the acquired Sports Medicine products REGENETEN and NOVOSTITCH[®], which have been well received in the US, are only at the start of their launch in other markets.

“Our medical education team pivoted to online and delivered a record number of training courses across the year.”

The Extremity Orthopaedics business, acquired in January 2021, is expected to deliver strong growth, and the Tula System has the potential to transform tympanostomy tube treatment of children as ENT surgeries restart.

Drive further operational improvement across the Group

Our second priority for 2021 is to drive further operational improvement across Smith+Nephew in order to provide more resources for investment in the mid-term, including in R&D. This priority aligns to our strategic imperative to become the best owner.

We are undertaking a programme to transform our operations, which is expected to deliver around \$200 million of annualised benefits by 2025 for a one-off cost of around \$350 million.

One major component of the programme is to continue to optimise our manufacturing network, including introducing digital technologies and lean manufacturing. We are building a new facility in Malaysia, which will provide additional capacity in a low-cost location to support future growth and have expanded our site in Costa Rica. We are outsourcing our global warehousing and distribution functions in the US and Europe to a specialist third party partner and expect to benefit from the greater scale and expertise of our partner, including their advanced warehouse automation.

We will also focus on other process efficiencies. We have already made progress on commercial optimisation, having completed buy-outs of a number of third-party sellers in some markets. Doing this brings us closer to our individual sales representatives and to our customers, as well as removing an additional layer of cost. In addition, we aim to simplify end-to-end processes in all parts of our business.

Continue to respond effectively to COVID-19

Protecting and supporting our employees remains our priority in our response to COVID-19. We are developing new ways to work, and have initiated a Workplace Unlimited programme to address employees' needs for flexible working. We continue to invest in safety at our sites, such as wearable sensor technologies to encourage social distancing.

We are also focused on how we can best support our customers in person and virtually. This includes innovating in how we deliver medical education for customers to support the safe and effective use of our products. In 2021 we will launch Education Unlimited, a new global website platform with medical education resources spanning across our franchises.

We remain determined to balance discretionary costs while at the same time preparing for recovery. As examples, travel remains restricted and company meetings have been moved online.

"In 2020 we sold our one millionth PICO^o 7 single-use NPWT System."



Ready to deliver

I'm proud of the way Smith+Nephew has responded to the challenges of 2020. We've demonstrated our financial and cultural resilience, and stayed focused on supporting customers and advancing our strategy for growth.

We expect the impact of COVID-19 on our customers and markets to continue in the first half of 2021, with the timing and extent of the recovery still uncertain, and Anne-Françoise covers our outlook on page 23.

What I am certain of is that our recent investments into innovation and the portfolio are ready to translate into growth acceleration. I'm excited by the pipeline of new technology that's approaching launch, and by the potential of our recent acquisitions as we integrate them into Smith+Nephew. We have a clear set of priorities, a strong team and renewed energy.

Yours sincerely,

Roland Diggelmann
Chief Executive Officer



"Many of our recent product launches are at early stages, and there is considerable scope to expand them both to new customers, and into new markets."

Protecting employees and serving customers

Smith+Nephew has been responding to COVID-19 since January 2020, first in China, and then across all of our markets globally. Throughout the year we prioritised the health and wellbeing of employees and protecting jobs, supported our customers and communities, and worked to ensure the business was well prepared to respond as elective surgeries returned.

Maintaining Board effectiveness

The Board reacted to COVID-19 by seamlessly switching to a digital environment. Board meetings were held over video conference and we increased the number of meetings, both to support management and ensure effective oversight of the Company's response.

The Board was also determined not to dilute its engagement with other stakeholders. Employee engagement sessions were moved online, with Non-Executive Directors meeting employees from the US, APAC and EMEA in this manner. The Board also continued to hear the voice of our customers, for instance in October hearing from a surgeon involved in the design of our new robotics system CORI[®]. Shareholder meetings continued via video conference. You can read more about the Board's stakeholder engagement in our Section 172 Statement on [page 102](#).

➤ Read more in our [Corporate Governance section starting on page 66](#)

+ Care

Taking care of each other by social distancing

Bump™ is a cutting-edge system designed to improve workplace safety and use anonymous employee data to inform effective social distancing. Bump technology immediately alerts wearers when they are getting too close to another person. Following a successful trial, Bump was rolled out at Smith+Nephew's Hull facility. In 2021 we expect to utilise it at other major sites in Memphis, Tennessee and Costa Rica.



Caring for employees

In 2020 our employees faced unprecedented challenges. Many new working practices were required whilst we continued to serve our customers.

We took many measures to safeguard employees, including temporarily closing offices and supporting working from home wherever possible.

At all our sites precautionary safety measures were put in place consistent with applicable local requirements. These included social distancing measures, temperature checks, availability of hand sanitisers and other PPE equipment. We limited business travel and in-person meetings.

As a result we were able to continue to manufacture our critical products and supply customers as they strove to improve the quality of life of patients.

No jobs were lost amongst our workforce in 2020 as a result of COVID-19, and we did not utilise the UK Government's furlough scheme.

We recognised that our duty of care also extended to the broader welfare of employees. For our sales force, for whom a proportion of their income is typically commission based, we ensured that they retained a significant percentage of regular income and used downtime to enhance digital training on technical product knowledge and business skills.

Special pandemic leave was introduced so that no employee had to take unpaid leave to care for a loved one or if asked to self-isolate. Other measures taken included enhancing our Employee Assistance Programme to make it easier for employees to access resources to support their emotional, mental, physical and financial wellbeing, as well as reviewing objectives during the year to ensure expectations were achievable and aligned with business deliverables in the second half of the year. Details of the impact of COVID-19 on Remuneration can be found in our Policy report on [page 106](#).

» Read more on [page 28](#)



Extensive safety measures to protect employees were put in place at all our sites.

Serving our customers

We continued to serve customers to the best of our ability while respecting local restrictions.

At the height of the global lockdown in the second quarter of 2020, our Trauma and Reconstruction teams supported urgent patient cases, and our Advanced Wound Management teams kept product flowing to customers in both hospital and community care settings.

We also launched new services for customers. For example, in March we launched a new digital education programme designed to support the development of surgeons by providing educational webinars on the safe and effective use of Smith+Nephew products as well as surgical techniques. More than 11,000 healthcare professionals attended in the first month. You can read more about our medical education programme on [page 42](#).

In the US we launched a 24/7 helpline where both patients and clinicians can access information on our Advanced Wound Management portfolio and get immediate answers to questions on the proper use of our products as well as wound-related education, with the intent of easing the burden on healthcare providers.

We also continued to innovate, and launched multiple new products with a focus on enabling and digital technologies. More details of our R&D activities and product launches can be found in the Innovation section starting on [page 36](#).

24/7

In the US we launched a 24/7 helpline where both patients and clinicians can access information on our Advanced Wound Management portfolio



The ‘New Normal’ programme uses the experience of the early months of COVID-19 to identify, align or accelerate existing efforts to prepare us for what comes next in our marketplace as well as in our own workplace.”

Supporting communities

Smith+Nephew actively engaged in its communities, and made donations of product and personal protective equipment in 2020. We also supported employee volunteering, including registered healthcare professionals wanting to return to front line care.

We are using our manufacturing expertise to support the fight against COVID-19. For example, in the UK we worked with the University of Oxford and King’s College London to develop OxVent, a low-cost ventilator. Our facilities in Memphis and Costa Rica assembled more than one million face shields, and we used our 3D printers to produce PPE for donation to non-profit organisation Church Health in Memphis.

Our New Normal programme

COVID-19 has required companies worldwide to adapt to new ways of working. In July Smith+Nephew launched its ‘New Normal’ programme, with the objective of using the experience of the early months of COVID-19 to identify, align or accelerate existing efforts to prepare us for what comes next in our marketplace as well as in our own workplace.

Our New Normal programme has two workstreams: Workplace Unlimited and Go to Market. Each is sponsored by several members of the Executive Committee.

+ Collaboration

1 million+

Face shields assembled by our teams in Memphis and Costa Rica

Collaborating with our suppliers and colleagues to produce more than one million face masks

Recognising the need for more face shields, in April we started working with InTech Industries Inc. (Birmingham, Alabama), our existing supplier of face shields, to ramp up production for the US. Our Memphis team, joined by colleagues in Costa Rica, assembled more than one million face shields.



New Normal – Workplace Unlimited

In August, we launched the Workplace Unlimited survey to better understand what flexibility meant to our teams. More than 7,000 employees responded, and from the feedback it was clear that most employees wanted the opportunity for increased flexibility, in some fashion.

With executive sponsorship by our Chief HR Officer Elga Lohler, and President Operations & GBS Mark Gladwell, a project team of more than 50 colleagues set out to further understand employee needs regarding workspace solutions and practices, and to design a new model based on a common Group-wide set of global flexibility principles. Through them we will provide as much flexibility as possible in the future.

>> Read more on Workplace Unlimited page 31

7,000+

employees responded to our Workplace Unlimited survey, making it clear that most employees wanted the opportunity for increased flexibility

New Normal – Go to Market

COVID-19 will have a lasting impact on our business and our markets. While it has presented significant challenges, it has also given us a unique opportunity to put in place new approaches to serve our customers better than ever before.

Go to Market is focused on evaluating our current approaches and establishing new and innovative ways to meet our customers' needs while driving growth. It is led by Myra Eskes, President APAC Region, Simon Fraser, President Advanced Wound Management and Skip Kiil, President Orthopaedics.

The project consists of workstreams seeking ways to be more efficient and effective across all facets of commercial execution, from innovation to product launch excellence, the use of digital technology to enhance the customer experience, and identifying and refining ways to enhance value delivery to healthcare systems, improve outcomes and reduce cost of care.

Strategic report

Governance

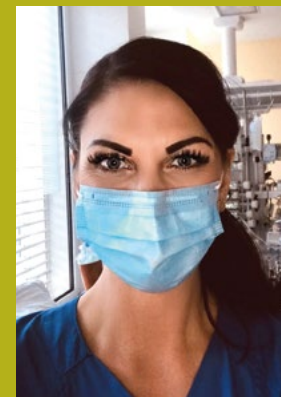
Accounts

Other information

+ Courage

Supporting colleagues who volunteered to return to front line care

Wound Care Consultant, Tanja Lamm is based in Germany. Before joining us, she worked as a specialist in intensive care and anaesthesia, providing care for critically ill patients. With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Tanja took special volunteering leave, returning to the hospital to support her former colleagues and care for patients in the COVID-19 intensive care unit.



Smith+Nephew competes in large and attractive markets

The medical device and supplies segment of the global healthcare industry is worth more than \$400 billion per annum. Within this, Smith+Nephew's product segments are worth around \$38 billion, growing at approximately 4% annually prior to 2020 and the impact of COVID-19.

Long-term growth has been driven by lifestyle related health conditions, such as increasing prevalence of diabetes and obesity, lifestyle choices such as greater levels of physical activity and sport later in life, as well as improvements to life expectancy meaning that there are increasingly more patients in the world. In emerging markets, these factors have been compounded by economic development driving demand, particularly in China and India. At the same time, governments are focused on reducing the cost of healthcare, pushing down pricing. Medical technology companies are under pressure to continue to innovate, and also to provide evidence supporting both the clinical and economic benefits of products.

Clinical innovations, financial benefits and patient preferences are prompting hospitals and health systems to move certain inpatient procedures to outpatient settings.¹ The impact of COVID-19 has accelerated this trend, as providers try to keep patients separated from COVID-19 patients, and also catch up on elective procedures delayed by lockdown measures. COVID-19 has also increased the focus on telehealth, including solutions to provide patient care remotely over digital platforms pre and post procedure.

The US is expected to continue to lead the medical device industry reaching \$300 billion in annual sales by 2030.² By this stage, China and India, who are both growing at twice the global market rate, are expected to be in the top five markets, with over \$200 billion and \$40 billion of sales respectively.

A highly regulated industry

The medical device sector is one of the world's most heavily regulated industries.

Regulations and industry codes govern the way industry interacts with healthcare professionals and government officials globally, including the AdvaMed Code of Ethics and the MedTech Europe Code of Ethical Business Practice.

Anti-bribery and corruption legislation, including the UK Bribery Act and the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, also apply to Smith+Nephew's global business. There is also a strong focus on compliance and cost control in emerging markets, especially in China. For more information on our approach to compliance see [page 33](#).

National regulatory authorities govern the design, development, approval, manufacture, labelling, marketing and sale of healthcare products. They also review data supporting the products to ensure they are safe and perform as intended.

COVID-19 has increased the focus on telehealth, including solutions to provide patient care remotely over digital platforms pre and post procedure.

\$38bn

Value of Smith+Nephew's addressable market segments

4%

Average annual growth rate across our segments prior to COVID-19

1 Becker's ASC Review: 4 trends driving change in healthcare.
2 KPMG: Medical devices 2030: Making a power play to avoid the commodity trap.

The majority of countries require products to be authorised or registered prior to entering the market, and such authorisation or registration needs to be subsequently maintained. Smith+Nephew's major regulatory authorities include the US FDA, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) in the UK, relevant EU Competent Authorities, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare in Japan, the National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) in China, and the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). Inspections and audits by these authorities continue to increase year-on-year and involve significant and continued financial and resource investment by Smith+Nephew to respond appropriately. In addition we are required to respond to new regulations, such as the European Union (EU) Medical Device Regulations (MDR) which will be fully implemented from May 2021 (see [page 43](#)).

Geo-political factors

Following the UK's departure from the EU, a new Trade and Cooperation Agreement came into effect on 1 January 2021. This includes commitment to zero tariffs and zero quotas on all goods that comply with the appropriate rules of origin.

In the UK, the CE mark can continue to be used until 30 June 2023 and the UK will develop a new regulatory system. The UK continues to negotiate agreements to reproduce the effects of EU trade agreements with other countries.

US and Chinese tariffs remain in place after no progress was made on a second phase of negotiations in 2020. Relief is unlikely in the near term, however, as the US government is likely to focus on domestic economic recovery, before addressing outstanding trade issues.

Additionally, some countries are adopting localisation and price-control policies with respect to government procurement of healthcare products that aim to increase domestic manufacturing, with the pandemic focusing greater attention on global supply chains and accelerating this trend.

The importance of seasonality

There tends to be a higher volume of orthopaedic and sports medicine procedures during the winter months when accidents and sports-related injuries are more frequent. Elective procedures tend to slow down in the summer months due to holidays. Advanced Wound Management is less impacted by seasonality due to the nature of the products.

At Smith+Nephew, the majority of our business is in the northern hemisphere, including approximately 50% in the US and 20% in Europe. In the US, out-of-pocket costs for health insurance plans are tied to medical expenses in a calendar year. As a result, households that have reached their annual deductible amount and/or annual out-of-pocket cap before year's end will find it to be cost-effective to schedule necessary procedures later in that year rather than delaying into the next year.

Competition

Smith+Nephew's three global franchises have several major competitors who differ with respect to product focus, geographic reach and scale. For example, our main surgical competitors are larger in scale and tend to be more exposed to the US, whereas the majority of our key wound competitors are not US-centric.

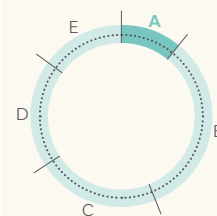
In our Orthopaedic franchise we are one of four leading players, competing against US-based companies Stryker, Zimmer Biomet and DePuy Synthes (a Johnson & Johnson company). In Sports Medicine, Smith+Nephew holds a leading position behind Arthrex (US), and also competes against Stryker and DePuy Mitek.

We are the second largest global Advanced Wound Management business in terms of revenue, with the broadest product range. In the Advanced Wound Care sub-segment we compete with Mölnlycke (Sweden) and ConvaTec (UK). In Advanced Wound Devices, we are the primary challenger to Negative Pressure Wound Therapy incumbent 3M. In our Advanced Wound Bioactives franchise, we have leadership positions in our respective categories.

Market size 2020¹ Orthopaedics

Hip and
Knee Implants
\$12.6bn

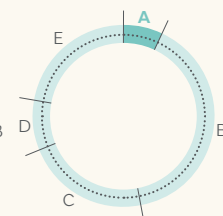
+2% -15%
2017-19 2020
Average Growth
growth



A	Smith+Nephew ²	11%
B	Zimmer Biomet	33%
C	Stryker	22%
D	DePuy Synthes ⁴	19%
E	Others	15%

Trauma and
Extremities
\$6.5bn

+4% -4%
2017-19 2020
Average Growth
growth

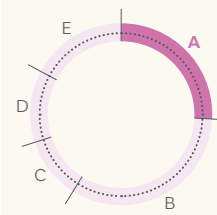


A	Smith+Nephew ²	7%
B	DePuy Synthes ⁴	40%
C	Stryker	22%
D	Zimmer Biomet	9%
E	Others	22%

Sports Medicine³ Advanced Wound Management

\$4.6bn

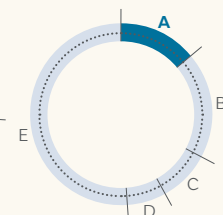
+5% -12%
2017-19 2020
Average Growth
growth



A	Smith+Nephew ²	26%
B	Arthrex	33%
C	Stryker	11%
D	DePuy Mitek ⁴	13%
E	Others	17%

\$9.1bn

+5% -3%
2017-19 2020
Average Growth
growth



A	Smith+Nephew ²	14%
B	3M ⁵	19%
C	Mölnlycke	9%
D	ConvaTec	7%
E	Others	51%

1 Data used in 2020 estimates generated by Smith+Nephew is based on publicly available sources and internal analysis and represents an indication of market shares and sizes.

2 Smith+Nephew 2020 market share unchanged from 2019 final data. 2019 Annual Report published estimates based on preliminary data. 2019 final data was Hip & Knee Implants 11%, Trauma & Extremities 7%, Sports Medicine 26% and AWM 14%.

3 Representing repair products and arthroscopic enabling technologies, and excluding ENT.

4 A division of Johnson & Johnson.

5 3M acquired Acelity in 2019.

Value creation is driven by our purpose, culture pillars and strategic imperatives

Our resources

Our people & culture

Attracting, developing and retaining the best employees is important. We strive to build a purpose-driven culture based on strong and authentic values.

» See page 28 for more

Ethics & compliance

Committed to doing business the right way, compliance is embedded in the way we work.

» See page 33 for more

Sustainability

Our sustainability strategy includes challenging targets set over the long term in the three areas of People, Planet and Products.

» See page 24 for more

Research & development

Innovation is part of our culture and we are protecting the amount we invest in new products.

» See page 36 for more

Manufacturing & quality

Operating global manufacturing efficiently and to high standards to ensure quality and competitiveness.

» See page 40 for more

Medical education

Supporting the safe and effective use of our products through medical education.

» See page 42 for more

Sales & marketing

Supporting customers through highly specialised sales teams with in-depth technical product knowledge that surgeons and nurses value greatly.

» See page 44 for more

» Creating value through

Purpose-driven culture

Having a clear purpose gives employees a sense of belief and determination and a common goal. This supports a strong culture which drives performance across the business both in terms of financial and non-financial value.

» See page 28 to read how our culture guided us in 2020

Life Unlimited

» See page 6 to read about our strategic progress in 2020

Strategic imperatives

Our five strategic imperatives are fundamental to how we focus the resources of the business to maximise commercial impact in our markets. They form the basis of our value creation plan for the medium term.

Strong product portfolio

We have market-leading technology across our broad range of products. We deploy our capital to drive continued innovation from our R&D programmes and invest in product and technology acquisitions which improve outcomes and widen access to life-changing care.

» See pages 36–40 to read more about our innovation

Customer centricity

Serving our customers is at the heart of our business model. We have a global franchise and regional model led by management who are specialists in their areas. This keeps us close to our customers, ensuring we can anticipate and meet their needs.

» See pages 44–51 to read more about the performance across our franchise areas

» Value delivered in 2020

\$4,560m

Revenue

\$295m

Operating profit

\$683m

Trading profit¹

c.\$40m

Efficiency savings

185,000+

Practitioner training instances

\$4.7m

Product donations

8,000

Hours volunteered

\$328m

Dividend

» See pages 18–19 for more on our KPIs

¹ These non-IFRS financial measures are explained and reconciled to the most directly comparable financial measure prepared in accordance with IFRS on pages 222–226.

Key Performance Indicators

Measuring our progress

Smith+Nephew uses a number of financial and non-financial Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to track and evaluate performance and delivery against its strategic imperatives, as described on [page 8](#), and other business objectives. Those KPIs in the public domain are consolidated below. A number of other KPIs are commercially sensitive and not published.

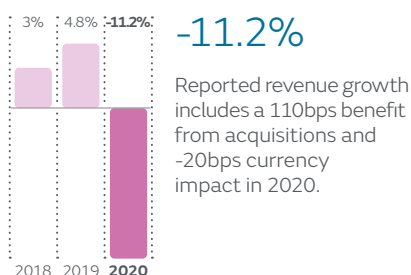
Grow +

KPIs measuring progress across our three strategic imperatives focused on growth

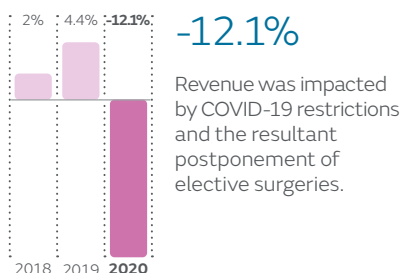
Revenue growth

Revenue growth allows management and investors to measure our relative performance. We are committed to outgrowing our markets in the medium term.

Revenue growth – reported

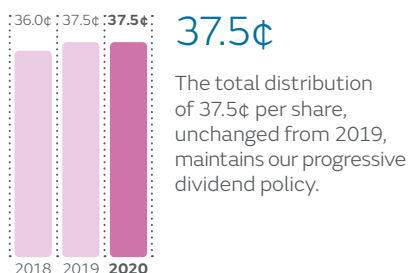


Revenue growth – underlying¹



Dividend per share

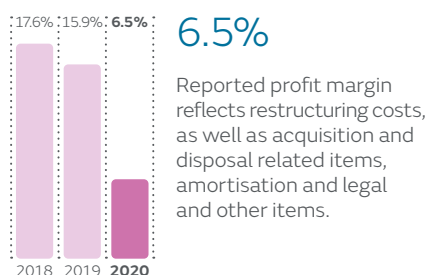
Dividend payments allow investors to receive a cash return on their investment in Smith+Nephew.



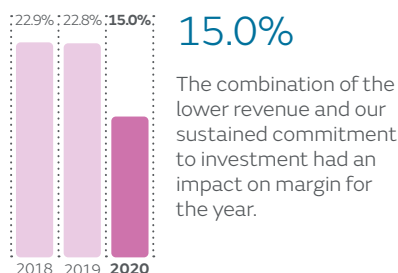
Profit margin

Profit margin allows management and investors to determine relative performance. We are committed to delivering improvements in the medium term.

Operating profit margin

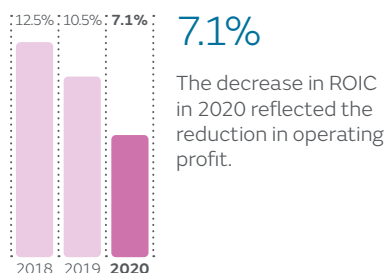


Trading profit margin¹



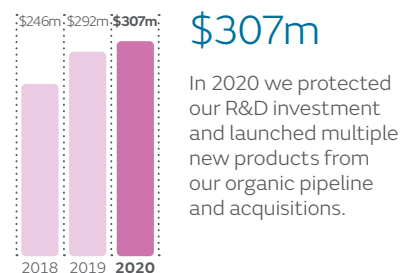
Return on Invested Capital

ROIC allows management and investors to measure the return generated on capital invested, providing a metric for long-term value creation.



Investment in R&D

This KPI allows management and investors to understand how much is being invested in new innovative products designed to drive future revenue growth and profit.



» For more information see [page 36](#)

Medical Education

This KPI helps investors understand how we support the safe and effective use of our products through the provision of medical education.

185,000+
practitioner training instances

More than 185,000 healthcare professionals attended our courses globally, with nearly 80% delivered virtually.

» For more information see [page 42](#)

» Financial review on [pages 20–23](#)

¹ These non-IFRS financial measures are explained and reconciled to the most directly comparable financial measure prepared in accordance with IFRS on [pages 222–226](#).

Together +

KPI measuring progress across our fourth strategic imperative focused on our people

Employee engagement score

The Gallup Global Engagement Survey allows management and investors to assess how well our employees are engaged, which is a key driver of business performance.

+0.32

Engagement growth

Our Grand Mean score improved by 0.32 propelling us from the 34th to the 76th percentile of companies in Gallup's extensive database. These are excellent results for a company in its second survey year, according to Gallup.

16,000 employees participated, an outstanding response rate of 89%, up from 84% in 2019.

Effectively

KPIs measuring progress across our final strategic imperative focused on stewardship

Efficiency savings

This KPI helps management and investors measure our progress in driving greater efficiency to liberate resources for reinvestment in future drivers of growth.

\$190m

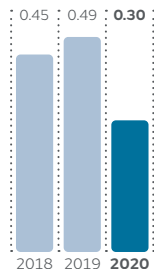
Annualised benefits from APEX

APEX programme, initiated at the end of 2017, was substantially completed in 2020, delivering around \$190 million of annualised benefits for one-off costs of around \$290 million.

Quality and safety

This KPI allows management and investors to understand if we are operating a safe working environment at high standards to ensure quality and competitiveness.

Headline safety rate



Our headline safety rate improved in 2020. We adopt the industry-standard OSHA system to record incidents of occupational injury and ill health. Performance is expressed as the number of incidents per 200,000 hours worked. For more information see our 2020 Sustainability Report.

Regulatory inspections

Our manufacturing and product design sites are subject to external regulatory inspections and audits conducted by the US FDA as well as other health authorities and regulatory agencies. During 2020 we received no warning letters or other significant regulatory actions.

\$200m

COVID-19 related savings delivered

\$200m of one-off COVID-19 related savings against the budget set at the start of the year were realised in the year in areas such as variable pay, third party commissions and royalties, travel, promotional activity, events, and consultancy spend.

\$200m

Operations transformation annualised target

We are taking the next step in improving our long-term efficiency, continuing a programme to transform our operations. This is expected to deliver around \$200 million of annualised benefits by 2025 for a one-off cost of around \$350 million.

Long-term sustainability targets

These KPIs allow management and investors to measure progress against our long-term sustainability targets in the three areas of People, Planet and Products.

8,000

Hours volunteered

Each year employees are encouraged to use paid volunteering time.

\$4.7m

Product donations

Each year we donate products to support underserved communities.

>> More details on these, including the actions we are undertaking to meet our commitments, can be found on page 24

Maintaining financial strength

2020 Performance and impact of COVID-19

Group revenue in 2020 was \$4,560 million, a decrease of 11.2% on a reported basis and a decrease of 12.1% on an underlying basis.¹

Our business was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, first in China in the first quarter and then more broadly across the world as lockdowns took effect and elective procedures were postponed. In the second quarter this resulted in revenue growth rates of -29.8% reported (-29.3% underlying¹). The business rebounded strongly in the third quarter as COVID-19 rates fell and procedures

resumed with revenue declines of -3.7% reported (-4.2% underlying¹). In the fourth quarter, COVID-19 infection levels increased in the US and Europe and sales declined by -5.8% reported (-7.1% underlying¹) as healthcare systems were better prepared to continue procedures compared to earlier in the year.

We also took the decision early on to maintain investments behind R&D and where needed to ensure we were ready for the recovery.

In parallel, we also identified quickly the discretionary spend that could be reduced to mitigate the impact of the pandemic.

The reported operating profit for 2020 was \$295 million, a 64% reduction from the previous year due to the impact of COVID-19 described above, although this was partially mitigated by cost savings. Profit was also reduced by higher amortisation which increased from the prior year reflecting a full year amortisation charge of acquisitions completed in 2019. Legal and other charges increased due to higher costs associated with EU Medical Device Regulations.

Trading profit¹ for the year was \$683 million and the trading profit margin¹ was 15.0% reflecting the impact of the sales reductions caused by COVID-19 and resulting manufacturing facility underutilisation and increased inventory provisions.

Global franchise trading profit performance was impacted by COVID-19 with each franchise profit reducing from the prior year. The impact was greater in our Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine & ENT franchises as they were more exposed to postponement of elective procedures. More details on franchise performance can be found on [pages 46–51](#).

Earnings per share

Basic earnings per share ('EPS') was down 25% to 51.3¢ reflecting the impact of COVID-19 partially offset by a reported tax credit. Adjusted earnings per share¹ ('EPSA') was down 37% at 64.6¢, reflecting the lower trading performance partially offset by the lower trading tax rate.

“
We took the decision early on to maintain strategic investments, such as R&D, to ensure the business is well positioned to grow when the recovery starts.”

Anne-Françoise Nesmes
Chief Financial Officer



Group performance

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	Change \$ million
Revenue	4,560	5,138	(578)
Operating profit	295	815	(520)
Trading profit ¹	683	1,169	(486)
Profit before tax	246	743	(497)
Attributable profit	448	600	(152)
EPS	51.3¢	68.6¢	(17.3¢)
EPSA ¹	64.6¢	102.2¢	(37.6¢)

Non-IFRS measures

The underlying increase in revenues by market reconciles to reported growth, the most directly comparable financial measure calculated in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as follows:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	Reported growth %	Underlying growth %	Reconciling items Acquisitions/ Disposals %	Currency impact %
US	2,339	2,551	(8.3%)	(10.1%)	1.8%	–
Other Established Markets	1,450	1,630	(11.0%)	(12.3%)	0.2%	1.1%
Emerging Markets	771	957	(19.4%)	(16.8%)	0.5%	(3.1%)
Total	4,560	5,138	(11.2%)	(12.1%)	1.1%	(0.2%)

Trading profit reconciles to operating profit, the most directly comparable financial measure calculated in accordance with IFRS, as follows:

	2020 \$ million	2020 %	2019 \$ million	2019 %
Operating profit	295	6.5%	815	15.9%
Acquisition and disposal related items	4	0.1%	32	0.6%
Restructuring and rationalisation costs	124	2.7%	134	2.6%
Amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles	171	3.7%	143	2.8%
Legal and other	89	2.0%	45	0.9%
Trading profit	683	15.0%	1,169	22.8%

» Franchise performance on pages 46–50

Taxation

Reported tax for the year to 31 December 2020 was a credit of \$202 million (2019: charge of \$143 million). This reflects refunds and tax credits due to the successful UK tax litigation outcome, releases of provisions following the conclusion of tax audits and other settlements, and lower profits. The tax rate on trading results¹ for the year to 31 December 2020 was 11.3% (2019: 19.1%). This is lower than the prior year due to releases of tax provisions following the conclusion of tax audits and other settlements.

Smith+Nephew is subject to various taxes in the many countries in which the Group operates. We seek to pay the correct amount of tax in-line with local tax laws in each jurisdiction.

Our business generates tax receipts for the governments in each of these countries. In addition to corporate income taxes, we pay and collect other taxes principally including payroll (employee) taxes, sales (indirect) taxes and customs duties.

During 2020, we made global tax payments of \$637 million. This comprises \$229 million of taxes borne by Smith+Nephew (corporate income taxes, employer social security contributions and customs duties) and \$408 million of taxes collected from employees and customers on behalf of governments (employee income taxes and social security contributions and net indirect tax payable). Corporate income taxes, in particular, were lower than in prior years due to the impact on profits of COVID-19. These figures exclude the \$100 million tax refund we received following the successful outcome of the UK tax litigation matter.

Efficiency

The APEX programme that was announced in February 2018 and the operations and commercial excellence programme that was announced in February 2020, incurred restructuring costs of \$124 million in 2020, with additional benefits recognised in the 2020 income statement of around \$40 million. Whilst some projects were delayed slightly by COVID-19, these programmes remain an important part of our strategy.

1. These non-IFRS financial measures are explained and reconciled to the most directly comparable financial measure prepared in accordance with IFRS on pages 222–226.

Balance sheet data and net debt

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	Change \$ million
Goodwill and intangible assets	4,414	4,356	58
Other non-current assets	1,934	1,724	210
Current assets	4,664	3,219	1,445
Total assets	11,012	9,299	1,713
Total equity	5,279	5,141	138
Non-current liabilities	4,045	2,594	1,451
Current liabilities	1,688	1,564	124
Total liabilities	5,733	4,158	1,575
Total liabilities and equity	11,012	9,299	1,713
Net debt ² including lease liabilities	1,926	1,770	156

Goodwill increased by \$139 million as a result of acquisitions of \$96 million and foreign currency movements of \$43 million. The primary acquisition in the year was Tusker Medical, Inc. ("Tusker"), a developer of an innovative in-office solution for tympanostomy (ear tubes) called Tula.

Intangible assets decreased by \$81 million primarily because of amortisation and impairment of \$246 million being partially offset by acquisitions of \$61 million, additions of \$78 million and foreign currency movements of \$17 million.

The acquisition of intangible assets mainly related to Tula from the Tusker acquisition and additions related to software.

Other non-current assets increased by \$210 million primarily due to an increase of \$126 million in property, plant and equipment mainly arising from additions of \$452 million which are partially offset by depreciation and impairment of \$316 million. Current assets increased by \$1,445 million primarily as a result of an increase in cash of \$1,485 million mostly

related to receipts from the corporate bond issuance and private placement notes. This was partially offset by a decrease in trade and other receivables of \$117 million mostly driven by a decrease in sales demand. Inventory of \$1,691 million was broadly consistent with the prior year as we responded to the impact of lower sales demand. Ensuring we carry the optimum levels of inventory in future is a focus of the Global Operations team.

Non-current liabilities increased by \$1,451 million mainly due to a \$1,378 million increase in borrowings of which \$992 million relates to the corporate bond and \$550 million of new private placement notes, partially offset by \$267 million of private placement notes (including interest rate swaps) reclassified to current liabilities. Current liabilities increased by \$124 million primarily relating to the reclassification of the \$267 million private placement notes which was partially offset by a \$80 million decrease in provisions.

Cash flow data

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	Change \$ million
Cash generated from operations	972	1,370	(398)
Trading cash flow ¹	690	970	(280)
Free cash flow ¹	437	714	(277)

Cash generated from operations of \$972 million is after paying out \$24 million of acquisition and disposal related items, \$117 million of restructuring and rationalisation expenses and \$75 million for legal and other items.

Trading cash flow¹ decreased by \$280 million driven by lower trading profit. Free cash flow¹ decreased by \$277 million mainly related to the lower trading cash flow.

Free cash flow includes net tax refunds of \$22 million (2019: tax payments of \$150 million) primarily due to a refund from the UK tax litigation matter.

During the year ended 31 December 2020, the Group purchased a total of 0.6 million (2019: 3.1 million) ordinary shares at a cost of \$16 million (2019: \$63 million).

Return on invested capital

Return On Invested Capital^{1,3} (ROIC) is a measure of the return generated on capital invested by the Group. It provides a metric for long-term value creation and encourages compounding reinvestment within the business and discipline around acquisitions. ROIC decreased from 10.5% in 2019 to 7.1% in 2020 as a result of the reduction in operating profit.

1 These non-IFRS financial measures are explained and reconciled to the most directly comparable financial measure prepared in accordance with IFRS on pages 222–226.
2 Net debt is reconciled in Note 15 to the Group accounts.

3 ROIC is defined as:
Operating Profit less Adjusted Taxes

(Opening Net Operating Assets + Closing Net Operating Assets)/2

Liquidity

The appropriate use of capital on behalf of shareholders is important to Smith+Nephew. The Board believes in maintaining a strong balance sheet, while retaining the flexibility to make value enhancing acquisitions. This approach is used to prioritise the use of cash and ensure an appropriate capital structure.

The Group's policy is to ensure that it has sufficient funding and facilities in place to meet foreseeable borrowing requirements.

During 2020, the Group issued its first corporate bond, representing \$1 billion of notes bearing an interest rate of 2.032% repayable in 2030. Whilst the Group has maintained a strong liquidity position, the low interest rate environment in 2020 presented an opportunity to further diversify our funding options at a relatively low cost. Moving forward we will be well positioned to tap a number of funding options in order to support our growth strategy.

The Group's net debt² increased from \$1,770 million at the beginning of 2020 to \$1,926 million at the end of 2020, representing an overall increase of \$156 million.

At 31 December 2020, the Group held \$1,751 million (2019: \$257 million) in cash net of bank overdrafts. The Group had committed available facilities of \$4.5 billion at 31 December 2020 of which \$3.5 billion was drawn.

The principal variations in the Group's borrowing requirements result from the timing of dividend payments, acquisitions and disposals of businesses, timing of capital expenditure and working capital fluctuations. Smith+Nephew believes that its capital expenditure needs and its working capital funding for 2021, as well as its other known or expected commitments or liabilities, can be met from its existing resources and facilities.

Going concern

The Directors have considered various scenarios in assessing the impact of COVID-19 on future financial performance and cash flows, with the key judgement applied being the speed and sustainability of the return to a normal volume of elective procedures in key markets, including the impact of a further wave of restrictions on elective procedures in the first half of 2021. Throughout these scenarios, which include a severe but plausible outcome, the Group continues to have headroom on its borrowing facilities and financial covenants.

The Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company and the Group are well placed to manage their business risks and to continue in operational existence for a period of at least 22 months from the date of the approval of the financial statements.

Accordingly, the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

Dividends

The 2019 final dividend of 23.1 US cents per ordinary share totalling \$202 million was paid on 6 May 2020. The 2020 interim dividend of 14.4 US cents per ordinary share totalling \$126 million was paid on 28 October 2020.

Outlook

The impact of COVID-19 is likely to continue during the first half of 2021, and while there is still uncertainty on the timing of recovery, we have maintained our readiness and ability to respond.

In terms of revenue, we expect to deliver substantial underlying growth in 2021 compared to 2020. Within this, we expect our Hip Implants business to continue to outperform Knee Implants, our Sports Medicine & ENT franchise to perform strongly as markets recover, and for Advanced Wound Management's growth trajectory to improve as recent commercial changes continue to deliver benefits.

In terms of profit margin, we expect an improved performance in 2021 over the prior year. Relative to 2019 (the year before COVID-19), we anticipate a headwind from the continuing impact of reduced production volumes on gross margin as well as dilution of around 100bps from the increased investment in R&D and around 150bps from the acquisitions completed in 2020 and so far in 2021. Foreign exchange will be an additional headwind of around 100bps.

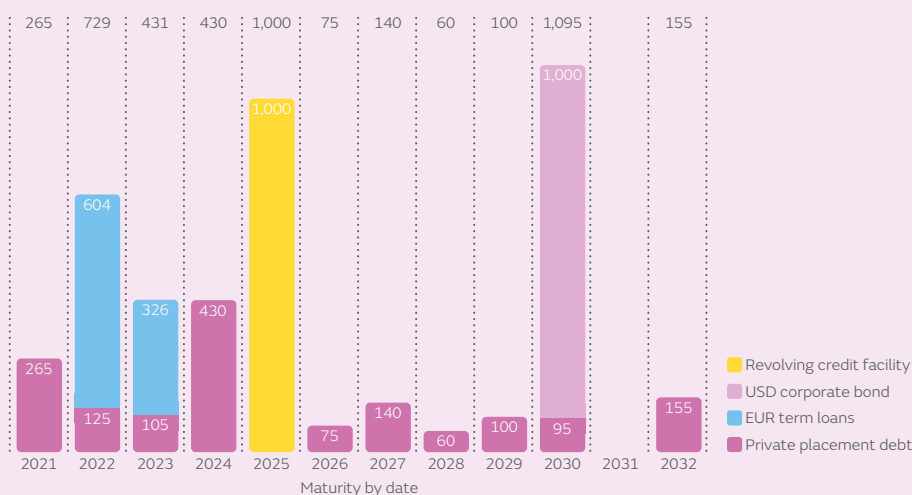
The tax rate on trading results for 2021 is forecast to be in the range 18% to 19%, subject to any material changes to tax law or other one-off items.

Yours sincerely,



Anne-Françoise Nesmes
Chief Financial Officer

Available debt facilities by maturity date (\$m)



Sustainability on purpose

Our sustainability strategy is built on our purpose – Life Unlimited, our strategic imperatives and our culture pillars of Care, Collaboration and Courage.

Our sustainability vision is to accelerate the delivery of Life Unlimited through industry sustainability leadership. We strive to deliver this to the communities where we live and work through the application of our values:

- We demonstrate **Care** by respecting our global resources, minimising our impact on the environment and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our employees.
- We demonstrate **Collaboration** by ensuring our suppliers and partners share our commitment and by working together to contribute to our communities through individual and team volunteerism.
- We demonstrate **Courage** by setting ambitious goals to increase our volunteerism, reduce waste and CO₂ emissions and minimising our ecological footprint by operating responsibly and sustainably.

Our sustainability strategy was developed by our Sustainability Council and approved by the Board in late 2019. The Compliance & Culture Committee of the Board regularly reviews our progress.

Our strategy was inspired by the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It reflects the importance of social, environmental and economic aspects of sustainable development. As a profit-seeking enterprise, our challenge is to focus our efforts on meeting our economic objectives whilst at the same time optimising the social and environmental impacts of our work.

Our sustainability strategy includes challenging targets set over the long-term in three areas:

- + **People**
Creating a lasting positive impact on our communities
- + **Planet**
A medical technology business with a positive impact
- + **Products**
Innovating sustainably

Employee safety, wellness and volunteering

A healthy and safe working environment is fundamental to the way we work at Smith+Nephew. This has been highlighted even more during the global pandemic. The safety of our employees and those who work with us is given the highest priority – across all our offices and manufacturing sites and when we visit customers.

More information on our actions to improve workplace safety can be found in our 2020 Sustainability Report.

Details of our actions to protect employees during the pandemic can be found on [page 10](#) (Responding to COVID-19) and [page 28](#) (Investing in our people) of this Annual Report.

We engage meaningfully with the communities where we operate through our site leadership teams and local camaraderie councils. We encourage employees to volunteer in local communities, offer paid volunteering time and match employee charitable donations.

People +

Creating a lasting positive impact on our communities

Our targets

Between 2020 and 2030, contribute **1 million** volunteer hours to the communities in which we live and work.

Our progress in 2020

8,000
Hours of volunteering

Between 2020 and 2030, donate **\$125 million** in products to underserved communities.

\$4.7m
Product donations

Empower and promote the **inclusion of all**.

Eight
Global Employee Inclusion Groups were established. Our senior leaders and managers were trained on Inclusion

Supporting our targets

All employees have eight hours of paid volunteering time each year, and in 2020, we additionally made 160 hours available to employees with a healthcare professional background to use their skills to work directly in response to the pandemic. Our philanthropic activities during the year totalled \$4.8million. This consisted of \$4.7million in product donations and \$0.1million from cash and matching employee gifts to qualified charities. Our employee volunteering and product donation strategies were both held back by COVID-19 in 2020. We continued to use the Gallup Global Engagement Survey and saw significant increases in overall employee engagement in 2020. For the first time, the Gallup Inclusion Index gave us a baseline measure of how engaged our employees were at Smith+Nephew. See [page 28](#).

Following the earthquake in Puerto Rico in January 2020 we provided Advanced Wound Care products and trained military clinical personnel in their use to help meet urgent patient needs.



Planet +

A medical technology business with a positive impact

Our targets

Achieve an 80% absolute reduction in total lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, beginning by implementing **100% renewable electricity** (eg solar or wind) plans at our facilities in Memphis, US, and Malaysia by 2022, and at all of our strategic manufacturing facilities by 2025.

Our progress in 2020

All
Sites in Memphis, US began sourcing renewable electricity

72,945 tonnes
CO₂e emitted (location-based), a 6% reduction since 2019

40,132 tonnes
CO₂e emitted (market-based), a 40% reduction since 2019

Achieve **zero waste to landfill** at our facilities in Memphis, US, and Malaysia by 2025 and at all of our strategic manufacturing facilities by 2030.

1,853 tonnes
We sent 7% less waste to landfill during 2020 compared to the previous year

Supporting our targets

We are working with our global energy partner to evaluate our current carbon footprint and develop a carbon road map to achieve our long-term target. As a first step, all our locations in Memphis, US began sourcing all electricity from renewable wind energy in 2020, accounting for around 40% of the Group's electricity. Our Malaysia facility, currently under construction, is not on track due to heavy use of fossil fuels in the local power grid and we are working to identify both on-site and country-specific sustainable options. We continue to identify and implement source reduction, reuse and recycling opportunities, and ways to divert waste from landfill. In 2020, we recycled 78% of our total waste, including waste diverted to energy recovery.



100%
All our locations in Memphis began sourcing their electricity from renewable wind energy in 2020.

Products

Innovating sustainably

Our targets	Our progress in 2020
By 2022, include sustainability review in new product development phase reviews for all new products and product acquisitions.	Initiated sustainability reviews within New Product Development.
By 2025, incorporate at least 30% post-consumer recycled content into all non-sterile packaging materials.	Started packaging reduction roadmap.
By 2025, incorporate packaging materials from sustainable sources for new packaging parts.	Started packaging sustainability strategy and roadmap.
By 2025, complete supply chain assessment of all suppliers , including subsequent tier levels, to assure compliance with our sustainability requirements.	We have started risk mapping our supply chain.

Supporting our targets

During 2020, we started to develop our packaging sustainability strategy and roadmap. Talking with suppliers has helped us to understand the market trends and drivers of environmental sustainability and we initiated activities to move to more sustainable packaging, including down-gauging materials, using less packaging, optimisation, and selecting sustainable materials. We started to put sustainability reviews in place for all new innovation programmes in our new product development process with areas for improvement including: sustainability-focused raw material selection; reducing packaging material usage and footprint; sharing packaging designs across product families to minimise waste; and clear guidance on recyclability.

By switching materials on the primary packaging for ALLEVYN LIFE[®] Foam Dressings we reduced material weight by 20% on the back of the dressing pouch, as well as moving to a more sustainable film which does not use solvent-based adhesive in the lamination process.



The impact of climate change

One of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), is to "take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts".

It is widely recognised that continued emission of greenhouse gases will cause further warming of the planet which could have damaging social and economic consequences. During 2020, we have continued to consider and mitigate against the potential impact of climate change on our business operations.

Our Board of Directors is supportive of implementing the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) recommendations over time. The Compliance & Culture Committee and the Audit Committee received updates on TCFD in 2020. We have conducted a review of our current state and capture related business risks in our risk register. We plan to conduct scenario analyses and use the data to inform our decisions and prioritise actions.

We have assessed our business activities against the sustainability disclosure topics and accounting metrics included in the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB) framework for our sector of Medical Equipment and Supplies and we have determined them not to be Principal Risks to the business.

You can learn more about our sustainability targets and strategy in our 2020 Sustainability Report at www.smith-nephew.com/sustainability



CO₂e reporting methodology, materiality and scope

We report the carbon footprint of our Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent from our business operations for the year ended 31 December 2020. We are including UK specific energy and emissions data to satisfy the Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) requirements.

Our focus is on the areas of largest environmental impact, including manufacturing sites, warehouses, R&D sites and offices. Smaller locations representing less than 2% of our overall emissions are not included. Acquisitions completed before 2020 are included in the data, with more recent ones excluded. This is in-line with our established policy for the integration of acquired assets.

Our GHG emissions reporting represents our core business operations and facilities that fall within the scope of our consolidated financial statements. Primary data from energy suppliers has been used wherever possible.

We report our emissions in two scopes:

- Scope 1 figures include: Direct sources of emissions which mainly comprise the fuels we use on-site, such as gas and heating oil, and fugitive emissions arising mainly from the losses of refrigerant gases. We include UK vehicle emissions from leased cars in 2020 only.
- Scope 2 figures include: Indirect sources of emissions such as purchased electricity and steam we use at our sites.

Location-based emissions are calculated in compliance with the WRI/WBCSD GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard and have been calculated using carbon conversion factors published by BEIS/DEFRA for 2020. We have applied the emission factors most relevant to the source data, including DEFRA 2020 (for UK locations), IEA 2018 (for overseas locations) and for the US we have used the most recently available US EPA 'Emissions & Generation Resource Integrated Database' (eGRID) for the regions in which we operate. All other emission factors for gas, oil, steam and fugitive emissions are taken from DEFRA 2020.

In-line with dual-reporting we also report market-based emissions. These are contractual or supplier-specific emission factors that can be applied when procuring low-carbon energy or siting facilities in areas with lower emissions but also recognising that this might be higher than the grid average in some cases. Where market-based factors were not available, we have used 'Residual Mix' data for the EU locations and IEA data for all other countries, except the remaining US locations where the eGRID factors were applied.

We have also implemented, or benefited from, numerous energy efficiency and low-carbon energy measures during 2020. Some of these savings include:

LED lighting installations, the use of solar panels in India and China, a Combined Heat and Power (CHP) (natural gas fired) units in Germany, Building Energy Management systems (BEMS) to control equipment for maximum efficiency and the use of time zones and setbacks. We have also targeted

the use of online 'real time' data to monitor energy usage to make savings. We have a programme to replace older inefficient equipment with highly efficient equipment, such as compressors, chillers, pumps, fans and motors.

In Memphis, US, during 2020, we purchased renewable energy certificates (RECs) through Green Flex, a voluntary renewable energy programme. Certified by Green-e Energy, North America's leading certification programme for renewable energy, Green Flex RECs are based on wind power generated in the Midwest US. Purchasing RECs gives buyers the right to renewable energy and also makes it possible to track ownership of it. Our participation in this scheme underscores our commitment to supporting renewable energy and helps to reduce our market-based carbon emissions footprint.

Committed to working in a sustainable, ethical and responsible manner

Smith+Nephew has been and remains committed to working in a sustainable, ethical and responsible manner everywhere we do business. We are proud of our achievements over many years, including our recurring inclusion in leading indices, such as FTSE4Good, ISS and the Dow Jones Sustainability Index.

Member of
Dow Jones Sustainability Indices

Powered by the S&P Global CSA



	2020			2019			2018		
	UK	Global (excluding UK)	Total	UK	Global (excluding UK)	Total	UK	Global (excluding UK)	Total
CO ₂ e emissions (tonnes) from:									
Direct emissions (Scope 1) ¹	4,842	4,912	9,754	4,747	5,141	9,888	5,842	4,114	9,956
Indirect emissions (Scope 2) (location-based)	3,968	59,223	63,191	4,911	62,413	67,324	5,790	62,096	67,886
Total (location-based)	8,810	64,135	72,945	9,658	67,554	77,212	11,632	66,210	77,842
Indirect emissions (Scope 2) (market-based)	4,851	25,527	30,378	5,072	52,080	57,152	6,137	60,338	66,475
Total (market-based)	9,693	30,439	40,132	9,819	57,221	67,040	11,979	64,452	76,431
Energy consumption to calculate Scope 1+2 emissions (GWh)	43	169	212	45	168	213	49	160	209
Intensity ratio:									
CO ₂ e (t) per \$m sales revenue			15.9			15.1			15.9
CO ₂ e (t) per full-time employee			3.9			4.3			4.7

1 UK vehicle data included in Scope 1 emissions in 2020.

2020 data includes recent acquisitions completed during 2019. Revenue: 2020:\$4.6bn; 2019: \$5.1bn; 2018: \$4.9bn. Full-time employee data: 2020: 18,581; 2019: 18,030; 2018: 16,681.

Investing in our people

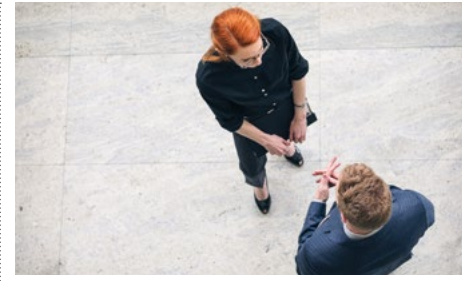
Smith+Nephew is a team of 18,000 colleagues inspired by our purpose of Life Unlimited and united by our culture pillars of Care, Collaboration and Courage.

Ensuring our employees are fully engaged with this purpose and culture is at the heart of our people strategy as we know engagement is a key driver of performance. We use the Gallup Q12 as our Annual Global Employee Survey to measure this and to determine where we need to focus and improve the employee experience.

In May, 89% of our employees took the time to complete the survey. This was an outstanding response and exceeded the previous year's participation rate of 84%.

This was the second year we have used the Gallup tool, and we made significant improvement across every element of the survey. Our Grand Mean score improved by 0.32 propelling us from the 34th to the 76th percentile of companies in Gallup's extensive database. These are excellent results for a company in its second year of survey, according to Gallup. Managers were provided with their individual team results and have set action plans to build upon strengths and address any gaps to continue to further drive engagement across Smith+Nephew.

Engagement is a priority, from the Board and senior management team and across all levels of employees. In 2020, the Board initiated its own programme to meet with employees, conducting listening sessions both face-to-face, and then virtually as required, with employees at locations across the globe. For more details see the Compliance & Culture Committee report on [page 98](#).



Strategic report

Governance

Accounts

Other information

Prioritising employee health

Smith+Nephew's response to COVID-19 is described in detail on [pages 10–13](#) of this report. The commitment to our people's health, wellbeing and jobs was central to everything we did, with the Crisis Management Team's first actions being to establish protocols to protect employees.

We established special pandemic leave to enhance existing leave policies and provided volunteer hours for employees who are healthcare providers to return to frontline care. We took an active management approach to employees with COVID-19, close contact or suspected cases. We also enhanced the tools available to support physical and mental health and deployed new collaboration tools.

We were determined to provide employees with authentic and clear internal communication, both using existing channels and new. We issued regular updates via email and created a dedicated section on our intranet for COVID-19 information and guidance, including information about mental and physical wellness during this difficult period. We used short, personal videos and live web meetings on specific topics as needed to allow dialogue and address questions. We also leveraged our social channels to build engagement and camaraderie among our remote employees. For our site-based employees we focused our communication on safety and appreciation for their efforts. No longer able to gather in groups, we have focused on building digital literacy and connectedness so that site-based employees feel informed and engaged.



Employees are being encouraged 'not to mask their feelings' in support of [mental health awareness](#).

An ethical employer

At Smith+Nephew, we recruit, employ and promote employees on the sole basis of the qualifications and abilities needed for the work to be performed. We do not tolerate discrimination on any grounds and provide equal opportunity based on merit.

Smith+Nephew gives individuals with disabilities fair consideration for all vacancies against the requirements of the role. Where possible, for any employee who has a disability or who becomes disabled while working for us, we make reasonable adjustments and provide appropriate training to ensure that they are supported in their career. We are committed to providing equal opportunities in recruitment, promotion and career development for all employees, including those with disabilities.

We do not use any form of forced, compulsory or child labour. Smith+Nephew supports the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations, respecting the human rights, dignity and privacy of individuals and their right to freedom of association, freedom of expression and the right to be heard.

As a global medical technology business, we recognise our responsibility to take a robust approach to preventing slavery and human trafficking. Smith+Nephew is committed to preventing such activities in all of its corporate operations and in its supply chains. Our full policy on modern slavery is available on our website.

» To read more go to www.smith-nephew.com/sustainability/policies

Our culture pillars are our compass



Elga Lohler
Chief Human Resources Officer

Smith+Nephew had started on a transformation journey before COVID-19. At the heart of this was our new purpose of Life Unlimited and our culture pillars of Care, Collaboration and Courage. These had been welcomed and well received across all our employees.

As COVID-19 began to impact our Company, first in China in early 2020, and then across all our markets, having such a strongly embraced purpose and culture made it much easier to determine how we should respond. They became our compass, and gave us the answers to many questions that we did not have a playbook for.

We lived our culture and made the decision to prioritise protecting our employees' wellbeing and their roles. We took the position that those companies that treat their employees with care and compassion during these difficult times will be ready for the recovery and will be here for their customers and their patients.

The next step for our Company was to establish guiding principles for returning to the office. As we operate across so many countries and have various complexities in those countries it was impossible to have everyone follow exactly the same plan. Guiding principles set everyone up with clear direction, informed decision making and gave us greater opportunity for being consistent in how we supported employees, customers and communities, bringing us back to our purpose and culture.

We also spent a significant amount of time engaging our employees in authentic conversations about the state of the business, COVID-19 cases and the specific steps we are taking to protect those that continued to come to our sites and those working from home. In a matter of hours we became well-versed with working from home, set up protocols to enable this approach and became comfortable knowing that we did not have all the answers. Our employees trusted us to do the right thing and got on with it; and were patient when things did not happen or immediately work as planned.

We also found the time to step back from the day-to-day management and started a body of work about the future. This is led by a cross-functional and cross-geographic team focused on learning from what just happened to the world and to our Company and helping us become stronger for it versus reverting right back to the way we always operated. The outputs of this work include Workplace Unlimited, redefining where and how work happens at Smith+Nephew, which is described on the page opposite.

We are incredibly proud of how our employees continue to adapt to and overcome obstacles and for how they are embracing the future. An engaged workforce that lives and breathes our purpose and culture is an amazingly powerful force.

» Read more at www.smith-nephew.com/sustainability/policies

Workplace Unlimited

At Smith+Nephew we have chosen to take this opportunity to re-think where and how work happens, understand employees' aspirations, and be agile in the development of principles that will work for all.

“The office will become a place where we replenish our energy together, reinforce our collective culture, and support a sense of who we are as Smith+Nephew.”

Mark Gladwell

President Operations & GBS

We believe our global flexibility mindset will bring significant and impactful benefits, including greater trust, increased productivity and employee engagement.

At the heart of Workplace Unlimited is a commitment to meet the needs of employees – be they mobile workers who need to work from offices occasionally, teams who frequently need to meet to collaborate, specialists requiring access to specific equipment or employees who have on-site positions such as in manufacturing.

These needs are captured in four personas – external mobile, neighbourhood, hybrid and non-mobile.



External mobile

Employees who are road or remote-based with a schedule aligned to customer needs, such as our sales force.



Hybrid

Employees who require flexible workspace to collaborate with others such as members of our Regulatory Affairs team.



Neighbourhood

Employees who use offices to collaborate and require dedicated area with specific assets, such as R&D engineers.



Non-mobile

Employees who have an onsite position, with some flexibility options around time, such as manufacturing operators.

Inclusion and diversity

For the first time we participated in Gallup's Inclusion Index in 2020. This index consists of questions around confidence that the Company will do what is right in issues of compliance and ethics, is committed to developing each employee's strengths, and treats each employee with respect. We performed at around the mid-point of the Gallup database, and now have a baseline from which we can build a truly inclusive culture across Smith+Nephew.

We established a number of new initiatives in 2020, including formally launching global Employee Inclusion Groups (EIGs) and starting a new conversation around racial diversity inspired by events in the US and elsewhere in 2020. Roland Diggelmann, our Chief Executive Officer, initiated and attended a number of listening sessions with Elga Lohler, Chief Human Resources Officer. As a result, we formed three employee-led work teams dedicated to increasing inclusion and diversity across our workplace. One of the first actions has been the formation of UNITY, a new EIG on racial diversity.

“As we cultivate an environment of high performance, it must be built on the trust of employees and the ability for all backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences to be respected and celebrated. I am proud that we are launching official EIGs to bring employees together to share these experiences, help educate others and further drive our commitment to inclusion and diversity initiatives.”

Brad Cannon
President Sports Medicine & ENT
(ExCo Sponsor of UNITY)



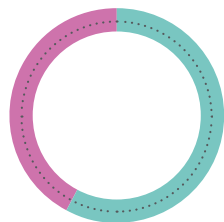
Our team in Wroclaw, Poland, celebrated Pride 2020, bringing the colours of the rainbow to the office.

EIGs are voluntary, employee-led groups that foster a diverse, inclusive workplace aligned with our purpose, culture pillars, and business objectives – sponsored by senior leaders. Our primary goal for our EIGs is to create an inclusive culture that supports diversity of thought, background and perspective. We have now launched a number of EIGs covering a broad spectrum of diversity including: women; young professionals, race and ethnicity, veterans and mental and physical wellbeing. Our EIGs provide a network for employees to engage and collaborate as part of a global framework and be empowered to drive local/site events and activities.

We continue to run Listening+Sharing sessions, hosted by members of the Executive Committee, designed to create powerful global conversations to elevate the topic of Inclusion+Diversity. They allow management to learn from all employees about their experiences and ideas on how we can create an inclusive work environment for everyone and strengthen the sense of belonging and identity. We are committed to employment practices based on equal opportunities, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies. In 2020 we delivered inclusion training to 2,600 managers across Smith+Nephew.

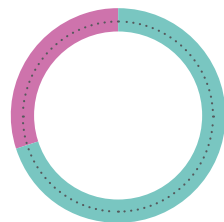
17,914
Total employees¹

Male 58% Female 42%



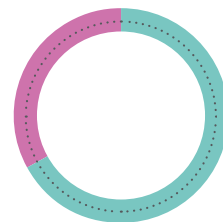
1,057
Senior Managers and above²

Male 70% Female 30%



12
Board of Directors

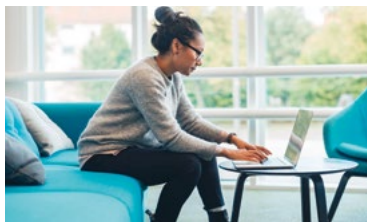
Male 67% Female 33%



Our UK Gender Pay ratios improved in 2020, as we built on the progress delivered in 2019 (see [page 126](#)). We have also focused on sponsorship of female talent with each ExCo member sponsoring up and coming females to help accelerate their development.

1 Number of employees at 31 December 2020 including part time employees and employees on leave of absence.
2 Senior managers and above include all employees classed as Directors, Senior Directors, Vice Presidents, Executive Officers and includes all statutory directors and Directors of our subsidiary companies.

We put emphasis on developing our female leaders. We also saw record numbers participating in Elevate, a monthly webinar series supporting the professional development of up to 200 women per month. Our UK Gender Pay ratios improved in 2020, as we built on the progress delivered in 2019 (see [page 126](#)) We have also focused on sponsorship of female talent with each ExCo member sponsoring up and coming females to help accelerate their development. In addition we have specific ELGs that focus on fostering an inclusive environment for women including women in sales, the society of women in engineering and women in leadership and management.



Achieving results with responsibility

We believe that it's a privilege to provide products and services for patients and healthcare professionals. And we believe that it's up to everyone who works for us – or on our behalf – to share that responsibility by upholding our reputation for integrity and ethical conduct, because the sustainability of our business depends on doing things the right way.

Our world-class Global Compliance Programme helps our business to comply with applicable laws and regulations. Our comprehensive programme includes global policies and procedures, on-boarding and annual training for employees and managers, monitoring and validation processes, and reporting channels.

We have multiple levels of ethics and compliance oversight, including a Board Compliance & Culture Committee, to ensure managers, employees and business partners act with integrity and we regularly assess existing and emerging risks in the countries in which we operate.

We updated our Code of Conduct and Business Principles in 2019 (available at www.smith-nephew.com). This gives each employee the legal and ethical framework to guide what we do every day in a way that reflects our Company and our culture. It's not enough to simply comply with the law; we should always behave ethically, even where the law is unclear or still developing.

Through our global intranet, we provide resources and tools to guide employees to make decisions that comply both with the law and our Code of Conduct. We ensure appropriate oversight of significant interactions with healthcare professionals or government officials. We comply with all country and US state transparency reporting laws which require reporting of physician compensation.

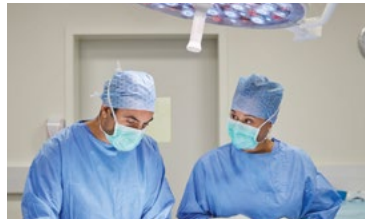
We believe that it's up to everyone who works for us – or on our behalf – to share that responsibility by upholding our reputation for integrity and ethical conduct, because the sustainability of our business depends on doing things the right way.



Committed to development

We are committed to training, with employees having bespoke 70-20-10 development plans. These take a blended approach to learning and development: 70% through experiential/on the job learning; 20% by learning from others, for example through coaching; and 10% from formal learning. We have invested resources to support these plans, and exceeded our 2020 target of 80% of all employees having a development plan.

In 2019 we launched 'Winning Behaviours', a behavioural competency framework directly linked to our culture pillars of Care, Collaboration and Courage. It supports employee development by helping employees understand how they can demonstrate our culture on a daily basis. Our recruitment and assessment approach, and our performance management and talent management processes, all directly align to these Winning Behaviours.



The 70-20-10 development philosophy and our Winning Behaviours guide the development of leadership programmes and solutions. All employees have access to MyLearning, an online platform that includes videos, book summaries and virtual/online courses. We see very high levels of usage and engagement on the platform. Over half of employees who use it return for a second or third time, which is much higher than the SkillSoft benchmark.

Despite the disruption in 2020, 268 people leaders participated in our successful leadership programmes, Pioneer and Leadership Edge during the year. As well as refreshing content to reflect new leadership requirements, we also evolved these programmes to a more virtual and interactive deployment model, accommodating remote working.

Our Continuous Leadership Journeys (CLJs), which enables employees to tailor their training and learn at their own pace, continued to be extremely popular, with 294 participants across various programmes in 2020.

Our purpose

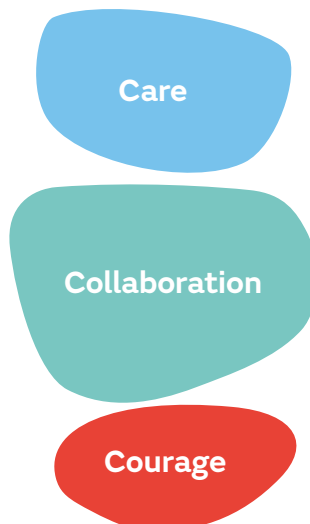
Why we're here...



Life Unlimited

Our culture pillars

What we stand for...



Winning behaviours

We are at our best when...



We ran a successful pilot of our new Executive Development Programme for our senior leaders in 2020, in partnership with Yale School of Management and Columbia Business School. 22 senior leaders completed the programme and the feedback was extremely positive. The opportunity to apply learnings in a real-world business project was particularly beneficial for participants and the business. We also continued to conduct Global Talent Reviews including Talent Spotlight sessions to identify emerging high potential employees.

The Global Talent Acquisition Team began 2020 with a focus on the implementation of our new internal model along with introducing several new technologies to drive greater efficiency and to enhance our candidate experience. The timing of our Modern Hire implementation could not have been better – enabling it to provide the best support to the business as we made the rapid shift to complete virtual interviewing. We also moved to a virtual/agile onboarding process so we can ensure new employees feel quickly connected and aligned to our culture.

Our recruitment and assessment approach, and our performance management and talent management processes, all directly align to these Winning Behaviours.

In light of the pandemic, we had to cancel many of our 2020 summer internships yet we wanted to provide continued support to these students. We had been reviewing the option of 'Micro-internships' (a virtual short-term, paid, project based position that is similar to those given to interns) and COVID-19 accelerated our implementation of a successful programme. Interns taking advantage of micro-internships each completed multiple projects throughout the summer. In addition, we ran a virtual professional development programme for other interns impacted.

Every year, we set out clear and measurable Group objectives based upon our strategic imperatives, which are directly linked to personal objectives of all employees. This enables employees to clearly see how their efforts contribute to the overall success of the business, which drives execution, accountability and engagement. During 2020 all employees' objectives were reviewed to ensure they remained relevant and achievable in the face of the challenges of COVID-19.

Smith+Nephew's compensation strategy supports high-performance and accountability across both financial and cultural performance metrics. A robust compensation framework is vital in attracting, retaining, and motivating high calibre people, driving better business results across an equitable work environment. We are Living Wage Accredited in the UK, voluntarily paying above the government required minimum. We also offer a share plan to the majority of employees globally.



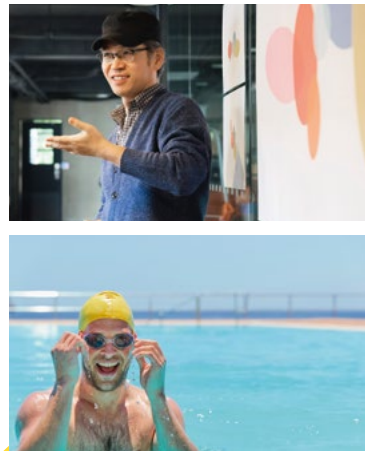
Delivering innovation

Throughout 2020 we continued to innovate to ensure the Group emerges from this crisis as strongly as possible. We protected our R&D investment, launched new products, made strategically important acquisitions, adapted our medical education and identified efficiencies across manufacturing.

Research & Development

At the heart of our innovation strategy is our R&D team, focused on delivering meaningful innovation and launching new products, systems and services backed by compelling clinical evidence. In 2020 we invested \$307 million in R&D.

We delivered a number of important launches in 2020. In Orthopaedics this was led by a new handheld robotics platform, the CORI[®] Surgical System, available for both unicompartmental and total knee arthroplasty.



Enabling innovation

CORI is the vanguard of our Real Intelligence digital ecosystem which, following applicable regulatory clearance and approval pathways, will include patient engagement, pre-operative planning, digital and robotic surgery, post-operative assessment and outcomes measurement solutions.

We launched RI.HIP NAVIGATION for total hip arthroplasty (THA), designed to help maximise accuracy and reproducibility by delivering patient-specific component alignment. We also launched the JOURNEY[®] II Unicompartmental Knee (UK) System, building on the heritage of our partial knees now paired with proprietary OXINIUM[®] Technology. In China we received approval from the National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) to introduce our REDAPT[®] System for revision THA.

In Sports Medicine we introduced the INTELLIO[®] Connected Tower Solution, which wirelessly connects and remotely controls multiple Sports Medicine systems from outside the sterile field, an ideal solution for both hospitals and Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASCs) where space is at a premium. In Europe we launched the NOVOSTITCH[®] PRO Meniscal Repair System and continued to roll out our REGENETEN[®] Bioinductive Implant.

RI.HIP NAVIGATION for total hip arthroplasty is designed to help maximise accuracy and reproducibility by delivering patient-specific component alignment.

We also continued to invest in evidence to support the use of our products, including a new publication further validating the performance of our proprietary OXINIUM on XLPE (highly cross-linked polyethylene) for total hip arthroplasty. For our PICO[®] Single Use Negative Pressure Wound Therapy System (sNPWT) new studies demonstrated cost effectiveness when compared with traditional NPWT and clinical effectiveness compared to standard dressings in reducing surgical site complications, resulting in fewer deep sternal wound infections following cardiac surgery.

Acquisitions

Smith+Nephew's strategy to invest in higher-growth segments is at the core of our acquisition programme. Under our capital allocation framework, M&A is the third priority for use of cash, and our business development team is focused on finding value-enhancing opportunities.

In September 2020 we announced our intention to acquire the Extremity Orthopaedics business of Integra LifeSciences Holdings Corporation for \$240 million.

The acquisition, which we completed in January 2021, will significantly strengthen Smith+Nephew's extremities business by adding a combination of a focused sales channel predominantly in the US as well as Canada and Europe, complementary shoulder replacement and upper and lower extremities portfolio, and an exciting new product pipeline.

The portfolio is highly complementary to Smith+Nephew's existing orthopaedics offering, in particular providing entry into the shoulder replacement and foot and ankle segments. The Extremity Orthopaedics R&D pipeline includes a next-generation shoulder replacement system, which is expected to be ready for full commercial launch in 2022.

In January 2020 we acquired Tusker Medical, Inc., the developer of the Tula[®] System, a new system for in-office delivery of ear tubes to treat recurrent or persistent ear infections. This FDA-approved 'Breakthrough-designated Device' is the first system that can be used to place ear tubes in young children using local anaesthesia in the physician-office setting. Tula is highly complementary to our existing ENT portfolio. While the roll-out of Tula has been significantly impacted by the slow-down in elective ENT surgeries caused by COVID-19, we completed the first commercial procedures in May as planned.

In 2020 we also acquired two digital technology products as well as remote physical therapy assets. These formed the foundation for ARIA, our digital care management platform for ASCs, launched in 2020.

The acquired Integra portfolio is highly complementary, in particular providing entry into the shoulder replacement and foot and ankle segments.



"The Extremity Orthopaedics business acquired from Integra is an established global player in the rapidly growing extremities segment, including total shoulder replacement, and has a well-regarded specialised sales channel and a strong pipeline of new products. This strategic acquisition represents a significant opportunity to strengthen Smith+Nephew's position in a high-value area and allows us to offer a leading extremities portfolio to customers."

Skip Kil
President Orthopaedics

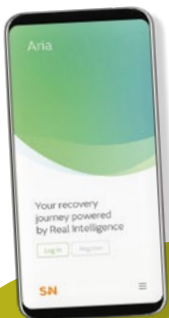
Major product launches in 2020

INTELLIO[®] Connected Tower Solution wirelessly connects and remotely controls multiple Sports Medicine systems from outside the sterile field.



The JOURNEY II[®] Unicompartmental Knee (UK) System utilises Smith+Nephew's proprietary OXINIUM[®] Technology for partial knees.

The COR[®] surgical platform is small and portable, making it ideal for ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) and outpatient surgery.



ARIA is a digital platform and application designed to connect delivery of patient care with providers throughout the surgical and clinical episode.



HEALICOIL KNOTLESS[®] Suture Anchor expands our line of advanced healing solutions for rotator cuff repair.



The revolutionary Tula[®] System gives ENT surgeons an option to place ear tubes in an awake child during an office visit without the need for general anaesthesia.

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Q A+

At the heart of our innovation strategy is our R&D team, focused on delivering innovation and launching new products, systems and services backed by compelling clinical evidence. In 2020 we invested \$307 million in R&D.

Vasant Padmanabhan
President Research & Development

What is Smith+Nephew's R&D model?

Our R&D model is structured to deliver a pipeline of innovative products and solutions that meet customer and patient needs. Our model and structure provide for customer and franchise focused innovation, while leveraging assets and capabilities across the enterprise. The close alignment between new product development and Clinical Affairs allows us to deliver clinical and economic evidence of the value of our innovation. New products are developed using a rigorous phase-gate approach starting with business case review and ending with launch readiness review. We also work closely with our manufacturing colleagues to embed sustainability principles into our design and packaging.

How important are acquisitions?

Very important. We are proud of our track record in acquiring new technologies and realising their potential in high growth markets and segments. These acquisitions complement existing product innovation and help accelerate portfolio growth, strengthen our established leadership positions, and boost our core technologies and enterprise capabilities. In 2020 we delivered new launches based around acquired technologies in ENT, robotics and our ASC business.



What are you most proud of in 2020?

I am most proud of our Company's steadfast focus on the health and safety of our employees and customers during the pandemic. We made the decision early in the year to ring-fence our key R&D programmes, while reducing expenses wherever possible. We are very pleased with how well we have delivered exciting new products for launches during the year in spite of the COVID-19 challenges.

What should we expect in the future?

We expect to continue to deliver our innovation pipeline with further product approvals and launches globally. Our products and solutions are becoming more connected digitally. We will develop solutions like the Real Intelligence Digital Surgery ecosystem that help our customers to perform surgeries more precisely and accurately leading to better patient outcomes. Our solutions will continue to provide insights, derived from big data, for better patient management.

What is Real Intelligence (RI)?

Real Intelligence: How Smith+Nephew thinks, innovates and re-imagines surgery. While others focus on Artificial Intelligence (AI) as their path to the future, we take a different approach. Real Intelligence: where the power of human insight and experience work together with technology to create new care pathways.

Smith+Nephew has made significant investments in technology including: Blue Belt, the Brainlab Orthopaedic Joint Reconstruction business, and Atracsys.

Our vision combines robotics, software and data to improve outcomes. The Real Intelligence ecosystem creates a seamless connection through the continuum of care.

Delivering innovation continued

Innovating for ASCs

We have continued to develop new offerings for the Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) segment, which we view as a strategic cross-franchise opportunity. We are seeing an increase in the proportion of joint replacement procedures taking place in ASCs and believe that part of the US healthcare system's response to COVID-19 has been to accelerate the shift. Smith+Nephew is well positioned to benefit from this trend through our new ASC solutions programme Positive Connections which offers a unique combination of leading technologies, partnerships, programmes and training to benefit patients and healthcare providers.

ARIA, Smith+Nephew's digital care management platform, was launched in August 2020 with a focus on ASC customers. It promotes engagement between patients and providers to support the overall patient experience before and after surgery. We continue to build ARIA, adding patient selection and care-pathway optimisation tools as well as remote Physical Therapy (PT) functionality for launch in 2021, bringing convenience for patients with musculoskeletal problems and helping to manage costs for payors and employers.



In 2021 we will introduce remote Physical Therapy (PT) functionality for ARIA, Smith+Nephew's digital care management platform for ASCs.

Manufacturing and quality

Delivering high quality products

Smith+Nephew takes great pride in its manufacturing expertise and commitment to distributing innovative, quality products globally. Our Global Operations team supports the delivery of the Group's strategic imperatives by ensuring that we respond efficiently to geographical growth, new product development and increasing regulatory requirements.

We operate manufacturing facilities in eight countries across the globe, and have central distribution in the US, Europe and Asia. Products for our Orthopaedics franchise are primarily manufactured at facilities in Memphis (US), Aarau (Switzerland), Tuttlingen (Germany), Beijing (China), and Warwick (UK). We are currently building a new high technology manufacturing facility in Penang (Malaysia) which is expected to open in late 2022.

Sports Medicine products are primarily manufactured at the Mansfield (US) and Alajuela (Costa Rica) facilities. The majority of Advanced Wound Management products are made in Hull (UK), Fort Worth (US), Columbia, Maryland (US), and Suzhou (China).



ARIA promotes engagement between patients and providers to support the overall patient experience before and after surgery.



We procure raw materials, components, finished products and packaging materials from suppliers globally. These include metal forgings and castings, optical and electronic sub-components, active ingredients and semi-finished goods, as well as packaging materials. Suppliers are contracted to ensure value for money based on total spend across the Group. We work closely with our suppliers to ensure high quality, delivery performance and continuity of supply.

We outsource certain parts of our manufacturing processes where necessary to obtain specialised expertise or to lower cost without undue risk to our intellectual property or quality. We monitor suppliers through on-site assessments and performance audits to ensure the required levels of quality, service and delivery.

Manufacturing efficiency

We are continuing a programme to transform our operations. This programme is expected to deliver around \$200 million of annualised benefits by 2025 for a one-off cost of around \$350 million.

One major component of the programme is to continue to optimise our manufacturing network, including introducing digital technologies and lean manufacturing. Malaysia will provide additional capacity in a low-cost location to support future growth. We have expanded our site in Costa Rica and are transforming it into a multi-franchise facility to manufacture PICO sNPWT for the US market. We have also completed the transfer of Bioactives manufacturing from Curaçao to our facility in Texas.

A second component underway is the outsourcing of our global warehousing and distribution functions in the US and Europe to a specialist third party partner. We expect to benefit from the greater scale and expertise of our partner, including their advanced warehouse automation.

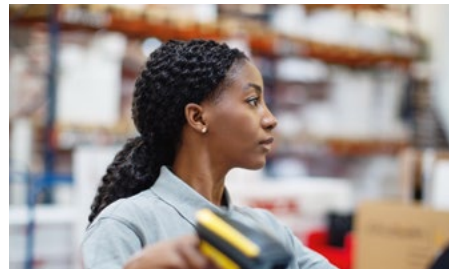
\$200m

Our programme to transform our operations is expected to deliver around \$200 million of annualised benefits by 2025 for a one-off cost of around \$350 million.

“Global Operations is focused on delivering ever-greater efficiency by operating an optimal facility footprint, driving lean manufacturing methods across our network and identifying opportunities within our supply chain to deliver world-class service levels.”

Mark Gladwell

President Operations & GBS



Work is progressing rapidly on our new high technology manufacturing facility in Penang, Malaysia.

Preparation for Brexit

Supporting our customers to ensure they are able to continue treating patients is an absolute priority for Smith+Nephew.

At the heart of this is our supply chain, where we have built comprehensive contingency plans, in particular related to threats of wider disruption posed by the end of the Brexit Transition Period on 31 December 2020, and the impact of COVID-19.

These contingency plans are built on Smith+Nephew's Group Business Resilience and Continuity Management programme, which reviews and implements protocols and procedures to address risks and impacts identified to our business – as may affect our staff, customers, stakeholders, and products and services.

In anticipation of the end of the Brexit Transition Period, we undertook detailed programmes to identify risks and ensure that contingencies could be implemented as required. Our plans addressed risks and issues which might have impacted on regulatory compliance, manufacturing, supply chain, our people and operation of our IT and finance systems. As a Brexit contingency we built up an additional six weeks of inventory in the UK.

If necessary, we have the ability to flex our supply chain to ship products directly to both the UK and EU, reducing our reliance on crossing the UK/EU border. We have registered for the UK Government Secured Freight Capacity and Government Express Freight schemes for easier access into the UK and have secured Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) status which enables priority treatment for our products at the UK border.

Delivering innovation continued

Medical education

Smith+Nephew is committed to empowering healthcare professionals with education and training to help improve patient outcomes across the globe.

Medical education at Smith+Nephew offers healthcare providers opportunities to learn the latest evidence, innovative surgical techniques, and effective use of our products. We also partner with professional societies, fellowship programmes, and thought leaders to elevate the standard-of-care across the therapeutic areas we serve.

Our focus is providing learning journeys delivered when it is most needed in a format preferred by the user. Customers have access to content that is tailored to their specialty and role in the treatment continuum. We have also expanded our course offering and introduced a new engaging online platform to supplement traditional peer-to-peer interactions and hands-on practice.

By leveraging state-of-the-art technology, Smith+Nephew provides virtual experiences for hospitals, ASCs and clinics, bringing together surgeons, education professionals, and clinicians remotely. Our distinct ability to adapt to customers' learning needs provides options of remote procedure support, proctoring, and collaboration. Smith+Nephew Responds goes further in providing on-demand live wound care support and education.

We are also developing a broader reach to educate across sites of care, specialties, and geographies. Our goal is to provide a rich offering of education across the full continuum of care including nurses, allied professionals, extended staff, and payers.

This year, we accelerated virtual and hybrid learning opportunities to enhance in-person learning and provide education when and how customers want it. In 2020, a record 186,000 healthcare professionals attended our courses globally, with nearly 80% delivered virtually compared to just 11% during 2019.

In 2021, Smith+Nephew will launch Education Unlimited, a new global website platform with medical education resources spanning across Advanced Wound Management, Orthopaedics, Sports Medicine, and ENT.



80%

In 2020, a record 186,000 healthcare professionals attended our courses globally, with nearly 80% delivered virtually compared to just 11% during 2019.

Royal College of Surgeons accreditation for new digital medical education programme

In May 2020 we were pleased to announce that our new global digital medical education programme had been accredited by the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Launched in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the programme was designed to support the development of surgeons by providing educational webinars on the safe and effective use of Smith+Nephew products as well as surgical techniques.

In its first month the programme attracted healthcare professionals from more than 110 different countries.

This accreditation builds on the Royal College of Surgeons of England accreditation received in 2018 for Smith+Nephew's surgical training facility, the Expert Connect Centre, in Watford, UK.



Quality and Regulatory Affairs

A global Quality and Regulatory Affairs function supports full product life-cycle management of Smith+Nephew's global product portfolio from design and development through manufacturing and post-market surveillance.

These teams establish appropriate processes and procedures to facilitate compliance to complex global regulations and laws that govern the design, development, approval, manufacture, labelling, marketing and sale of healthcare products.

The Quality and Regulatory Affairs teams directly support expansion of our global portfolio through the registration of new products and existing products in new markets, as well as ensuring compliance with regulatory reporting standards.

110

In its first month the programme attracted healthcare professionals from more than 110 different countries.

Global regulators are constantly striving to improve standards. In 2021 new regulations in Europe will have a fundamental effect on our industry.

Melissa Guerdan

Chief Quality and Regulatory Affairs Officer

What is EU MDR?

Requirements of global regulatory agencies are becoming increasingly stringent and we expect this to continue. The European Union (EU) Medical Devices Regulation (MDR) includes new requirements for the manufacture, supply and sale of all CE marked products sold in Europe and requires the re-registration of all medical devices with CE marking, regardless of where the devices are manufactured. This is a significant undertaking. EU MDR will apply from May 2021.

Is EU MDR a good thing?

At Smith+Nephew we view any changes that are in the interest of protecting patients as positive and in-line with our own company values. Amongst a number of changes, EU MDR creates transparency of product performance with the intent to drive improvements in product innovation and performance, while helping customers make informed decisions – these are noble objectives and aligned with our values. We have for a number of years been increasing our investment in clinical evidence for exactly the same reason – to inform clinical practice and help improve outcomes.

“Our Quality and Regulatory Affairs teams strive to ensure that patient safety and product quality are at the forefront of our global employees' approach to their work. We maintain an unwavering commitment to excellence and service to our customers.”

Melissa Guerdan

Chief Quality and
Regulatory Affairs Officer

Is Smith+Nephew ready?

We have been preparing for MDR since 2017. Given the magnitude and complexity of the regulation, a project team approach was adopted so that there was dedicated focus on this important regulatory change. More than 300 employees working across 11 workstreams, including regulatory, quality, R&D and supply chain, are ensuring that the requirements of the regulation are embedded and met across our business. We have re-organised our EU supply chain to comply with the economic operator requirements of the Regulation, and from a manufacturer perspective we have completed all technical requirements and are finalising labelling changes ahead of the May 2021 deadline.



Serving our customers

Healthcare professionals are our customers, and they can range from orthopaedic surgeons to wound care nurses, general practitioners and other clinicians, but increasingly also economic stakeholders such as purchasing professionals in hospitals and healthcare insurers.

Putting customers at the heart of our business

Our franchise model

Smith+Nephew has a global franchise structure with three franchises: Orthopaedics, Sports Medicine & ENT, and Advanced Wound Management. Each is led by a dedicated global president who serves on our Executive Committee and reports to the Chief Executive Officer. The franchise model is designed to ensure that we have subject and market experts leading specialist teams dedicated to serving the specific requirements of our customers.

Our franchises are responsible for strategy, determining which products we take to market and how we market these globally. The franchises work closely with R&D to ensure we are developing products that meet unmet needs and with Global Operations to ensure we have appropriate availability.

The franchises also share global commercial support teams in the areas of medical education, sales training, marketing services and healthcare economics.

Three franchises set global product strategy

Orthopaedics

Skip Kiil, President

» 46 Read more on our franchise

Sports Medicine & ENT

Brad Cannon, President

» 48 Read more on our franchise

Advanced Wound Management

Simon Fraser, President

» 50 Read more on our franchise

Three regional organisations sell to our customers

US/Americas

In the US, our largest market, the commercial teams are organised by franchise and led by the franchise presidents. The President Sports Medicine & ENT also leads our teams in LATAM and Canada

Europe, Middle East & Africa

Our EMEA commercial organisation is headquartered in Zug, Switzerland. The team is led by Peter Coenen, President EMEA Region

Asia Pacific

Our Asia Pacific commercial organisation is headquartered in Singapore. It is led by Myra Eskes, President Asia Pacific Region

Our customers:

- Nurses
- Surgeons
- Healthcare systems
- Payors
- Patients

Commercial delivery

Smith+Nephew sells through a regional commercial structure, with dedicated organisations covering the US, Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA), and Asia Pacific (APAC).

In the US, our largest market, the commercial teams are organised by franchise. These teams are also led by the global franchise president who has full commercial responsibility. The President Sports Medicine & ENT also leads our teams in Latin America and Canada.

Our EMEA and APAC commercial organisations are also led by presidents, who serve on our Executive Committee and report to the Chief Executive Officer. Again this is to ensure that their voices are heard at the highest level and the needs of their customers are recognised and appropriate resource dedicated to them.

Under the EMEA and APAC presidents are country clusters, based on geographic proximity, critical mass of revenue, and similar go-to-market strategies. They are led by managing directors with business unit leads for each franchise.

Highly trained and skilled

Our sales representatives are highly trained and skilled individuals.

Depending on their area of specialism, representatives in our surgical businesses will not only know the devices that they sell, but also have a detailed knowledge of the surgical instruments used to implant them, and specific understanding of the various surgical techniques a customer might use.

Once a sales representative is trained and certified, they typically spend the majority of their time working directly with and supporting customers to aid in the safe and effective use of our advanced medical technologies, or identifying and contacting new customers.

In Advanced Wound Management, sales representatives have deep knowledge of how clinicians seek to prevent and treat wounds, as well as an understanding of the economic benefits of using our products within treatment protocols.

We pride ourselves on giving customers a high standard of service and invest in developing our sales and marketing organisation. We are proud of our Global Commercial Training and Education structure, which delivers a consistent content and curriculum-based approach, coupled with deep commercial training specialisation in key markets.

In 2020, as access to hospitals was restricted due to COVID-19, many of our representatives continued to support urgent cases at the request of customers. For those who were not required, we invested more in training our representatives to ensure we were ready to step back up as elective procedures restarted.



Orthopaedics

Smith+Nephew's Orthopaedics franchise includes an innovative range of Hip and Knee Implants used to replace diseased, damaged or worn joints, enabling technologies that empower surgeons, and Trauma products used to stabilise fractures and correct bone deformities.

Performance

	2020	2019
Franchise revenue	\$1,917m	\$2,222m
Franchise profit	\$389m	\$666m

	2020 Revenue	2020 Reported growth	2020 Underlying growth*
Knee Implants	\$822m	-21.1%	-21.0%
Hip Implants	\$567m	-7.5%	-7.4%
Other Recon	\$68m	-12.9%	-26.1%
Trauma	\$460m	-5.7%	-5.1%

* These non-IFRS financial measures are explained and reconciled to the most directly comparable financial measure prepared in accordance with IFRS on pages 222–226.

“Our joint reconstruction portfolio of unique and differentiated hip and knee implants allows surgeons to utilise our leading robotic technology to help restore pain-free movement to patients.”

Skip Kiil

President Orthopaedics



OR30, our new Advanced Dual Hip Mobility system incorporating our proprietary OXINIUM technology, has been well-received by customers, delivering a good commercial performance in the second half of 2020.

In Knee Implants, Smith+Nephew's specialised systems include leading products for total primary and revision, partial and patellofemoral joint resurfacing procedures.

The JOURNEY[®] II Total Knee Arthroplasty system is demonstrated to replicate normal knee positions, shapes, and motions.¹⁻³ The LEGION[®]/GENESIS[®] II Total Knee System is a comprehensive system which includes a revision option to replace a knee implant that is no longer functioning properly. Both systems feature our proprietary advanced hard-wearing OXINIUM[®] Oxidized Zirconium bearing surface. In 2020 we launched the JOURNEY[®] II Unicompartmental Knee (UK) System, building on the heritage of our partial knees paired with OXINIUM Technology.

In Hip Implants, our range includes the ANTHOLOGY[®] Hip System, SYNERGY[®] Hip System, POLAR3[®] Total Hip Solution and OR30[®] Advanced Dual Mobility system. All these systems feature OXINIUM. Our REDAPT[®] Revision Hip System is designed to allow ingrowth through an additive, or 3D printing, manufacturing process which produces a porous implant designed to mimic the structure of cancellous bone.

In our Other Reconstruction segment we launched a new handheld robotics platform, the CORI[®] Surgical System, available for both unicompartmental knee arthroplasty and total knee arthroplasty.

CORI is the vanguard of our Real Intelligence digital ecosystem, which is described in more detail on page 39. CORI is being rolled out globally and replaces the NAVIO[®] Surgical System in our portfolio.

In Trauma, leading products include the TRIGEN[®] INTERTAN[®] hip fracture system, which is backed by many years strong clinical evidence,⁴ the EVOS[®] Plating System that offers multiple fixation options and, for extremities and limb restoration, the TAYLOR SPATIAL FRAME[®] External Fixator as well as plating systems and soft tissue repair products.

In January 2021 we acquired Extremity Orthopaedics business of Integra LifeSciences Holdings Corporation for \$240 million. This acquisition is expected to strengthen our extremities business by adding a combination of a focused sales channel, complementary shoulder replacement and upper and lower extremities portfolio, and an exciting new product pipeline including a next-generation shoulder replacement system. See page 37.

2020 Performance

The impact of COVID-19 was pronounced on our Orthopaedics franchise in 2020, driven by lower levels of elective surgery. As a result, on a reported basis, revenue declined -13.7% and profit -42%. Hip Implants performance included good growth from the REDAPT[®] Revision Hip System and recently launched OR30 Dual Mobility Hip System. Recovery in Knee Implants lagged behind Hip Implants reflecting the nature and causes of the procedure as well as the ongoing drag ahead of the launch of our cementless knee. In Other Reconstruction the reception for CORI surgical system was positive. Our Trauma businesses remained more resilient across the year, with the EVOS Plating System performing strongly.

» A full list of references can be found on page 238

Enhancing quality of life

Whether through improving clinical outcomes, extending the life and functionality of implants or enhancing operating room efficiency, our innovations differentiate us and provide solutions to patients seeking to regain their quality of life.

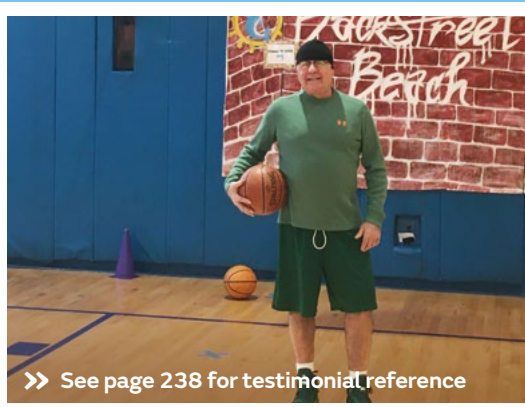


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» See page 238 for testimonial reference

King of the court

“Basketball has always been my shield against getting old. When I learned that patients don’t usually return to playing basketball after having knee replacement, I was determined that wouldn’t be my story.

“Of course, defying the odds meant two things: I had to be willing to put in the hard work, and I needed the right teammates beside me – Dr. David Mayman at Hospital for Special Surgery and my physical therapist.

“Six months after the second knee was replaced, I began shooting. Around nine

months later, I was playing three hours a day, twice a week. Best of all, I was holding my own against guys thirty years younger.

“Knee replacement was one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. I was in constant pain, limping around and generally miserable. Now, at 69 and about to celebrate the tenth anniversary of my first OXINIUM knee replacement, I’m still playing ball and don’t think about pain at all.”

Craig Raucher
Founder/Commissioner Staten Island Basketball League



Innovative technology for minimally invasive surgery

Smith+Nephew has a rich history of product development, and our technologies, instruments and implants enable surgeons to perform minimally invasive surgery of the joints, including the repair of soft tissue injuries and degenerative conditions of the shoulder, knee, hip and small joints.

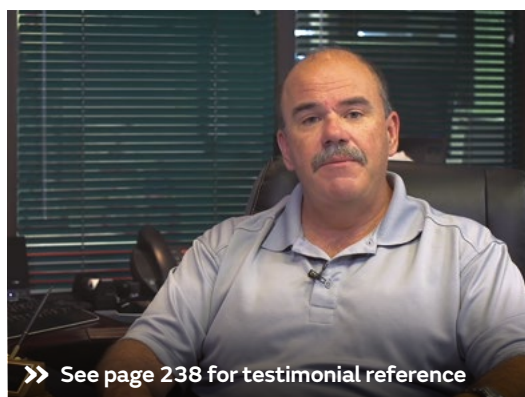


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» See page 238 for testimonial reference

Throwing the ball again

“I have a son that’s very active in sports. Every day we throw the baseball. Well, that was a worry, I couldn’t throw the baseball. Well, we’re throwing the ball every day again now and it’s been less than a year since I had my surgery. The results were pretty impressive to me.

“My goal was to be able to get back to work, and be able to get back to my family, and get back to my recovery. And that seemed to work out pretty good.

“Captain Don Hiller had Rotator Cuff Repair Surgery on a partial cuff tear using the REGENTEN Bioinductive Implant. The operating surgeon was Dr Alejandro Badia, MD, FACS. Captain Hiller was back to work two months after surgery.

“My name is Captain Don Hiller and since my procedure, I have been able to live my life unlimited.”

Captain Don Hiller



Sports Medicine & ENT

Smith+Nephew's Sports Medicine & ENT franchise operates in growing markets where unmet clinical needs provide opportunities for procedural and technological innovation.

Performance

	2020	2019
Franchise revenue	\$1,333m	\$1,536m
Franchise profit	\$306m	\$489m

	2020 Revenue	2020 Reported growth	2020 Underlying growth*
SMJR	\$710m	-10.5%	-10.2%
AET	\$517m	-12.6%	-12.4%
ENT	\$106m	-29.9%	-29.7%

* These non-IFRS financial measures are explained and reconciled to the most directly comparable financial measure prepared in accordance with IFRS on pages 222–226.

“Our Sports Medicine & ENT franchise is well positioned for growth with a differentiated portfolio that addresses the needs of patients, physicians, providers and payers.”

Brad Cannon

President Sports Medicine & ENT

REGENETEN

Bioinductive Implant



The REGENETEN Bioinductive Implant, which supports the body's natural healing response by inducing the growth of new tendon-like tissue,¹⁻⁵ has had a transformative impact on the way surgeons approach rotator cuff procedures.

In Sports Medicine Joint Repair (SMJR) our products help surgeons repair soft tissue injuries and degenerative conditions of the joint.

For shoulder repair, we market products primarily for Rotator Cuff Repair (RCR) and instability repair, two of the most common sports medicine procedures. Advanced Healing Solutions for rotator cuff repair includes the innovative REGENETEN[®] Bioinductive Implant, which supports the body's natural healing response to facilitate new tendon-like tissue growth and disrupt disease progression¹⁻⁵, and novel REGENESORB[®] Material, used in anchors, which encourages the implant to be absorbed and replaced by bone within 24 months.⁶⁻⁸

In knee repair, the NOVOSTITCH[®] PRO Meniscal Repair System addresses complex meniscal tear patterns not adequately served by other repair systems, including horizontal cleavage tears affecting approximately one-third of meniscal repair patients.⁹ Part of our All Tears All Repairs portfolio, it is highly complementary to our FAST-FIX[®] 360 Meniscal Repair System.

In Arthroscopic Enabling Technologies (AET) our products facilitate the practice of arthroscopic surgery. These include high definition imaging solutions, industry leading energy-based and mechanical resection platforms, and fluid management and access technologies. Our platforms work in concert to facilitate access to various joint spaces, visualise the patient's anatomy, resect degenerated or damaged tissue and prepare the joint for a soft tissue repair. The LENS 4K Surgical imaging system uses 4K UHD image quality and network connectivity in a 3-in-1 console for multispecialty environments. The WEREWOLF[®] and QUANTUM[®] 2 COBLATION[®] Controllers enable surgeons to remove soft tissue precisely¹⁰ and control bleeding in a variety of arthroscopic procedures.

In 2020 we introduced the INTELLIO[®] Connected Tower Solution, which wirelessly connects and remotely controls multiple Sports Medicine systems from outside the sterile field, an ideal solution for both hospitals and Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASCs) where space is at a premium. See page 40.

In Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT) our COBLATION[®] Plasma Technology, which has been used to remove tonsils and adenoids for over 15 years, has an ability to remove tissue at low temperatures with minimal damage to surrounding tissue.¹¹ Using COBLATION Technology, the HALO[®] COBLATION Wand with the WEREWOLF[®] System is the only system with an all-in-one device designed for both fine dissection and debulking of tissue in adenotonsillectomy. We also market a wide range of dissolvable and removable post-operative nasal dressings, as well as a comprehensive portfolio of epistaxis solutions.

We launched the Tula[®] System, an in-office solution for placement of tympanostomy tubes (commonly known as ear tubes), following our acquisition of Tusker Medical, Inc. in January 2020. See page 37.

2020 Performance

Performance in Sports Medicine & ENT was significantly impacted by COVID-19 restrictions in 2020, resulting in lower levels of elective surgery. As a result, on a reported basis, revenue declined -13.2% and profit -37%. Sports Medicine Joint Repair performance was driven by shoulder repair. In Arthroscopic Enabling Technology capital sales aligned closely to recovery in elective surgery volumes over the year. ENT's revenue was substantially lower year-on-year due largely to greater caution over restarting procedures and lower rates of ENT infections.

» A full list of references can be found on page 238

Advanced Wound Management

Performance

	2020	2019
Franchise revenue	\$1,310m	\$1,380m
Franchise profit	\$316m	\$370m

	2020 Revenue	2020 Reported growth	2020 Underlying growth*
AWC	\$647m	-7.7%	-7.5%
AWB	\$431m	-1.1%	-10.5%
AWD	\$232m	-4.8%	-4.8%

* These non-IFRS financial measures are explained and reconciled to the most directly comparable financial measure prepared in accordance with IFRS on pages 222–226.

“Chronic wounds represent a large and increasing burden on patients and healthcare systems. Smith+Nephew has a broad portfolio used across the spectrum of clinical needs, from prevention protocols to wound healing.”

Simon Fraser

President Advanced Wound Management

Smith+Nephew’s extensive Advanced Wound Management portfolio is designed to meet broad and complex clinical needs, helping healthcare professionals get ‘CLOSER TO ZERO’ human and economic consequences of wounds.

In Advanced Wound Care (AWC) our portfolio includes products that are designed to manage exudate and infection, protect the skin and prevent pressure injuries. In exudate management, our products provide appropriate wound fluid handling and absorption to help promote an optimal wound healing environment.¹ Our ALLEVYN[®] LIFE Foam Dressing is uniquely differentiated, with its EXUMASK[®] Change Indicator and fluid lock-in technology. In a recent study a 47.1% reduction in weekly dressing change frequency was observed compared to a variety of other wound management dressings.²

In infection management, our key silver-based ACTICOAT[®] Antimicrobial Barrier Dressings, DURAFIBER[®] Ag Absorbent Gelling Silver Fibrous Dressing, ALLEVYN[®] Ag Antimicrobial Foam Dressing, as well as IODOSORB[®] Cadexomer Iodine Ointment provide clinicians with a range of solutions to address bacterial burden, biofilm and infection.

Smith+Nephew promotes best practice guidelines, including the globally recognised T.I.M.E. principles, offering a systematic approach to wound healing.³ Due to the breadth of our portfolio, Smith+Nephew is uniquely positioned to provide customers with a set of comprehensive products across each clinical need assessed within the externally recognised T.I.M.E. Clinical Decision Support Tool.

In Advanced Wound Bioactives (AWB), our products provide an approach to debridement, dermal repair, and tissue substitutes with over 500 publications supporting their clinical application. Collagenase SANTYL[®] Ointment 250 units/gram is the only FDA-approved biologic enzymatic debridement agent available in the US market.

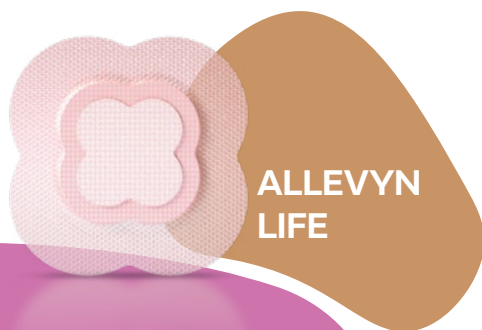
In our skin substitute product range, GRAFIX[®] Placental Membrane and STRAVIX[®] Umbilical Tissue, acquired in 2019 with Osiris Therapeutics, retain the extracellular matrix, growth factors, and endogenous mesenchymal stem cells, fibroblasts and epithelial cells of the native placental tissue to support advanced soft tissue repair. Intended for application directly to acute and chronic wounds and as surgical cover or wrap. In addition, OASIS[®] Wound Matrix is a naturally-derived porcine extracellular matrix replacement portfolio.

In Advanced Wound Devices (AWD), our portfolio helps improve healing outcomes in chronic wounds⁴, prevent surgical site complications⁵ and prevent pressure injuries.⁶ The PICO[®] system range of single use negative pressure wound therapy systems (sNPWT) brings the effectiveness of traditional NPWT in a small portable system. This unique technology is used on both chronic wounds and closed incisions. AWD also includes our traditional RENASYS[®] Negative Pressure Wound Therapy System, LEAF[®] Patient Monitoring System that supports a hospital’s pressure injury prevention strategy, and the VERSAJET[®] Hydrosurgery System, a surgical debridement device.

2020 Performance

Performance in Advanced Wound Management was more resilient across 2020 than our surgical franchises, although it was impacted by restrictions on access to healthcare facilities and lower levels of elective surgery. As a result, on a reported basis, revenue declined -5.1% and profit -15%. Within AWC our focus on commercial execution led to an improved performance across most regions by year-end. AWB was impacted by COVID-related restrictions to US healthcare provision. In AWD PICO sNPWT led performance, with our traditional RENASYS system having a strong finish to 2020.

» A full list of references can be found on page 238



ALLEVYN LIFE

Use of ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing in a community setting helped to significantly⁴ reduce the frequency of weekly dressing changes (47.1%) and weekly dressing costs (58.7%) compared with previous dressings, as well as improve HCP and patient satisfaction.²

Reducing the burden of wounds

Following the 2019 guidance from the UK's National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) for PICO[®] sNPWT⁷, we have continued to build the world-class evidence base. As of 1 May 2020 there were 146 publications, including 31 level one studies, randomly controlled clinical trials, meta-analyses etc. in multiple closed incision and open wound indications that demonstrates the clinical performance and economic value of the PICO[®] System.

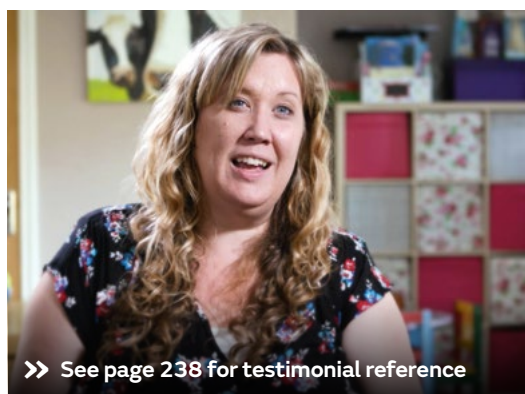


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» See page 238 for testimonial reference

Reducing surgical site infections

The 2019 NICE Guidance supported the adoption of PICO[®] sNPWT System, in patients at risk of surgical site infections (SSIs).⁷ SSIs are a substantial burden as Laura's story demonstrates. Having had complications following her first two Caesarian sections resulting in months of GP visits, pain and frustration, she was prescribed PICO sNPWT on her third C-section and subsequently no surgical site complications materialised.

In a recent RCT of 876 obese women undergoing C-section, the use of PICO sNPWT resulted in a reduction in the incidence of SSIs by 50%, when compared to standard dressings.⁸

Nana Hyldig of Odense Universitetshospital, Denmark, said: "The study shows that PICO dressing reduces the risk of SSI. It is our hope that the results from the study will benefit patients and health care systems around the world."

Our approach to stakeholders

In accordance with section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 and the UK Corporate Governance Code 2018, the Board considers the potential impact on the Company's key stakeholders and takes their views and interests into account when making decisions. The Board also takes the opportunity to engage with our stakeholders, as appropriate. Whilst this has been challenging during 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual arrangements have been made where possible with our main stakeholders. For further information on how we engage with our main stakeholders see:

Employees

Our employees are crucial to the success of our business and many of our decisions have an impact on them. We believe that an engaged workforce is better for business.

» See pages 28–35, 99 and 103

Investors

Our equity investors are the owners of our business and it is important for us to understand their perspectives on capital allocation and how the Company is run.

» See pages 102 and 227–235

Environment and community

People, Planet and Products are at the heart of our Sustainability strategy ensuring a positive impact on our communities and our environment and enabling us to innovate sustainably.

» See pages 24–27 and our 2020 Sustainability Report

Government and regulators

We are subject to the laws and regulations of many governments and regulators across the world and we work to ensure product safety and legal compliance in order to achieve the full potential of our portfolio.

» See page 105

Customers and suppliers

Our business model creates value through customer centricity whilst working in partnership with our suppliers ensures we have the right resources to support our growth.

» See pages 44–45 and 104

Our risk management process

Like all businesses, we face a number of risks and uncertainties

Successful management of existing and emerging risks is critical to the achievement of strategic objectives and to the long-term success of any business. Risk management is therefore an integral component of Smith+Nephew's Corporate Governance.

As in previous years our Enterprise Risk Management process is based on a holistic approach to risk management. Our belief is that the strategic and operational benefits of proactively managing risk are achieved when Enterprise Risk Management is aligned with the strategic and operational goals of the organisation, and our process and governance structure achieves this.

2020 has seen a further maturing of risk management, including by increasing senior management engagement in risk and business continuity. The Company's response to the global pandemic was managed by the Group's Crisis Management Team that was convened within the existing business continuity and incident management framework.

Additionally, as part of the strategy session, we discussed emerging risks with the Board. For example, we evaluated the risk of digital companies moving into healthcare.

Risk management life cycle

Annual improvement and refinement to our risk management ensures that it remains aligned with strategy and operations.

Our Risk Management Policy, sponsored by our Chief Executive Officer, is supported by an Enterprise Risk Management Manual and the Group Risk Team providing training to Business Area Risk Champions. As in prior years risks continue to be managed through a 'top-down' and 'bottom-up' process, with regular oversight from the Executive Committee and quarterly reports to the Board Committees. An overview of our risk management life cycle is illustrated.

2021 Risk Management Plan

Our work will continue to evolve in 2021 with a particular focus on strengthening integration to strategy and budgeting processes. We will continue to ensure a truly collaborative approach to risk management with risk accountability sitting squarely with management and a proactive Group Risk Team influencing decision-making through effective challenge and timely consultation.

1. Risk identification
Identifying risks associated with the achievement of our objectives by function at the Group level.



2. Gross (inherent) risk assessment
Assessing the level of inherent (gross) risk.



3. Current control identification
Identifying existing controls to mitigate risks.



4. Net (residual) risk
Assessing the level of residual (net) risk after mitigation so that risk levels are managed within tolerance thresholds without being over-controlled or foregoing desirable opportunities.



5. Risk response planning
Identifying additional actions required to meet our expected risk tolerance level and assigning risk owners, timeframes and actions for ongoing management and reporting.



6. Risk reporting
Reporting the status of our most significant risks through the 'bottom-up' business area processes and the 'top-down' Executive Committee and Board process.



7. Monitoring and review
Monitoring of risks and actions by management, the accountable Executive and Board.

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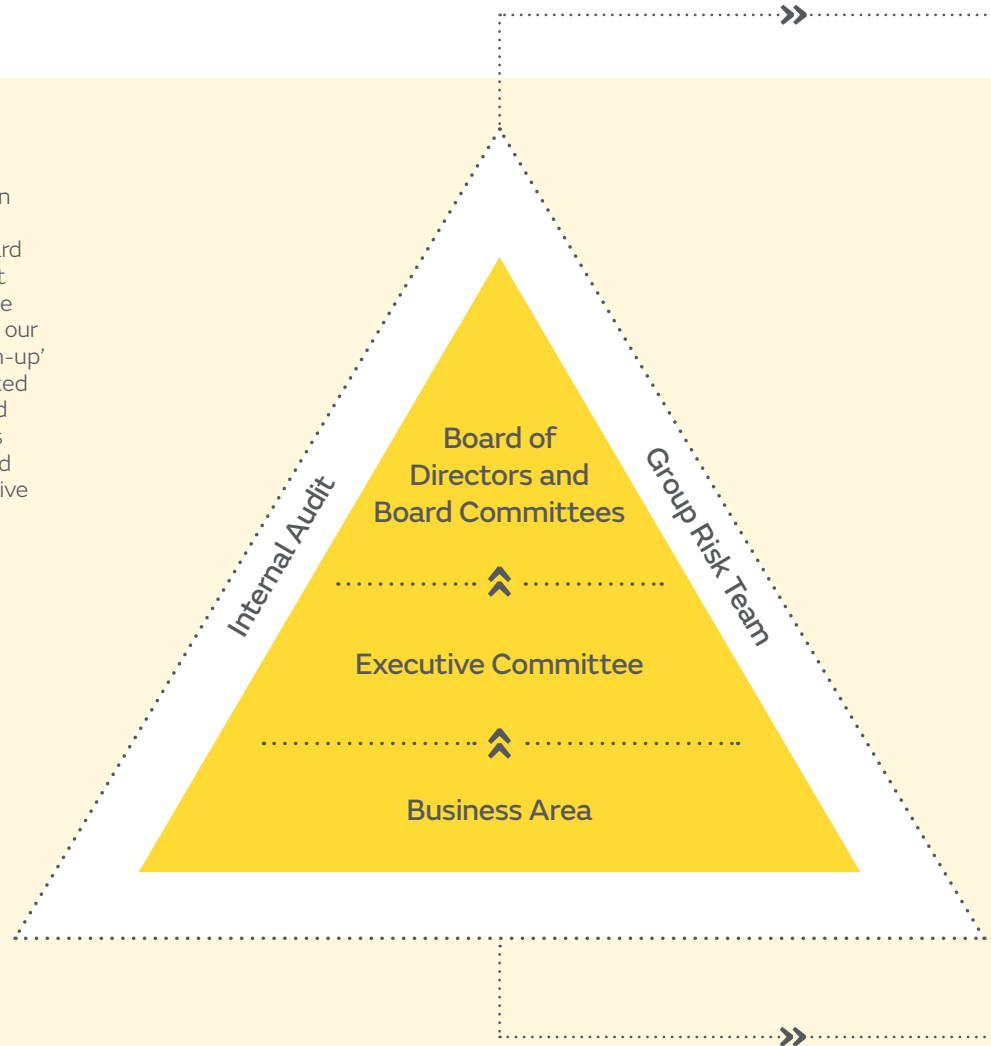
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Our risk governance framework

At the very top of our structure is our Board, setting our risk appetite and monitoring the application of our risk framework including strategy, execution and outputs of risk reviews by the business and Group Risk Team. The Board cascades our risk appetite throughout our organisation through the Executive Committee, risk owner community and our management group. A formal 'bottom-up' exercise ensures that risks are escalated back through the process to our Board and are reflected in our Principal Risks as appropriate. Providing guidance and rigour across this process is our Executive Committee and the Group Risk Team.

At the third line of defence is our Internal Audit Function, providing an annual opinion on the effectiveness of our Risk Management process to the Executive Committee, chaired by the Chief Executive Officer, and then to the Board and its Committees.



Board of Directors and Board Committees

- The Board is responsible for regular oversight of risk management, for our annual strategic risk review and for determining the risk appetite the organisation is willing to take in achieving its strategic objectives.
- The Board monitors risks through Board processes (Strategy Review, Disclosures, M&A, Investments, Disposals) and Committees (Audit and Compliance & Culture).
- The Audit Committee is responsible for ensuring oversight of the process by which risks relating to the Company and its operations are managed and for reviewing the operating effectiveness of the Group's Risk Management process.

Executive Committee sitting as Group Risk Committee

- Identifies and ensures the management of risks that would prevent us from achieving our objectives.
- Appoints Business Area Risk Champions who are accountable for applying the Enterprise Risk Management Policy and Framework to produce the risk deliverables.
- Reviews external/internal environment for emerging risks.
- Reviews risk register updates from Business Area Risk Champions.
- Identifies significant risks and assesses effectiveness of mitigating actions.

Business Area Risk Champions

- Carry out day-to-day risk management activities.
- Identify and assess risk.
- Implement strategy and mitigating actions to treat risk within Business Area.
- Lead regular risk register updates.

Group Risk Team

- Manages all aspects of the Group's approach to Enterprise Risk Management including design and implementation of processes, tools and systems to identify, assess, measure, manage, monitor and report risks.
- Facilitates implementation and co-ordination through Business Area Risk Champions.
- Provides resources and training to support process.
- Reports regularly on risk to the Executive Committee.
- Prepares Board and Group Risk Committee reports.

Internal Audit

- Provides independent assurance to the Board and Audit Committee on the effectiveness of the Group's Risk Management process.
- Provides annual assessment of effectiveness of Enterprise Risk Management.

2020 principal risks

We assess our Principal Risks in terms of their potential impact on our ability to deliver our Strategic Imperatives. These links are highlighted across the following pages and further information on the Strategic Imperatives is found on [pages 6–9](#). The Principal Risks are presented in alphabetical order below.

<p>Business continuity and business change</p> <p>Our business depends on our ability to plan for, and be resilient in the face of, events that threaten one or more of our key sites. Damage caused by natural disasters and severe weather can and do threaten our critical sites. Widespread outbreaks of infectious diseases, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, create uncertainty and challenges for the Group and our customers.</p> <p>Our business also requires continuous improvement and depends on our ability to execute business change programmes. The pace and scope of our business ‘change’ initiatives may increase execution risk for the change programmes as well as for our business as usual activities.</p>	<p>Examples of risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ongoing COVID-19 disruption to manufacturing, distribution and support functions globally or regionally due to subsequent waves. – Natural disaster causes disruption to manufacturing at single or sole source facility (lack of manufacturing redundancy). – Severe weather patterns caused by climate change or natural disaster causes damage to manufacturing or distribution facilities, impacting ability to meet customer demand. – Significant ‘change’ prevents our projects and programmes achieving the intended benefits and disrupts existing business activities. – Disruption to the business due to critical system infrastructure and applications being unavailable. – Widespread outbreaks of infectious diseases (other than COVID-19). 	<p>Actions taken by management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continuous management of response to COVID-19 through Global and Regional Crisis Management Teams. – Flexible/remote work policy, split team shift patterns and limitation on number of people allowed on a site at one time. – Increased use of technology for internal and external meetings. – Emergency and incident management and business recovery plans in place at major facilities and for key products and key suppliers. – Implementation of technology to enforce manufacturing social distancing. – Initiated Workplace Unlimited ‘New Normal’ programme. – Sustainability Council and policy in place. – Project management governance and toolkits and project steering committee oversight to support successful execution of programme and projects. – IT disaster recovery policy in place.
<p>Oversight Board</p>	<p>COVID-19 Impact</p> <p>The challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic include disruptions at manufacturing facilities and other sites caused by government restrictions on travel and imports and exports, as well as enhanced health and safety protocols.</p> <p>Link to strategy</p> <p>Our Strategic Imperative to ‘Become the best owner’ requires us to ensure we remain sustainable into the future and to drive meaningful margin expansion through operational transformation and organisation simplification.</p>	<p>Change from 2019</p> <p>Our net risk rating of the likelihood and impact for Business Continuity and Business Change is currently unchanged. The increased Business Continuity risk due to COVID-19 is balanced against risk reduction as Business Change programmes slowed. We have mitigated the COVID-19 risks through the Crisis Management Team interventions.</p>

Commercial execution

The long-term success of our business depends on setting the right strategic priorities and executing on our plans to deliver those priorities in highly competitive markets. This requires effective communication and engagement with our customers, the right structures and capabilities across the Group and the ability to adjust and refine strategic priorities when necessary. Failure to set priorities and execute on those priorities will impact our ability to continue to grow our business and serve our customers.

Examples of risks

- Medical facilities stop or severely restrict sales representative access due to ongoing COVID-19 precautions.
- COVID-19 pandemic drives shift from clinic to home care.
- Failure to execute our strategy adequately from high-level ambition to specific actions to make the ambition a reality.
- Inability to keep pace with significant product innovation and technical advances to develop commercially viable products.
- Failure to engage effectively with our key stakeholders to meet their evolving needs leading to loss of customers.
- Failure to manage distributors effectively leading to stocking and compliance issues.

Actions taken by management

- Adopted alternative channels to engage with healthcare professionals and healthcare providers.
- Provided sufficient and appropriate PPE and training to staff and closely tracked testing and vendor credentialing requirements at medical facilities.
- Account level monitoring of return to elective surgery; supporting technologies to assist in screening prior to surgery and remote management post-surgery in development.
- Closely cooperated with customers to identify remote selling and support opportunities.
- Virtual medical education processes in place.
- Continued new product launches despite COVID-19.
- Developed accessible sales information and training modules for sales staff.
- Strategic planning process clearly linked to business and Group risk.
- Policies and procedures to enhance channel management implemented.

COVID-19 Impact

Widespread outbreaks of infectious diseases, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, increase commercial execution risk through declines in and cancellations of elective procedures at medical facilities, reduced procedure capacity at medical facilities, restricted access for sales representatives and disruptions in other commercial activities due to travel restrictions.

Oversight Board

Link to strategy

Our Strategic Imperatives to 'Achieve the full potential of our portfolio', 'Transform the business through enabling technologies' and 'Expand in high-growth segments' requires excellent commercial execution.

Change from 2019

Our net risk rating of the likelihood and impact for Commercial Execution is currently unchanged. The increased risk of postponement of elective surgery is partially offset by improved commercial focus, including technology to enable remote sales and support.

Our strategy

Five strategic imperatives form our value creation plan for the medium term.

- 1 Achieve the full potential of our portfolio.
- 2 Transform the business through enabling technologies.
- 3 Expand in high-growth segments.
- 4 Strengthen talent and capabilities.
- 5 Become the best owner.

» Read about our strategic progress in 2020 on pages 6–9

2020 principal risks continued

<p>Cybersecurity</p> <p>We depend on a wide variety of information systems, programs and technology to manage our business. We also develop and sell certain products that are or will be digitally enabled including connection to networks and/or the internet. Our systems and the systems of the entities we acquire are vulnerable to a cyber-attack, theft of intellectual property, malicious intrusion, data privacy breaches or other significant disruption. We have a layered security approach in place to prevent, detect and respond, in order to minimise the risk and disruption of these intrusions and to monitor our systems on an ongoing basis for current or potential threats.</p> <p>Oversight Audit Committee</p>	<p>Examples of risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Loss of intellectual property/major data privacy breach or significant impact on business operations. – Inadequate consideration of cybersecurity in the design of new products. – Disruption to business operations from a significant cybersecurity incident. – Increased government focus on cybersecurity and changes in regulatory environment. <p>COVID-19 Impact</p> <p>Our systems have been and will continue to be the target of such threats, including as a result of increased levels of remote working due to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Link to strategy</p> <p>Our Strategic Imperative to ‘Transform the business through enabling technologies’ requires us to deliver technology solutions in compliance with laws and regulations and in a way that protects against vulnerability to cyber risk.</p>	<p>Actions taken by management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensured every user has access to and is using a secure Virtual Private Network (VPN) when connecting to S+N networks to safeguard increased remote working due to COVID-19. – Increased COVID-19 security awareness activities including email communications, intranet posts, visuals, video’s and more COVID-19 related email phishing training activities. – Accelerated the adoption of multi-factor authentication tools to reduce the likelihood of remote attacks. – Security information and event management (SIEM) put in place to provide real-time analysis of security alerts generated by applications and network hardware. – Regular penetration testing and frequent vulnerability scanning undertaken. Endpoint protection and intrusion detection/prevention implemented. – Security governance structure in place including a Cybersecurity Steering Committee. – Further strengthened governance including a programme to monitor cybersecurity capabilities and controls. – Monitor developments from governments and raise changes and developments with Global IT security. <p>Change from 2019</p> <p>The cybersecurity risk likelihood has increased due to a higher proportion of employees working remotely and growing product digitalisation and connectivity.</p>
<p>Finance</p> <p>Our financial results depend on our ability to comply with financial reporting and disclosure requirements, comply with tax laws, appropriately manage treasury risks and avoid significant transactional errors and customer defaults. Volatility in exchange rates can only be partially mitigated. Failure to comply with our financial reporting requirements or relevant tax laws can lead to litigation and regulatory activity and ultimately to material loss to the Group.</p> <p>Oversight Audit Committee</p>	<p>Examples of risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Risk of adverse trading margins due to fluctuating foreign currency exchange rates across our main manufacturing operations (US, UK, Costa Rica and China) and where our products are sold. – Failure to report accurate financial information in compliance with accounting standards and applicable legislation. – Failure to comply with current tax laws. – Failure to manage treasury risks effectively. – Failure to operate adequate financial controls over business operations leading to material financial loss to the Group. – Transfer pricing policy not correctly implemented and monitored. – Counterparty risk on cash deposits. <p>COVID-19 Impact</p> <p>The adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on our business operations and the related uncertainty make forecasting more challenging. It also increases the risk of customer defaults.</p> <p>Link to strategy</p> <p>Our Strategic Imperative to ‘Become the best owner’ requires us to comply with financial reporting and tax obligations and manage our financial risks appropriately.</p>	<p>Actions taken by management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Improved credit management controls. – Financial procedures in place to manage customer payment status to address emergent issues. – Group Treasury continue to operate a foreign exchange hedging programme. – The Group raised its first public bond in 2020, diversifying its liquidity base. – Improved in-year, year-end and post year-end review of entity forecast profitability. – Comprehensive financial controls framework ensuring compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley legislation including Minimum Acceptable Practices. – Group Tax continually monitor developments in tax legislation and obtain external advice where relevant. – Experienced Finance team. – Internal Audit and Audit Committee oversight. – Transfer pricing team works closely with the business to implement agreed processes and procedures for transfer pricing. – Robust counterparty credit risk monitoring and diversification of our deposits with well-rated banks. <p>Change from 2019</p> <p>Our net risk rating of the likelihood and impact for the Finance risk is currently unchanged. The Group started 2020 with a strong balance sheet and has increased focus on forecasting and maintained prudent cost management.</p>

Global supply chain*

Our ability to make products available to customers in over 100 countries requires complex manufacturing and supply chain processes. Increased outsourcing, more sophisticated materials and the speed of technological change in an already complex manufacturing process leads to greater potential for disruption in our supply chain.

* The breadth of the risk has expanded from Supply to the full Global Supply Chain, which now includes manufacturing and third party suppliers, specifically due to COVID-19.

Examples of risks

- Inventory grows as a result of reduced procedure through-put due to COVID-19 restrictions on surgical procedures.
- Failure or significant performance issues experienced at critical/single source facilities.
- Disruption to manufacturing at a single source facility (lack of manufacturing redundancy).
- Supplier failure impacts ability to meet customer demand (single source supplier).
- Inadequate sales and operational planning impacts ability to meet customer demand for product.
- Manufacturing and supply chain capacity not adequate to support growth.
- Failure of suppliers and distribution partners to achieve and maintain regulatory compliance.

COVID-19 Impact

The COVID-19 pandemic increased the Global Supply Chain risk through disruptions in supply caused by government restrictions on imports and exports, decreased access to supply channels caused by travel restrictions, disruptions at critical suppliers, challenges to supply planning caused by declines in and cancellations of elective procedures at medical facilities and disruptions at manufacturing facilities due to COVID-19 related absences.

Actions taken by management

- Launched a crisis management team to reposition and manage limited assets to respond to COVID-19 impacts.
- Implementation of technology to enforce manufacturing social distancing.
- Flexible/remote work policy, split team shift patterns and limitation on number of people allowed on a site at one time.
- Comprehensive product quality processes in place from design to customer supply.
- Global Operations transformation programme to optimise manufacturing and distribution centres.
- Risk-based review programmes undertaken for critical suppliers.
- Business continuity plans developed and alternate source options identified for critical suppliers.
- Executive oversight of sales and operational planning.
- Supplier contract agreements entered into achieve and manage regulatory compliance.

Oversight Board

Link to strategy

Our Strategic Imperative to 'Achieve the full potential of our portfolio' requires us to optimise the supply chain to support business growth.

Change from 2019

Our net risk rating of the likelihood and impact for Global Supply Chain is currently unchanged.

» Read about our response to COVID-19 on pages 10-13

2020 principal risks continued

<p>Legal and compliance risks</p> <p>We are committed to doing business with integrity and believe that ‘doing the right thing’ is part of our mandate to operate. We operate in multiple countries and regulatory authorities in each jurisdiction enforce a complex pattern of laws and regulations that govern the design, development, approval, manufacture, labelling, marketing and sale of healthcare products.</p> <p>Operating across this increasingly complex and dynamic legal and compliance environment, including regulations on bribery, corruption and privacy, with poor legal and compliance practices can lead to fines, penalties, reputational risk and competitive disadvantage.</p>	<p>Examples of risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Failure to act in an ethical manner consistent with our Code of Conduct and Business Principles. – Violation of anti-corruption or healthcare laws, breach by employee or third-party representative. – Misuse or loss of personal information of patients, employees, research subjects, consumers or customers results in violations of data privacy laws, including General Data Protection Regulations. – The development, manufacture and sale of medical devices entail risk of product liability claims or recalls. 	<p>Actions taken by management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Group Ethics & Compliance Committee oversees our ethical and compliance practices. – Global compliance programme, policies and procedures. – All employees required to undertake annual training, including privacy, and to certify compliance on an annual basis with our Code of Conduct and Business Principles. – Code of Conduct was refreshed in 2019. – Issued an enhanced third party guide to doing business with S+N. – Group monitoring and auditing programmes in place. – Confidential independent reporting channels for employees and third parties to report concerns.
<p>Oversight Compliance & Culture Committee</p>	<p>Link to strategy Our Strategic Imperative to ‘Become the best owner’ requires us to comply with applicable laws and regulations and do the right thing as part of our mandate to operate.</p>	<p>Change from 2019 Our net risk rating of the likelihood and impact for Legal and Compliance is currently unchanged.</p>
<p>Mergers and acquisitions</p> <p>As the Company grows to meet the needs of our customers and patients, we recognise that we are not able to develop all the products and services required using internal resources and therefore need to undertake mergers and acquisitions in order to expand our offering and to complement our existing business. In other areas, we may divest businesses which are no longer core to our activities. It is crucial for our long-term success that we make the right choices around acquisitions and divestments. Failure to identify appropriate acquisition targets or failure to conduct adequate due diligence or to integrate them successfully would have an adverse impact on our competitive position and profitability.</p>	<p>Examples of risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Failure to identify appropriate acquisitions. – Failure to conduct effective acquisition due diligence. – Failure to integrate newly acquired businesses effectively, including integration with Group standards, policies and financial controls. <p>COVID-19 Impact Conducting due diligence processes remotely presents potential risks that some information is not fully assessed. Similarly, integrations become more complex without physical on-site presence.</p>	<p>Actions taken by management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Acquisition activity aligned with corporate strategy and prioritised towards products, franchises and markets identified to have the greatest long-term potential. – Clearly defined investment appraisal process based on range of valuation metrics including return on invested capital, in accordance with Capital Allocation Framework and comprehensive post-acquisition review programme. – Detailed and comprehensive cross-functional due diligence undertaken prior to acquisitions. – Compliance risks included as part of due diligence reviews, integration plans and reporting for acquisitions. – Deal-specific integration committee review, approval of integration plans and monitoring of ongoing process. – Improved deal retrospective reviews. – Enhanced diligence procedures and review process to help mitigate impact of COVID-19 restrictions.
<p>Oversight Board</p>	<p>Link to strategy Our Strategic Imperatives to ‘Expand in high-growth segments’, ‘Become the best owner’ and ‘Transform the business through enabling technologies’ depend on our ability to identify the right acquisitions and disposals, to conduct thorough due diligence and to integrate acquisitions effectively.</p>	<p>Change from 2019 Our net risk rating of the likelihood and impact for Mergers and Acquisitions is currently unchanged.</p>

New product innovation, design & development including intellectual property

Our new product innovation pipeline is becoming larger and increasingly complex as we focus our efforts on high growth markets like China and procedure innovation using digital technologies such as connectivity and predictive data analytics. As a result, we need to continue to better understand unmet customer needs, drivers of surgical efficiency, superior patient outcomes, new country/region standards and regulations such as cybersecurity, and requirements and laws related to the protection of intellectual property. If Smith+Nephew fails to protect and enforce its intellectual property rights successfully, its competitive position could suffer, which could harm its results of operations.

- Examples of risks**
- Failure to develop, partner or acquire a competitively differentiated innovation.
 - Insufficient long-term planning to respond to competitor disruptive entries into marketplace.
 - Inadequate innovation due to low Research & Development (R&D) investment, R&D skills gap or ineffective product development execution.
 - Loss of proprietary data due to natural disasters or failure of Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) systems.
 - Competitors may assert patents or other intellectual property rights against the Company, or fail to respect the Company's intellectual property rights.
 - COVID-19 related limitations on ability to conduct live product trials.

- Actions taken by management**
- Continued product and technology acquisitions and product launches despite COVID-19.
 - Global R&D organisation and governance framework providing strategic direction for allocation of R&D investments across all businesses. Clear stage-gate process to continually evaluate R&D investments decisions and development of new products.
 - Strengthened Clinical Affairs programme.
 - Cross functional New Product Design and R&D processes focused on identifying new products and potentially disruptive technologies and solutions.
 - Replacing global PLM systems.
 - Monitored external market trends and collated customer insights to develop product strategies.
 - Careful attention to intellectual property considerations.
 - Identified alternatives to live trials for new products and evidence generation.

Oversight Board

Link to strategy
Our Strategic Imperative to 'Transform the business through enabling technologies' depends heavily on our ability to continue to develop new innovative products and bring them to market.

Change from 2019
Our net risk rating of the likelihood and impact for New product innovation, design & development including intellectual property is currently unchanged.

» Read about how we delivered innovation in 2020 on pages 36–40

2020 principal risks continued

<p>Political and economic</p> <p>We operate a global business and are exposed to the effects of political and economic risks including Brexit, changes in the regulatory and competitive landscape, trade policies, political upheaval, changes in government policy regarding healthcare priorities, preference for local suppliers, import quotas, war, economic sanctions, and terrorist activities.</p>	<p>Examples of risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Global or regional recession due to COVID-19 significantly reduces customer capital spending and customer financial strength. – Brexit impacts on UK regulation and supply chain, specifically border delays, continue into 2021. – Global political and economic uncertainty and conflict. – Implementation of healthcare reforms and/or protectionist measures, eg US/China trade, and regulations in local markets. – The availability of markets and market access rights. – Increases in import and labour costs. – Increases in tariffs and restrictions on global trade. 	<p>Actions taken by management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Established new financing programs to ease financial burden of customers and increase placements. – Standard financial procedures in place regarding customer payment status to address emergent issues. – The Group has a Brexit Council which meets regularly and addresses all affected areas including regulation and supply chain. – Continued engagement with governments, administrations and regulatory bodies to enhance education and advocacy efforts with policymakers. – Actively participate in trade associations to enhance education and advocacy efforts with policymakers. – Ongoing engagement and monitoring/lobbying on localisation initiatives.
<p>Oversight Board</p>	<p>Link to strategy</p> <p>Our Strategic Imperative to 'Become the best owner' requires us to operate effectively within different global political situations, which change constantly. Further, the Strategic Imperative to 'Expand in high-growth segments' includes an Emerging Market focus.</p>	<p>Change from 2019</p> <p>Our net risk rating of the likelihood and impact for Political and Economic is currently unchanged. The increased risk of economic recession is set off against reduction in our Brexit risk.</p>
<p>Pricing and reimbursement</p> <p>Our success depends on our ability to sell our products profitably, despite increasing pricing pressures from customers, and the availability of adequate government funding to meet increasing demands for our products arising from patient demographic trends. The prices we charge are therefore impacted by budgetary constraints and our ability to persuade customers and governments of the economic value of our products, based on clinical data, cost, patient outcomes and comparative effectiveness. We further face market changes, such as consolidation of customers into buying groups, increasing professionalisation of procurement departments and the commoditisation of entire product groups, which continue to challenge prices.</p>	<p>Examples of risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Reduced reimbursement levels and increasing pricing pressures. – Systemic challenge on number of elective procedures. – Lack of compelling health economics data to support reimbursement requests. – Unilateral price controls/reductions imposed on medical devices. <p>COVID-19 Impact</p> <p>As customers and public health systems recover from the pandemic, it is possible that we will see further price pressures. During 2020, reimbursement codes were more widely interpreted to provide for remote delivery of healthcare services.</p>	<p>Actions taken by management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Franchise structure and enhanced franchise reporting to improve visibility of profitability. – Developed innovative economic product and service solutions for both Established and Emerging Markets. – Appropriate breadth of portfolio and geographic spread to mitigate exposure to localised risks. – Incorporated health economic components into the design and development of new products. – Emphasised the value propositions tailored to specific stakeholders and geographies through strategic investment and marketing programmes. – Increased engagement with payer bodies to influence reimbursement mechanisms to reward innovation. – Steps into telehealth to enable lower cost pre and post-operative care. – Establishing Malaysia manufacturing capability.
<p>Oversight Board</p>	<p>Link to strategy</p> <p>Our Strategic Imperative to 'Achieve the full potential of our portfolio' depends on our ability to sell our products profitably in spite of increased pricing pressures from payers.</p>	<p>Change from 2019</p> <p>Our net risk rating has increased.</p>

<p>Quality and regulatory</p> <p>Global regulatory bodies continue to increase their expectations of manufacturers and distributors of medical devices. Our products are used in the human body and therefore patient safety is of paramount importance. The European Medical Device Regulation, the Medical Device Single Audit Programme and multiple other global regulations and standard changes have increased the focus on clinical and technical evidence, supplier controls and product performance transparency.</p>	<p>Examples of risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – New EU Medical Device Regulation effective May 2021, impacts ability to meet customer demand. – New and updated Regulatory Frameworks emerging. For example, introduction of new legislation in the UK due to Brexit, effective 1 January 2021 with future demands to be clarified. – Increase in time required by Notified Bodies to review product submissions and site quality systems' certification time impacts ability to meet customer demand. – Defects in design or manufacturing of products supplied to, and sold by, the Group could lead to product recalls or product removal or result in loss of life or major injury. – Significant non-compliance with policy, regulations or standards governing products and operations regarding registration, design, manufacturing, distribution, sales or marketing. – Failure to obtain proper approvals for products or processes. – More stringent local requirements for clinical data across APAC markets. 	<p>Actions taken by management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – EU Medical Device Regulation Steering Group regularly monitors preparation activities to comply with new requirements. – Regular engagement with Notified Body, MHRA and regulatory representatives to monitor regulatory changes and understand interpretation of legislation. – Transition of Europe distribution centre from Switzerland to Netherlands. – Brexit working group is following their planned mitigations. – Comprehensive and documented product quality processes and controls from design to customer distribution in place, with the addition of cybersecurity to new product development projects for relevant products. – Standardised monitoring and compliance with quality management practices through our Global Quality and Regulatory Affairs organisation. – Incident management teams in place to provide timely response in the event of an incident relating to patient safety. – Governance framework in place for reporting, investigating and responding to instances of product safety and complaints. – Local clinical evidence requirements are included in global new product development projects.
<p>Oversight Compliance & Culture Committee</p>	<p>Link to strategy Our Strategic Imperative to 'Become the best owner' requires us to operate effectively and efficiently and to produce compliant products of high quality to provide safe and effective solutions to our customers.</p>	<p>Change from 2019 Our net risk rating of the likelihood and impact for Quality and Regulatory is currently unchanged. Increasing regulation is addressed by corresponding management actions.</p>
<p>Talent management</p> <p>We recognise that people management, effective succession planning and the ability to engage, retain and attract talent is of great importance to the success of our Company. Retention of top talent in a safe and productive working environment is a critical risk which requires a strong engagement process. Failure to do so can result in risks in our ability to execute the Group strategy and be effective in the chosen market/discipline.</p>	<p>Examples of risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Increased absenteeism due to COVID-19. – Loss of key talent, high attrition and lack of appropriate succession planning in context of required skillsets for future business needs. – Loss of competitive advantage due to an inability to attract and retain top talent. – Loss of intellectual capital due to poor retention of talent. 	<p>Actions taken by management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Flexible/remote work policy, split team shift patterns and limitation on number of people allowed in a site at one time. – COVID-19 Control Impact Assessment 2020: Succession planning, performance management and bonuses. – COVID-19 commission support programme implemented. – Talent planning and people development processes well established across the Group. Talent and succession planning discussed annually by the Board and regularly by the Executive Committee and Nomination & Governance Committee. – Identification of high value roles and ensuring that these roles are filled with our high performance individuals with strong succession plans in place. – Developed strategic skills resourcing plan by functional areas. – Provided employees with access to tools and resources to manage their emotional, physical and mental wellness.
<p>Oversight Board</p>	<p>Link to strategy Our Strategic Imperative 'Strengthen talent and capabilities' underpins all other strategic imperatives to ensure that we have the right talent within our organisation to deliver in everything we do and to build strong leaders for the future.</p>	<p>Change from 2019 Our net risk rating of the likelihood and impact for Talent Management is currently unchanged. During 2020, the Group has prioritised Employee and Customer health and wellbeing through comprehensive management actions in response to COVID-19.</p>

Our Viability Statement

How we assess our prospects

During the year, the Board has carried out a robust assessment of the principal risks affecting the Company, particularly those which could threaten the business model. These risks, and the actions being taken to manage or mitigate them, are explained in detail on [pages 53–63](#) of this Annual Report.

In reaching our Viability Statement conclusion, we have undertaken the following process:

- The Audit Committee reviewed the Risk Management process at their meetings in February, July, September and December, receiving presentations from the Group Risk Team, explaining the processes followed by management in identifying and managing risk throughout the business.
- In May 2020, the Executive Committee ('ExCo') met as a Risk Committee to: (1) review the 2020 principal risks (the top down risk review process), (2) review lessons learnt from COVID-19 risk management and discuss emerging risks, and (3) discuss risk appetite and tolerance. The ExCo was asked to consider the significant risks which they believed could seriously impact the profitability and future prospects of the Company and the principal risks that would threaten its business model, future performance, solvency or liquidity.
- All ExCo members nominated the Risk Champions and have worked with them to prepare risk registers. The Risk Champions nominated by the ExCo are senior, trained in risk management and the majority of the team have at least two years of experience in the Company.

- Using the outputs from the Business Area 'bottom-up' risk identification completed in September 2020 and following 'top-down' discussions with ExCo, the most significant risks affecting our organisation were presented to ExCo for approval in October as the draft 2020 Principal Risks facing the Company.
- ExCo agreed to retain the twelve principal risks from 2019. They agreed that COVID-19 is specifically included in the business continuity principal risk. While COVID-19 risk is not a separate principal risk, a number of principal risks are impacted by COVID-19.
- All relevant executives have attested alignment to the Group's Enterprise Risk Management Process as part of the annual certification on governance, risks and compliance.
- Final Principal Risks were presented to the Audit Committee and the Board in February 2021 for their consideration and approval.
- As part of the strategy business updates in November, the Board considered 'Grey Swan' risks which are potentially very significant events that are considered unlikely to happen but still possible. The 12 principal risks and proposed 2020 risk appetite were also provided to the Board during the meeting.
- Throughout the year, a number of reviews into different risks were conducted by the Board, the Audit Committee and the Compliance & Culture Committee looking into the nature of the risks and how they were mitigated.

Assessment period

The Board have determined that the three-year period to December 2023 is an appropriate period over which to provide its Viability Statement. This period is aligned to the Group's Strategic Planning process and reflects the Board's best estimate of the future viability of the business.

Scenario testing

For the purpose of testing the viability of the Company, we have undertaken a robust scenario assessment of the Principal Risks, which could threaten the viability or existence of the Company. These have been modelled as follows:

- In carrying out scenario modelling of the Principal Risks on the following page we have also evaluated the impact of a severe but plausible combination of these risks actually occurring over the three-year period. We have considered and discussed a report setting out the terms of our current financing arrangements and potential capacity for additional financing should this be required in the event of one of the scenarios modelled occurring.
- We are satisfied that we have robust mitigating actions in place as detailed on [pages 56–63](#) of this Annual Report. We recognise, however, that the long-term viability of the Company could also be impacted by other, as yet unforeseen, risks or that the mitigating actions we have put in place could turn out to be less effective than intended.

Viability Statement

Having assessed the principal risks, the Board has determined that we have a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue in operation and meet its liabilities as they fall due over a period of three years from 1 January 2021. In our long-term planning we consider horizons of between five and ten years. However, as most of our efforts are focused on the coming three years, we have chosen this period when considering our viability.

Our conclusion is based on the Strategic Plan approved by the Board in February 2021. However COVID-19 continues to cause uncertainty to our business forecasts which might cause us to adapt our strategic plan. We will continue to evaluate any additional risks involved which might impact the business model.

By order of the Board, on 18 February 2021.

Susan M Swabey

Susan Swabey
Company Secretary

2020 Scenarios modelled

Scenario 1 – Pandemic business disruption and pricing and reimbursement pressures

Business Continuity (Principal Risk) – Elective surgery delays leading to a major loss of revenues and profits.

Action taken: We have modelled global volume reduction of 18% for the first six months of 2021 and a further impact in Q4 2021 and Q1 2022 to reflect COVID-19 outbreaks in the winter season in our key markets.

Pricing and reimbursement pressures (Principal Risk) – leading to a major loss of revenues and profits.

Action taken: We have modelled additional annual price erosion of 1% from 2022 to 2023.

Link to strategy

- Achieve the full potential of our portfolio.

Link to principal risks

- Business Continuity.
- Pricing and Reimbursement.
- Political and Economic.

Scenario 2 – Operational risk

Execution risk – our inability to launch new products losing significant market share to the competition.

Action taken: We have modelled revenue growth for China at 50% of the growth planned over the three-year period.

Key supplier disruption – resulting in our inability to manufacture or supply a few key products for a full year.

Action taken: We have modelled an interruption to receiving goods from a key supplier for a period of one year in 2022.

Temporary loss of key production capability – resulting in our inability to manufacture several key products for one year.

Action taken: We have modelled the loss of strategic production machinery, resulting in the loss of production and sales of several key products for one year in 2022.

Product liability claim – giving rise to significant claim or loss.

Action taken: One-off significant loss occurring due to a product defect.

Link to strategy

- Become the best owner.
- Transform the business through enabling technologies.
- Achieve the full potential of our portfolio.

Link to principal risks

- Global Supply Chain.
- New Product Innovation, Design & Development including Intellectual Property.
- Commercial Execution.
- Business Continuity and Business Change.
- Talent Management.

Scenario 3 – Finance, legal regulatory and compliance risks

One-off tax payment.

Action taken: We have modelled a one-off tax payment of \$150 million for EU state aid in 2021.

Regulatory measures – impacting our ability to continue to sell key products.

Action taken: We have modelled the complete loss of revenue from a key product effective in mid-2021 for two years and returning back in lower volumes in mid-2023.

Data privacy failure – giving rise to a significant fine or loss.

Action taken: We have assumed a one-off significant fine (2% of revenue) or loss resulting from a data privacy issue in 2022.

Link to strategy

- Become the best owner.

Link to principal risks

- Legal and Compliance.
- Quality and Regulatory.
- Finance.

Scenario 4 – Cybersecurity

Inability to issue invoices or collect money for a period of time.

Action taken: We have modelled one of our key regions being unable to invoice for a month in 2022 due to an IT disruption.

Link to strategy

- Transform the business through enabling technologies.
- Become the best owner.

Link to principal risks

- Cybersecurity.

Scenario 5 – Mergers and acquisitions

Failure to integrate newly acquired business effectively to achieve expected growth.

Action taken: We have modelled a scenario of zero growth in a recently acquired business over the three-year period.

Link to strategy

- Achieve the full potential of our portfolio.

Link to principal risks

- Mergers and Acquisitions.

Governance

The Board responded to the challenges of 2020 by putting our Employees and other Stakeholders first.

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» See pages 69–73 for the full biography of each director

» See pages 74–77 to read more on our Executive team

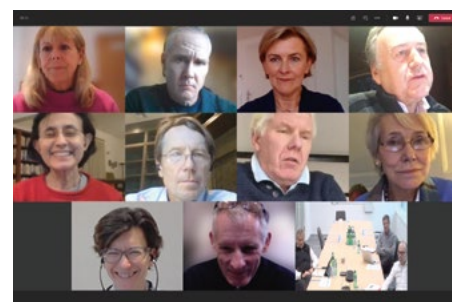
Dear Shareholder,

I am pleased to present the governance section of our Annual Report, which includes details about the Board and an explanation of our individual roles and responsibilities. We also summarise the activities of the Board and the Chair of each Board Committee discusses the activities of that Committee during the past year. In addition, we provide insight into our stakeholder engagement.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Board operations

As Roland and I have both discussed earlier, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected not only our business, but also the way the Board works and collaborates. Since March 2020, all our Board and Committee meetings have been conducted virtually. As we are a global Board, the times of our meetings have also shifted to accommodate multiple time zones. I am grateful to those Board colleagues, who due to their location have attended meetings very early in the morning or late at night on multiple occasions. For some of the meetings when lockdown restrictions were eased, some directors were also able to meet in different company locations in small groups. Whilst this was a practical solution under present circumstances and we were delighted to have 100% attendance at every meeting, we all look forward to the time when we can all physically meet again.

In spite of the challenges, we have functioned well and have continued to support and to challenge management. We have ensured that we have considered the interests of our stakeholders when making decisions.



Out of a total of 11 Board meetings during the year, the Board met virtually 10 times.

Executive team

Last year saw further changes to our executive team. In April, Graham Baker stepped down as Chief Financial Officer in order to pursue his career elsewhere and Ian Melling, our current Senior Vice President, Group Finance stepped into the Chief Financial Officer's position on an interim basis, until Anne-Françoise Nesmes joined us in July. I should like to thank Ian for his dedication and leading the Finance team at a particularly difficult time through the first COVID-19 lockdown. He continues to provide support to Anne-Françoise. Anne-Françoise Nesmes has strong FTSE 100 financial leadership experience and joins us from Merlin Entertainments, where she was Chief Financial Officer. Prior to that, she was Chief Financial Officer at Dechra Pharmaceuticals plc. She is also a Non-Executive Director and Chair of the Audit Committee at Compass Group plc. We encourage our Executive Directors to take up Non-Executive roles as we believe that this gives them a broader understanding of the different role the Non-Executive Directors bring to the Board.

Non-Executive team

We have also welcomed three new Non-Executive Directors to the Board during 2020.

Following the appointment of Robin Freestone as Senior Independent Director last year, Rick Medlock joined as Non-Executive Director in April and was appointed Chair of our Audit Committee in September. Rick has 30 years' experience in financial management in large international companies and was formerly Chief Financial Officer of Worldpay plc, Misys plc and Inmarsat plc. He is now an experienced Non-Executive Director as member of the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee of Datatec Limited and Chair of the Audit Committee at Deliveroo.

We also strengthened the medical devices experience on the Board with the appointment of Bob White in May and Katarzyna Mazur-Hofsaess in November. Bob has over 25 years' global medical devices experience and is a member of Medtronic's executive team, heading up their Medical Surgical Portfolio. Katarzyna has a strong track record in medical devices including eight years' as President of EMEA for Zimmer Biomet. She is currently Chief Executive Officer of the EMEA business of Fresenius Medical Care AG & Co. KgaA.

Vinita Bali stepped down as a member of the Board at the end of 2020 following six years' service. We always valued her useful insights with her focus on the customer and the end patient as well as our go-to-market strategies. She was engaged and active throughout her tenure visiting local hospitals and meeting with local surgeons and our employees.

Virginia Bottomley will be leaving the Board at the Annual General Meeting following nine years' service. Virginia brought useful insights to the Board, particularly around her knowledge of UK government practices. She also has a strong people focus and encouraged and supported our inclusion and diversity initiatives.

I should like to thank both Vinita and Virginia for their service to the Company during their periods of tenure.

Our new Board members have yet to meet physically with the full Board due to the COVID-19 related restrictions. They have all undertaken tailored induction programmes, meeting virtually with fellow Board members, members of the executive team, other senior employees and some of our external advisers. Whilst these remote sessions have progressed well, they are all looking forward to continuing these induction programmes with physical meetings, the opportunity to handle and understand our products better and to join our sales representatives in the field, as and when travel and meeting restrictions are eased.

Changes to the Board in 2020/2021

1. Rick Medlock was appointed to the Board on 9 April 2020. He became Chair of the Audit Committee with effect from 1 September 2020.
2. Bob White was appointed to the Board on 1 May 2020. Bob has since become a member of the Remuneration and Compliance & Culture Committees with effect from 28 July and 27 July 2020 respectively.
3. Anne-Françoise Nesmes was appointed to the Board as Chief Financial Officer on 27 July 2020, following the resignation of Graham Baker on 9 April 2020.
4. Katarzyna Mazur-Hofsaess was appointed to the Board on 1 November 2020.
5. John Ma was appointed to the Board on 17 February 2021.

» Please see pages 69–73 for the full biography of each director



Due to the restrictions posed by COVID-19, taking photos of our new Board members became a challenge. Our photographer's mobile studio solution enabled us to take their photos in a safe and COVID-19 secure way.

4

new members of the Board were appointed in 2020.

3

We have also welcomed three new Non-Executive Directors to the Board during 2020.

Stakeholders

You will read elsewhere in this report on pages 102–105 about how we have enhanced the ways that we ensure that we consider the views of our stakeholders in our decision making process and in particular the successful establishment of Board/employee listening sessions led by Marc Owen and the Compliance & Culture Committee. Greater engagement with our stakeholders and our employees in particular is providing the Board with richer context and background for when we make major decisions in the future. Whilst most of these sessions were held remotely throughout 2020, we are looking forward to holding more physical sessions during 2021 and meeting with more of our employees.

Shareholder engagement

Members of the Board have also met virtually with shareholders. We have been interested to see how in addition to strategy and performance, shareholders have been interested in the Board's oversight of stakeholder engagement, the impact of climate change, product quality, cybersecurity, governance, business ethics and inclusion and diversity matters. We welcome such conversations which are indicative of the matters that are becoming more important not only to our shareholders but the wider world and our other stakeholders. Further information on these topics can be found in the Sustainability Report.

» Read more on how we engage with our stakeholders on page 52

Annual General Meeting

We were disappointed that we were unable to hold our usual physical Annual General Meeting last year. You may recall that lockdown in the UK commenced shortly after we had posted the Notice of Meeting and government advice at that time was changing daily. In accordance with government instructions and taking the safety of our shareholders and employees into account, we decided to hold a closed meeting to enable the formal business of the meeting to be transacted in accordance with the proxies cast before the meeting. We were however also keen to ensure that our shareholders were still able to hear and see the formal presentations and to submit questions

for the Board virtually. We therefore held a one way audio call. Roland and I gave our presentations and answered the questions, which had been submitted by shareholders in advance of the meeting. We also responded by email to all shareholders who had contacted us. We would like to thank those shareholders who attended the call and who submitted questions. We are disappointed that very few shareholders dialled into this call, but understand that this was a difficult time for us all, when everything was changing, including our meeting arrangements.

For 2021, we recognise that it is likely that by the time of the Annual General Meeting in April, we may still be subject to meeting and travel restrictions in the UK. To avoid the uncertainty we faced last year and in accordance with the guidance from the Financial Reporting Council, we will therefore be holding a hybrid Annual General Meeting. There will be a small physical meeting at our UK headquarters in Watford, which will be livestreamed to shareholders. Shareholders will be able to attend, vote and submit questions virtually. This will also enable shareholders who do not live within easy access of London to participate. Further details of how to access this event are included in the Notice of Meeting. We strongly urge shareholders not to attend this meeting physically, as we anticipate that meeting restrictions will still be in place and we are anxious to ensure the safety of all employees, shareholders and visitors on-site.

On your behalf, I should like to thank all the Board for their dedication and considered approach during 2020 and in particular the assistance they provided to new Board members, some of whom they are still yet to meet face-to-face. I should also like to thank you, our shareholders, for your patience during this challenging year and we look forward to meeting with you physically again at some point. We very much look forward to that time, hopefully in 2022.



Roberto Quarta
Chair

Statement of Compliance

The Board is committed to the highest standards of corporate governance. We comply with all the provisions and principles of the UK Corporate Governance Code 2018 (2018 Code). The Company's American Depositary Shares and bonds are listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and we are therefore subject to the rules of the NYSE as well as to the US securities laws and the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) applicable to foreign private issuers. We comply with the requirements of the NYSE and SEC and have no significant differences to report between the US and UK corporate governance standards.

We explain in this 'Governance' section how we comply with and have applied the 2018 Code during the year. The 2018 Code can be found at www.frc.org.uk/getattachment/88bd8c45-50ea-4841-95b0-d2f4f48069a2/2018-UK-Corporate-Governance-Code-FINAL.pdf. We also explain how we have complied with the Financial Conduct Authority's (FCA) Listing Rules, Disclosure & Transparency Rules (DTRs) throughout the year.

Board of Directors



N R



Roberto Quarta (71)

Chair

Joined the Board in December 2013 and appointed Chair following election by shareholders at the 2014 Annual General Meeting.

Career and experience

Roberto is a graduate and a former Trustee of the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester (MA), US. He started his career as a manager trainee at David Gessner Ltd, before moving on to Worcester Controls Corporation and then BTR plc, where he was a divisional Chief Executive. Between 1985 and 1989 he was Executive VP of Hitchiner Manufacturing Co., Inc. He returned to BTR plc in 1989 as Divisional Chief Executive, where he was appointed to the main board. From here he moved to BBA Aviation plc, as Chief Executive Officer and then as Chair, until 2007. In 2001, he joined Clayton Dubilier & Rice, LLC (CD&R) as Partner and is currently Chair of CD&R Europe.

He has held several board positions, including Non-Executive Director of Powergen plc, Equant N.V., BAE Systems plc and Foster Wheeler AG. His previous Chairmanships include Italtel S.p.A., Rexel SA, IMI plc and SPIE SA. Roberto was also a former member of the Investment Committee of Fondo Strategico Italiano S.p.A.

Other current appointments

- Chair of WPP plc.
- Partner at Clayton Dubilier & Rice, LLC and Chair of CD&R Europe.

Skills and competencies

Roberto's career in private equity brings valuable experience to Smith+Nephew, particularly when evaluating acquisitions and new business opportunities. He has an in-depth understanding of differing global governance requirements having served as a director and chair of a number of UK and international companies.

During 2020, Roberto conducted a comprehensive review of the Smith+Nephew Board, being mindful of the required skills, knowledge, experience and diversity. In conjunction with the Nomination & Governance Committee, he has appointed four new Non-Executive Directors during the COVID-19 pandemic, including John Ma on 17 February 2021. These appointments included three Directors with specific medical devices experience and a new Chair of the Audit Committee, with relevant financial experience. Anne-Françoise Nesmes also joined the Board on 27 July 2020 as Chief Financial Officer following the resignation of Graham Baker in early 2020.

Nationality

American/Italian

Roland Diggelmann (53)

Chief Executive Officer

Appointed in November 2019. Previously Independent Non-Executive Director and Member of the Audit Committee between 1 March 2018 until 21 October 2019. Roland is based in Zug, Switzerland.

Career and experience

Roland studied Business Administration at the University of Bern. In 1995, he joined Sulzer Medica AG as Manager, Strategic Planning and progressed into further senior roles over the years until his appointment as Executive Vice President, Sales Europe and Asia Pacific from 2002 to 2004 for Sulzer Medica AG (later known as Centerpulse AG).

Roland joined Zimmer Group in 2004, in the role of Managing Director of Zimmer Japan and then later in 2006 as Senior Vice President, EMEA until 2008. Roland joined Roche Diagnostics in 2008 starting as president of Asia Pacific before assuming the role of Chief Executive Officer of the Diagnostics Division of F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd from 2012 until September 2018.

Other current appointments

- Director of Igenomix.
- Director of Heart Force AG.
- NED of Accelerate Diagnostics, Inc., which is listed on NASDAQ (NASDAQ: AXDX). Roland will not stand for re-election at their AGM in April 2021.
- NED of Sonova Holding AG with effect from their AGM in June 2021.

Skills and competencies

Having spent his whole career in medical devices, with 12 years at Sulzer and Zimmer, Roland brings an in-depth knowledge of the medical device industry and healthcare environment, which is of great value to Smith+Nephew.

Nationality

Swiss

Committee key

A Member of the Audit Committee

C Member of the Compliance & Culture Committee

N Member of the Nomination & Governance Committee

R Member of the Remuneration Committee

Committee Chair

Board of Directors continued



Anne-Françoise Nesmes (49)

Chief Financial Officer

Appointed on 27 July 2020. Anne-Françoise is based in Watford, UK.

Career and experience

Anne-Françoise holds an MA degree in Management Sciences from Grenoble Ecole de Commerce and an MBA from Henley Management College. She qualified as a Chartered Management Accountant in 1996. Anne-Françoise joined GlaxoSmithKline plc in 1997 where she worked for 16 years, holding multiple senior roles, including Vice President and Finance Controller, Europe (2003–2006), Vice President Forecasting and Planning, US Pharmaceutical (2006–2009) and Senior Vice President Finance, Global Vaccines (2009–2013). She demonstrates a high level of passion towards life science companies where she has spent the majority of her senior career. Anne-Françoise served as Chief Financial Officer for Dechra Pharmaceuticals plc in 2013 where she successfully implemented financial strategies to support the growth of the business. Most recently, she was Chief Financial Officer of Merlin Entertainments Limited (formerly Merlin Entertainments plc).

Other current appointments

- NED and Chair of the Audit Committee at Compass Group plc.

Skills and competencies

Anne-Françoise has worked as a senior finance executive in global FTSE listed companies for many years, which alongside a strong business acumen and deep sector knowledge provides her with the experience required to be part of the Smith+Nephew leadership team. She demonstrates a high competency for delivering operational excellence across different geographic markets and leading large teams who are responsible for significant budgets. She has an impressive background and her ability to translate financial insights into results helps guide Smith+Nephew.

Nationality

British/French



A N

Erik Engstrom (57)

Independent Non-Executive Director

Appointed in January 2015.

Career and experience

Erik is a graduate of the Stockholm School of Economics (BSc) and of the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm (MSc). In 1988, he graduated with an MBA from Harvard Business School as a Fulbright Scholar. Erik commenced his career at McKinsey & Company and then worked in publishing, latterly as President and Chief Operating Officer of Random House Inc. and as President and Chief Executive Officer of Bantam Doubleday Dell, North America. In 2001, he moved on to be a partner at General Atlantic Partners, a private equity investment firm. Between 2004 and 2009, he was Chief Executive Officer of Elsevier, the division specialising in scientific and medical information and then from 2009 Chief Executive Officer of RELX Group.

Other current appointments

- Member of Bonnier Group's Board.
- Chief Executive Officer of RELX Group.

Skills and competencies

Erik has successfully reshaped RELX Group's business in terms of portfolio and geographies. He brings a deep understanding of how technology can be used to transform a business and insight into the development of new commercial models that deliver attractive economics. His experience as a Chief Executive Officer of a global company gives him valuable insights as a member of our Audit and Nomination & Governance Committees.

Nationality

Swedish



A R N

Robin Freestone (62)

Independent Non-Executive Director

Appointed in September 2015.

Robin was appointed Senior Independent Director in April 2019.

Career and experience

Robin graduated with a BA in Economics from The University of Manchester and later qualified and commenced his career as a Chartered Accountant at Deloitte. He has held a number of senior financial positions throughout his career, including at ICI plc, Henkel Ltd and at Amersham plc. Robin was the Deputy Chief Financial Officer and then later the Chief Financial Officer of Pearson plc between 2006 and August 2015. He was previously NED at eChem Ltd, Chair of the 100 Group and Senior Independent Director and Chair of the Audit Committee of Cable & Wireless Communications plc. Robin was also previously Chair of the Audit Committee of MoneySupermarket.com Group plc.

Other current appointments

- NED and Chair of the Audit Committee at Capri Holdings Ltd.
- Chair of the ICAEW Corporate Governance Committee.
- Chair of the Board and Nomination Committee of MoneySupermarket.com Group plc.
- NED of Aston Martin Lagonda Global Holdings plc.

Skills and competencies

Robin has been a well-regarded FTSE 100 Chief Financial Officer who has been heavily involved with both transformation and diversification. His acquisition experience in the healthcare sector brings value to Smith+Nephew as it continues to grow into different markets. He brings financial expertise and insight as a member of the Audit Committee and understands how to attract and retain global talent as a member of the Remuneration Committee. His experience as a Chair brings a strong Senior Independent Director to the Smith+Nephew Board.

Nationality

British



John Ma (58)

Independent Non-Executive Director

Appointed on 17 February 2021.

Career and experience

John graduated from Wayne State University with an MSc and a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering. In 1995, John became a Manager of International Operations at the Performed Line Products Company. After five years he joined GE Healthcare and became Vice President and General Manager of their Global Product Company in China. In 2002, John was promoted and became responsible for GE Healthcare's commercial division across central China where he successfully led sales, marketing and customer service teams for their \$200m diagnostics medical imaging business. John has also held a number of senior positions as President of Asia Pacific regions at Pentair Inc., Vice President of Express Scripts Inc., and Global Partner of Fosun Group. He initially joined Fosun Pharma to lead their medical device business and in 2014 became President of Fosun Healthcare Holdings. He served as a key member of their healthcare investment committee which went on to establish a global presence across the US, Europe, Israel and China. In 2017, John joined Intuitive Surgical as their Senior Vice President of Strategic Growth Initiatives. He has previously served as a NED for both Haier Electronics Group and Clinical Innovations LLC.

Other current appointments

- Founder, Chair and Chief Executive Officer of Ronovo Surgical.

Skills and competencies

John has an impressive track record in medical device businesses and his contribution provides value as Smith+Nephew continues to develop innovative ways to grow and serve our markets with a focus towards Asia Pacific regions. He is an established healthcare leader and has strong experience of driving market entry and growth within emerging markets.

Nationality

American



Katarzyna Mazur-Hofszaess (57)

Independent Non-Executive Director

Appointed on 1 November 2020.

Career and experience

Katarzyna qualified as a medical doctor (Ph.D.) from the Medical University of Gdańsk, Poland in 1987 and completed an Executive MBA at the University of Minnesota, US, in 2002. Katarzyna commenced her corporate career in 1998 at Roche as a Business Unit Manager prior to becoming General Manager for Poland of Allergy Therapeutics plc. In 2001, Katarzyna was recruited by Abbott Laboratories where she successfully managed their diabetes care division in Poland. Over the next nine years, her career progressed at Abbott Laboratories to Divisional Vice President for Europe. In 2010, she continued her career at Zimmer as President of their EMEA region. Following her appointment as an executive committee member prior to the Biomet acquisition, Katarzyna supported the operations of the Zimmer Biomet portfolio covering sales, marketing, logistics, and clinical support. Since 2018, Katarzyna has served as Chief Executive Officer for the €2.7 billion EMEA business of Fresenius Medical Care AG & Co. KGaA, the German-listed renal care company.

Other current appointments

- Chief Executive Officer, EMEA, at Fresenius Medical Care AG & Co. KGaA.
- NED at Vifor Fresenius Medical Care Renal Pharma Ltd.

Skills and competencies

Katarzyna demonstrates a true passion for customer focus and maintains an impressive track record in senior leadership within the MedTech industry. She is a qualified medical doctor (Ph.D.) with vast experience in medical devices and orthopaedic sectors. Her Chief Executive Officer experience of a global company and valuable industry knowledge will help drive innovation and ensure the continued development of Smith+Nephew.

Nationality

German/Polish



Rick Medlock (60)

Independent Non-Executive Director

Appointed on 9 April 2020.

Rick was appointed Chair of the Audit Committee on 1 September 2020.

Career and experience

Rick graduated from Cambridge University with a BA in Economics. In 1982, he joined Arthur Andersen LLP where he qualified as a Chartered Accountant. Rick has had a highly successful career as a strong commercial Chief Financial Officer in the technology industry, working for a range of international FTSE 100 and NASDAQ listed businesses during periods of high growth. He has held a number of Chief Financial Officer positions throughout his career, including at NDS Group plc, Inmarsat plc and Worldpay Group plc. Rick brings a wealth of experience as a former NED and Audit Committee Chair of several technology driven businesses, such as Sophos Group plc, Edwards Vacuum, and Thus plc. Rick was also previously Chair of Momondo Group and Chair of the Audit Committee for LoveFilm UK Limited.

Other current appointments

- NED and member of the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee at Datatec Ltd.
- NED and Chair of the Audit Committee at Deliveroo.

Skills and competencies

Rick has extensive experience and a deep understanding of technology focused R&D businesses. He has driven value and transformation throughout his executive career which will further reinforce the ability of Smith+Nephew to grow and develop into new and existing markets. Rick brings significant financial expertise as a well-regarded former FTSE 100 Chief Financial Officer, NED and Audit Committee Chair.

Nationality

British

Board of Directors continued



Marc Owen (61)

Independent Non-Executive Director

Appointed in October 2017.

Marc was appointed as a Member of the Nomination & Governance Committee on 28 March 2020.

Career and experience

Marc graduated from Oxford University with a BA and BCL in Law. In 1984 he was called to the Bar, following four years at Corpus Christi College Cambridge as a fellow and director of studies in law. He decided upon a corporate career and undertook an MBA at Stanford University. Marc commenced his healthcare and technology career at McKinsey & Company where he progressed to senior partner and eventually a founding partner of McKinsey's Business Technology Office. In 2001, Marc joined McKesson Corporation and served as Executive Vice President and member of their Executive Committee. He delivered strategic objectives and led over 40 acquisitions and divestments over a 10-year period. In late 2011 he headed McKesson Speciality Health, which operates over 130 cancer centres across the US and provides market intelligence, supply chain services, patient access to therapy, provider and patient engagement and clinical trial support. In 2014, he was appointed Chair of the European Management Board at Celasio AG. He retired in March 2017 once he had improved operations, set the strategy and recruited his successor.

Other current appointments

– N/A.

Skills and competencies

Marc is a proven leader with an astute strategic vision, capable of building significant international healthcare businesses. He has strong commercial healthcare expertise, which the Board values deeply and makes him ideally placed to Chair the Compliance & Culture Committee.

Nationality

 British



Angie Risley (62)

Independent Non-Executive Director

Appointed in September 2017.

Angie was appointed as a Member of the Compliance & Culture Committee on 8 April 2020.

Career and experience

After graduating from Exeter University, Angie joined United Biscuits followed by Pizza Hut (UK) Ltd as Human Resources Director, a joint venture between PepsiCo, Inc. and Whitbread plc. After five years she joined Whitbread plc, becoming an Executive Director responsible for HR and Corporate Social Responsibility in 2004. Between 2007–2013 she was the Group HR Director for Lloyds Banking Group, joining J Sainsbury plc as Group HR Director and a member of their Operating Board in January 2013. Over the years, Angie has been a member of the Low Pay Commission and has held a number of Non-Executive Directorships with Biffa plc, Arriva and Serco Group plc, and now Smith+Nephew. At Serco Group plc she was the Chair of the Remuneration Committee. Previously she has attended Remuneration Committees of Whitbread plc, Lloyds Banking Group, Arriva and now J Sainsbury plc.

Other current appointments

– J Sainsbury plc Group HR Director and member of their Operating Board.

Skills and competencies

Angie is a well-regarded FTSE 100 Human Resources Director, proven Non-Executive Director and Remuneration Committee Chair. She has gained experience in a wide range of sectors, including a regulated environment. This diversity of experience is welcomed by the Board and the Remuneration Committee. Angie is also an additional resource and sounding board for Smith+Nephew's own internal Human Resources function.

Nationality

 British



Bob White (58)

Independent Non-Executive Director

Appointed on 1 May 2020.

Bob was appointed a Member of the Compliance & Culture Committee on 27 July 2020 and as a Member of the Remuneration Committee on 28 July 2020.

Career and experience

Bob graduated from Cleveland State University in 1985 with a BBA in Marketing and later achieved an MBA from Case Western Reserve University. He is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

In 1986, Bob joined IBM Corporation and progressed to become their Healthcare Solutions General Manager in 1995 for EMEA regions. Bob has held a number of senior Vice President positions throughout his career, including at Chemdex Corporation, Accelrys Inc., SourceOne Healthcare Technologies, Inc., GE Healthcare and Covidien as President for Emerging Markets and President for Respiratory and Monitoring Solutions. He then became Senior Vice President and President of Medtronic Asia Pacific, having led the integration of Covidien Asia Pacific when it was acquired by Medtronic plc in 2015. Bob is currently a member of the Medtronic Executive Committee.

Other current appointments

– Executive Vice President and President, Medical Surgical Portfolio at Medtronic plc.

Skills and competencies

Bob is an experienced leader with more than 25 years' worth of industry relevant experience. He is an influential and well-known figure in the medical technology sector and has an impressive track record in delivering growth and fostering innovation. He brings valuable global medical technology insight to the Board, which will prove fundamental in helping to shape and develop the future strategic direction of Smith+Nephew.

Nationality

 American

Retiring



C R

Vinita Bali (65) **Independent** **Non-Executive Director**

Appointed in December 2014.

Prior to her retirement from the Board, Vinita was a Member of the Remuneration Committee and Compliance & Culture Committee.

Career and experience

Vinita holds an MBA from the Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management Studies, University of Bombay and a BA in Economics from the University of Delhi. She spent her career working for large global companies – Cadbury Schweppes plc and The Coca-Cola Company, holding senior positions in marketing and general management. Vinita was Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Britannia Industries Limited, a leading Indian publicly listed food company from 2005 to 2014.

Other current appointments

- NED of Syngene International Limited.
- NED of Bunge Limited.
- NED of CRISIL India (a Standard & Poor company).
- Member of the Advisory Board of PwC India.
- NED of Cognizant Technology Solutions Corporation, which is listed on NASDAQ (NASDAQ: CTSH).

Vinita retired as a Non-Executive Director of Smith & Nephew plc on 31 December 2020, on completion of six years' service.

Nationality

Indian



C R N

The Rt. Hon Baroness **Virginia Bottomley** **of Nettlestone DL (72)**

Independent **Non-Executive Director**

Appointed in April 2012.

Virginia will continue to serve as a Member of the Remuneration Committee, Nomination & Governance Committee and Compliance & Culture Committee until her retirement from the Board at the Annual General Meeting in April 2021. She will not stand for re-election.

Career and experience

Virginia was a Member of Parliament between 1984 and 2005. She served successively as Secretary of State for Health and then Culture, Media and Sport. She became a Life Peer in 2005. Virginia was formerly a Director of Bupa and AkzoNobel N.V.

Other current appointments

- Director of International Resources Group Limited, where she is Chair of Board & Chief Executive Officer Practice at Odgers Berndtson.
- Member of the International Advisory Council of Chugai Pharmaceutical Co.
- Chancellor of University of Hull.
- Sheriff of Kingston upon Hull.
- Trustee of The Economist Newspaper.

Virginia will retire as a Non-Executive Director of Smith & Nephew plc at the Annual General Meeting in April 2021, following completion of nine years' service.

Nationality

British



Susan Swabey (59) **Company Secretary**

Joined Smith+Nephew in May 2009 as Company Secretary with responsibility for board support and corporate governance, employee and executive share plans and subsidiary governance. Susan is based in Watford, UK.

Other current appointments

- Chair of the CBI Companies Committee.
- Chair of ShareGift, the share donation charity.
- Member of the Financial Reporting Council Lab Steering Group.

Skills and experience

Susan holds an MA from Corpus Christi College Oxford in Literae Humaniores and is a Fellow of The Chartered Governance Institute.

Susan has over 35 years' experience as a Company Secretary in a wide range of companies including Prudential plc, Amersham plc and RMC Group plc. Her work has covered board support, corporate governance, remuneration, corporate transactions, group risk management, share registration, listing obligations, corporate social responsibility, pensions, insurance and employee and executive share plans. Susan is a frequent speaker on corporate governance and related matters.

Nationality

British

Executive team



Roland Diggelmann is supported in the day-to-day management of the Group by Anne-Françoise Nesmes, Chief Financial Officer, and a strong team of Executives.

Brad Cannon (53)

President Sports Medicine & ENT

Joined Smith+Nephew in 2012 and has since been the President of Smith+Nephew's Europe and Canada business, the Company's Chief Marketing Officer, and now serves as the President of the Global Sports Medicine and Ear, Nose and Throat business. Brad is based in Andover, US.

Skills and experience

Brad was most recently the Chief Marketing Officer and prior to that the President of Europe and Canada, where he successfully led the commercial business in those regions. He has also served as the President of Global Orthopaedic Franchises, leading Smith+Nephew's Reconstruction, Endoscopy, Trauma and Extremities businesses. Prior to Smith+Nephew, Brad worked in Medtronic plc's Spine and Biologics division. From 2009, he was responsible for Medtronic plc's Spine International division and held positions heading US sales and global commercial operations. Brad is a graduate of Washington and Lee University, and the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

Nationality

 American

Peter Coenen (59)

President EMEA Region

Joined Smith+Nephew in September 2020 with responsibility for Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA). Peter is based in Zug, Switzerland.

Skills and experience

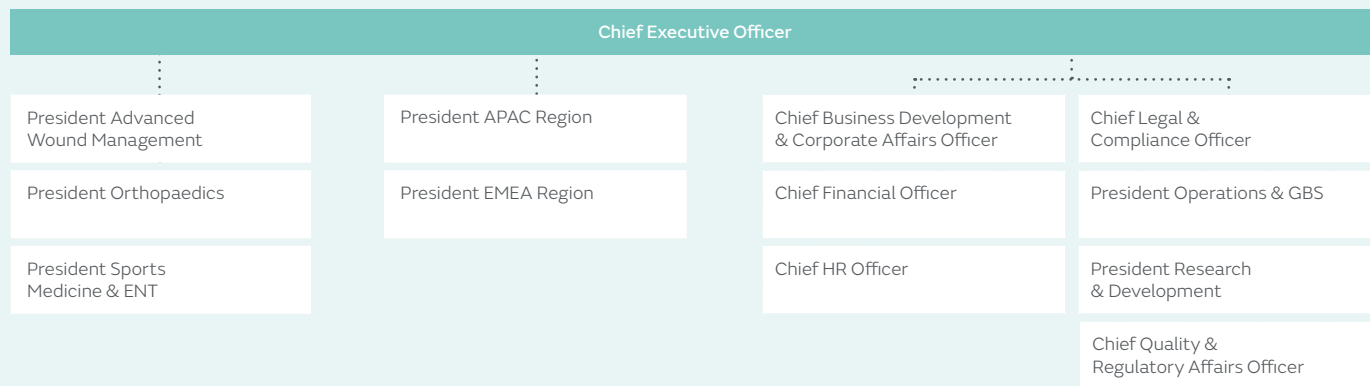
Peter is an experienced cross-cultural leader and is adept at delivering results by building successful teams. Most recently, Peter was President of Terumo Interventional Systems, a Japan-based medical device company that is part of the Terumo Corporation. In addition to this role, Peter also acted as Terumo's General Manager of its CEEMEA region (Central and Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa). During his seven-year tenure with Terumo, Peter helped drive growth by more than doubling both revenue and profitability. Prior to Terumo, Peter held a number of senior roles in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America with Guidant Corporation, Haemonetics Corporation and Boston Scientific Corporation.

Peter has a wealth of operational experience that will help drive business performance and bolster the future success of the EMEA region.

Nationality

 German

Our commercial model





Phil Cowdy (53)

Chief Business Development & Corporate Affairs Officer

Joined Smith+Nephew in 2008 as Director of Investor Relations. From 2010 his responsibility expanded as Head of Corporate Affairs, including media, investor relations, global brand and government affairs, together with Strategic Planning. Between 2015 and 2018 he was also responsible for IT. In 2018 he took on additional responsibility for Business Development. Phil is based in Watford, UK.

Skills and experience

Prior to joining Smith+Nephew, Phil served as a senior Director at Deutsche Bank AG and predecessor firms for 13 years, providing corporate finance and equity capital markets advice to a variety of UK-based companies. He qualified as a chartered accountant with EY.

Nationality

 British



Myra Eskes (49)

President APAC Region

Joined Smith+Nephew in May 2019 with responsibility for Asia Pacific. Myra is based in Singapore.

Skills and experience

Myra is a strong and highly respected leader with deep cross-cultural experience bringing more than two decades of enterprise-wide experience in finance, manufacturing, operations, sales and marketing. Most recently, Myra was President and Chief Executive Officer of GE Healthcare Southeast Asia, Korea, Australia and New Zealand, reporting directly to the Chief Executive Officer as part of the global management team. In this role, she was responsible for the diagnostic and interventional imaging, patient monitoring, healthcare digital and life sciences businesses.

Prior to this, Myra led the GE Life Sciences business for the Eastern & African growth markets, covering Turkey, the Middle East, Africa and Russia/Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries. There, she drove growth in the region by working with customers who were investing in life sciences technologies and research, including pharmaceutical diagnostics, bioprocessing, services and in-vitro diagnostics. In addition to her diverse operational experience in complex and broad-based businesses around the world, Myra has a proven track record of driving strong revenue growth and increasing profitability. She has created high performing teams to deliver innovative medical devices and life sciences solutions on three continents and has a true passion for customers and improving access to quality healthcare.

Nationality

 Dutch



Simon Fraser (53)

President Advanced Wound Management

Joined Smith+Nephew in January 2019 with commercial leadership responsibility for Advanced Wound Management in the US and global marketing for the Advanced Wound Management Franchise. Simon is based in Fort Worth, US.

Skills and experience

Simon brings more than 25 years' of experience across medical devices, pharmaceuticals and diagnostics, including wound management. Importantly, he is a purpose-driven and accomplished business leader who has successfully managed large, global commercial organisations with full P&L responsibility while growing business and earning market share.

Prior to joining Smith+Nephew, Simon was Group Vice President of Dentsply Sirona's Dental Implant Global Business Unit. Prior to this Simon was Vice President, US Commercial Infectious Diseases including corporate accounts at Abbott Laboratories. Simon joined Abbott following the acquisition of Alere Inc., where he had three successful years as the President of Latin America. Prior to these roles, Simon had a 15-year career with Johnson & Johnson, where he held increasingly senior commercial roles spanning surgical devices, wound management, implants and pharmaceuticals including both global strategic marketing and P&L responsibilities.

Nationality

 American/Canadian

Executive team continued



Mark Gladwell (45)

President Operations & GBS

Joined Smith+Nephew in August 2018 with responsibility for Global Manufacturing, Global Supply Chain, Global Procurement, Global Engineering and Global Operational Excellence, and all Operational Strategy and programmes including APEX projects related to Global Operations. From 2019 Mark also took responsibility for Global Business Services. Mark is based in Watford, UK.

Skills and experience

Mark joined Smith+Nephew from QIAGEN N.V., a provider of sample and assay technologies for molecular diagnostics, applied testing, academic and pharmaceutical research. There he was Senior Vice President of Global Operations responsible for global manufacturing, supply chain, quality assurance and control, regulatory affairs, and global customer service.

Mark is a seasoned operational leader bringing more than 20 years' of experience in progressively senior operations roles across global organisations including DuPont de Nemours, Inc., AGFA Medical Imaging, Johnson & Johnson, and Alere Inc. Mark has experience of working and living in Europe and the US and operating global manufacturing and supply chain organisations with a significant focus and track record in delivering operational excellence transformation programmes.

Nationality

 British



Melissa Guerdan (46)

Chief Quality & Regulatory Affairs Officer

Joined Smith+Nephew in July 2018 with responsibility for Quality and Regulatory Affairs and assumed additional responsibility in 2019 for the Portfolio Compliance organisation, inclusive of the Group EU MDR. Melissa is based in Andover, US.

Skills and experience

Melissa brings more than 20 years' of leadership experience in Quality and Regulatory Affairs spanning the pharmaceutical, medical device and biologics industries. Melissa has deep compliance and operations knowledge and has progressed through senior leadership roles in global organisations including Pfizer Inc., Baxter International Inc., Covidien and Alere Inc. Most recently, Melissa was Senior Vice President, Quality and Regulatory for Alere Inc., where she had executive responsibility for establishing enterprise vision, strategy and direction for all aspects of quality, compliance and regulatory affairs. Melissa is adept at inspiring diverse global organisations to achieve common goals and has consistently delivered material value at the enterprise level through transformational quality and regulatory improvement programmes.

Melissa holds a BA degree in Biology and Psychology, and holds an MBA from DePaul University.

Nationality

 American



Skip Kiil (46)

President Orthopaedics

Joined Smith+Nephew in November 2018 with global responsibility for the Orthopaedics franchise which includes Reconstruction, Trauma, Extremities and Robotics. Skip is based in Memphis, US.

Skills and experience

Skip is a seasoned leader who brings a wealth of global experience from diverse medical technology companies, and importantly, significant global experience in Orthopaedics markets over an extended period. Prior to joining Smith+Nephew, Skip was most recently responsible for all Global Commercial Operations at NuVasive, Inc., and member of the senior executive leadership team. Prior to this, Skip spent three years with Alcon, a division of Novartis Corporation, based in Geneva, Switzerland, where he served as Surgical Head, Europe, Middle East, Africa and Russia. While at Alcon, Skip led the successful commercial transformation of its surgical business across both developed and emerging growth markets.

Before joining Alcon, Skip had a successful 12-year career with Stryker Corporation holding progressively senior positions in commercial leadership in the US as well as in global marketing. Skip also had general management experience in Japan, as well as group leadership responsibilities in Europe where he held the role of Vice President and General Manager of its Medical Surgical Group.

Nationality

 American



Elga Lohler (53)

Chief HR Officer

Joined Smith+Nephew in January 2002 as Director of HR and has since held progressively senior positions in Wound Management, Operations, Corporate Functions and Group. Elga became Chief Human Resources Officer in December 2015 and leads Global Human Resources and Internal Communication. Elga is based in Fort Worth, US.

Skills and experience

Elga has more than 25 years' Human Resources experience. Prior to joining Smith+Nephew, Elga held Human Resources roles at Transnet SOC Ltd, Sensormatic (now Tyco International plc) and Advanced Tissue Sciences, Inc., which was acquired by Smith+Nephew in 2002. Through these roles, Elga has developed deep expertise in strategic planning and development, organisational design and effectiveness, restructuring and integration, and transformational change in support of business objectives. In her current role, Elga is responsible for driving Smith+Nephew's human capital strategy across the enterprise in support of Smith+Nephew's overall strategy.

Elga holds an undergraduate degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Organizational Psychology, both from the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa.

Nationality

 American/South African



Catheryn O'Rourke (48)

Chief Legal & Compliance Officer

Joined Smith+Nephew in February 2013 and became Chief Legal Officer in May 2017 and Chief Legal & Compliance Officer in July 2018. Catheryn heads up the Global Legal and Compliance functions and also serves as the Chief Risk Officer. Catheryn is based in Andover, US.

Skills and experience

Prior to being appointed Chief Legal & Compliance Officer, Catheryn had various responsibilities within Legal as Assistant General Counsel – Litigation and Investigations. Prior to joining Smith+Nephew, Catheryn spent 11 years of her career with Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP.

Catheryn is a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School.

Nationality

 American



Vasant Padmanabhan (54)

President Research & Development

Joined Smith+Nephew in August 2016 and is responsible for Research and Innovation, New Product Development, Clinical and Medical Affairs, and Clinical Operations. Vasant is based in Andover, US.

Skills and experience

Vasant is a medical technology executive with over 25 years of global R&D leadership experience. He holds a doctorate in Biomedical Engineering and has a proven track record of driving and delivering innovation from concept-to-commercialisation. Prior to Smith+Nephew, Vasant served as the Senior Vice President of Technical Operations at Thoratec Corporation, a leader in mechanical circulatory support solutions for the treatment of heart failure. In this role, he provided leadership to multiple technical functions including global R&D, Programme Management, Quality Affairs, and Operations. Prior to Thoratec Corporation and its successful acquisition by St. Jude Medical, Inc. in 2015, Vasant had an 18-year career at Medtronic plc, starting as a Staff Scientist and, progressing through more senior roles, ultimately becoming Vice President of Connected Care R&D Operations (2008-2012) and Vice President of Product Development for the Implantable Defibrillator Business (2012-2014). Vasant holds an MSc and a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from Rutgers University and an MBA from the University of Minnesota – Carlson School of Management.

Nationality

 American

Roles and composition

Whilst we all share collective responsibility for the activities of the Board, some of our roles have been defined in greater detail below.

Chair

- Building a well-balanced Board.
- Chairing Board meetings and setting Board agendas.
- Ensuring effectiveness of the Board and enabling the annual review of effectiveness.
- Encouraging constructive challenge and facilitating effective communication between Board members.
- Promoting effective Board relationships.
- Holding meetings with Non-Executive Directors in the absence of Executive Directors.
- Ensuring one-to-one discussions with each Board Member.
- Ensuring appropriate induction and development programmes.
- Ensuring effective two-way communication and debate with shareholders and stakeholders.
- Promoting high standards of corporate governance.
- Maintaining appropriate balance between stakeholders.

Senior Independent Director

- Chairing meetings in the absence of the Chair.
- Acting as a sounding board for the Chair on Board-related matters.
- Acting as an intermediary for the other Directors where necessary.
- Available to shareholders and stakeholders on matters which cannot otherwise be resolved.
- Leading the annual evaluation into the Board's effectiveness.
- Leading the search for a new Chair, if necessary.

Chief Executive Officer

- Developing and implementing Group strategy.
- Recommending the annual budget and long-term strategic and financial plan.
- Ensuring coherent leadership of the Group.
- Managing the Group's risk profile and establishing effective internal controls.
- Regularly reviewing organisational structure, developing executive team and planning for succession.
- Ensuring the Chair and Board are kept advised and updated regarding key matters.
- Maintaining relationships with shareholders and advising the Board accordingly.
- Setting the tone at the top with regard to culture, compliance and sustainability matters.
- Day-to-day running of the business.

Chief Financial Officer

- Supporting the Chief Executive Officer in developing and implementing the Group strategy.
- Leading the global finance function, developing key finance talent and planning for succession.
- Ensuring effective financial reporting, processes and controls are in place.
- Recommending the annual budget and long-term strategic and financial plan.
- Maintaining relationships with shareholders.

Company Secretary

- Advising the Board on matters of corporate governance.
- Supporting the Chair and Non-Executive Directors.
- Point of contact for investors on matters of corporate governance.
- Ensuring good governance practices at Board level and throughout the Group.

Non-Financial Reporting Regulations

In accordance with The Companies, Partnerships and Groups (Accounts and Non-Financial Reporting) Regulations 2016 information can be found on the following pages of this 2020 Annual Report relating to the environment ([pages 24–27](#) of this report and the 2020 Sustainability Report), social ([pages 28–35](#) of this report and the 2020 Sustainability Report), anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters ([pages 27 and 33](#)), employees ([pages 28–35](#)) and human rights ([page 29](#)).

Corporate governance framework

The Board is responsible to shareholders and stakeholders for approving the strategy of the Group, for overseeing the performance of the Group and evaluating and monitoring the management of risk. Each member of the Board has access, collectively and individually, to the Company Secretary and is also entitled to obtain independent professional advice at the Company's expense, should they decide it is necessary in order to fulfil their responsibilities as Directors.

The Board delegates certain matters, as follows, to Board Committees, consisting of members of the Board:

Our Board				
<p>Audit Committee Provides independent assessment of the financial affairs of the Company, reviews financial statements and controls oversight of the risk management process and key risks. Manages use of internal and external auditors.</p> <p>» See page 88</p>	<p>Remuneration Committee Determines Remuneration Policy and packages for Executive Directors and Executive Officers, having regard to pay across our workforce. Ensures alignment with our purpose, values and long-term strategy.</p> <p>» See page 106</p>	<p>Nomination & Governance Committee Reviews size, skills, experience, knowledge and composition of the Board, succession planning, diversity and governance matters.</p> <p>» See page 85</p>	<p>Compliance & Culture Committee Reviews and monitors and has oversight of ethics and compliance, quality and regulatory, culture, sustainability, stakeholder relationships and related legal matters across the Group.</p> <p>» See page 98</p>	<p>Ad hoc committees Ad hoc committees may be established to review and approve specific matters or projects.</p>

The Board delegates certain matters, as follows, to Board Committees, consisting of senior executives:

<p>Finance & Banking Committee Approves banking and treasury matters, guarantees and Group structure changes relating to mergers, acquisitions and disposals.</p>	<p>Disclosures Committee Approves release of communications to investors and Stock Exchanges. Reviews whether communications are inside information.</p>
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The Board delegates the day-to-day running of the business to Roland Diggelmann, Chief Executive Officer, who is assisted in his role by the Executive Committee comprising the executive team shown on pages 74–77. The governance framework below outlines the Executive Committee responsibilities and the structure of sub-committees reporting into the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee		
<p>Recommends and implements strategy, recommends budget and three-year plan to the Board for approval, ensures liaison between commercial and corporate functions, receives regular reports from sub-committees, monitors succession planning and talent pipeline below Board level, reviews major investments, divestment and capital expenditure proposals and approves business development projects. During 2020, an additional Committee named the Crisis Management team, was formed to manage the Company's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>		
<p>Monthly Operating Review Wider group of senior commercial and financial leaders reviews monthly commercial and operating results against budget, identifying gaps and agreeing remedial actions.</p>	<p>Franchise, Functional and Regional Leadership Meetings Senior management meetings to drive performance across each franchise, function and region.</p>	<p>New Product Development Defines portfolio allocation principles, reviewing and challenging current shape of portfolio, identifying gaps and opportunities and re-prioritising segments and geographies.</p>
<p>Health, Safety & Environment Committee Oversees health, safety and environmental matters.</p>	<p>Inclusion & Diversity Council Implements strategies to promote diversity and inclusion.</p>	<p>Global Benefits Committee Oversees all policies and processes relating to pensions and employee benefit plans.</p>
<p>Group Ethics & Compliance Committee Reviews compliance matters and country business unit or function compliance reports.</p>	<p>Investment Committee Oversees Corporate Development Strategy, monitors status of transactions and approves various stages in the merger, acquisition and disposal process.</p>	<p>Sustainability Council Monitors sustainability strategy and delivers agreed plan.</p>

Responsibilities of the Board

The Schedule of Matters Reserved to the Board describes the role and responsibilities of the Board more fully and can be found on our website at www.smith-nephew.com.

Strategy

- Approving the Group strategy including major changes to corporate and management structure.
- Approving acquisitions, mergers, disposals, capital transactions in excess of \$50 million.
- Setting priorities for capital investment across the Group.
- Approving annual budget, financial plan, three-year business plan.
- Approving major borrowings and finance and banking arrangements.
- Approving changes to the size and structure of the Board and the appointment and removal of Directors and the Company Secretary.
- Approving Group policies relating to sustainability, health and safety, Code of Conduct and Code of Share Dealing and other matters.
- Approving the appointment and removal of key professional advisers.

February

- Reviewed and approved three-year strategic plan.
- Reviewed capital allocation policies.
- Reviewed APEX restructuring plans.

April

- Reviewed 2020 funding actions in response to COVID-19.

July

- Received Corporate Development update.
- Reviewed preparations for bond issue.

September

- Received Corporate Development update.
- Considered and approved bond issue.

November

- Reviewed the strategic plan for 2021–2023.

December

- Received business update from Chief Executive Officer and considered the impact of COVID-19.

Performance

- Reviewing performance against strategy, budgets and financial and business plans.
- Overseeing Group operations and maintaining a sound system of internal control.
- Determining the dividend policy and dividend recommendations.
- Approving the appointment and removal of the External Auditor on the recommendation of the Audit Committee.
- Approving significant changes to accounting policies or practices.
- Overseeing succession planning at Board and Executive Officer level.
- Approving the use of the Company's shares in relation to employee and executive share incentive plans on the recommendation of the Remuneration Committee.

February

- Considered COVID-19 impact on the Company's business.
- Reviewed financial performance.
- Considered payment of final dividend.
- Approved and noted Board and Committee membership changes, including changes in relation to the Chief Financial Officer.

Early and late March

- Considered COVID-19 impact scenarios.
- Reconfirmed payment of dividend in response to COVID-19.

April

- Considered COVID-19 impact on the Company's business, employees and customers.
- Reviewed financial performance.
- Received update on Advanced Wound Management.

May

- Considered COVID-19 impact on the Company's business, employees and customers.
- Reviewed financial performance.

July

- Approved and declared payment of interim dividend.
- Considered COVID-19 impact on the Company's business, employees and customers.
- Received updates on Orthopaedics franchise.
- Reviewed financial performance.

September

- Reviewed financial performance.
- Received review of the performance of the business franchises, including Sports Medicine, ENT and Robotics.
- Received updates on Global Operations.

October

- Reviewed financial business performance.

November

- Considered succession and development plans.

Shareholder communications

- Approving preliminary announcement of annual results, the publication of the Annual Report, the half-yearly report, the quarterly Trading Reports, the release of price-sensitive announcements and any listing particulars, circulars or prospectuses.
- Approving the Sustainability Report.
- Maintaining relationships and continued engagement with shareholders.

February

- Approved Preliminary Announcement 2019.
- Approved the Annual Report for 2019.
- Approved Notice of the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

April

- Noted updated arrangements and preparations for the 2020 Annual General Meeting and shareholder audiocast to be held later that day.

May

- Approved Q1 2020 Trading Report.

July

- Approved H1 2020 Results Announcement.
- Considered Company response to ethnic diversity.

October

- Approved Q3 2020 Trading Report.

November

- Approved holding the 2021 Annual General Meeting as a hybrid meeting.
- Approved the commencement of share forfeiture programme.

Risk

- Overseeing the Group's risk management programme.
- Regularly reviewing the risk register.
- Overseeing risk management processes (see pages 53–65 for further details).

February

- Received Annual Risk Management update.

October

- Attended an interactive discussion on key risks facing the Company and considered principal risks.

Stakeholders

- Overseeing and maintaining relationships with stakeholders including shareholders, employees, customers, suppliers, regulators and governments.

February

- Approved Sustainability Report 2019.
- Approved Modern Slavery Statement 2019.

March

- Considered COVID-19 impact upon employees and customers.

April

- Reviewed and approved updated APEX restructuring plans noting impact upon stakeholders.

June

- Discussed company response to ethnic diversity.

July

- Considered COVID-19 impact on the Company's employees, customers and suppliers.

Other matters

February

- Approved Directors & Officers' liability insurance renewal.
- Approved 2019 Board evaluation proposals.
- Received Legal update.

April

- Approved appointment of Rick Medlock on 9 April 2020.
- Received Legal update.

May

- Approved appointment of Bob White on 1 May 2020.

July

- Approved appointment of Anne-Françoise Nesmes on 27 July 2020.

September

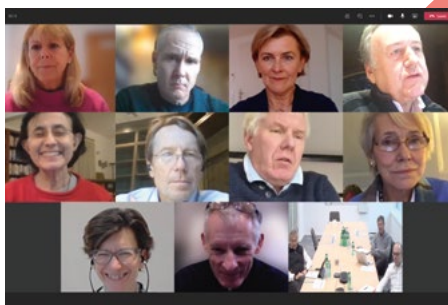
- Received Legal update.

November

- Received Legal update.
- Approved appointment of Katarzyna Mazur-Hofszaess on 1 November 2020.

December

- Discussed and approved the findings from the 2020 Board Effectiveness Review undertaken by the Senior Independent Director.
- Noted the resignation of Vinita Bali on 31 December 2020.



“
The newest Board members have conducted most of our induction programmes virtually and have yet to meet our fellow directors face to face.”

Rick Medlock
Chair of the
Audit Committee

Responsibilities of the Board

Board and Committee attendance

	Board					Committee
		Audit	Remuneration	Nomination & Governance	Compliance & Culture	
Total meetings	11	8	6	3	4	
	Appointed					
Roberto Quarta	December 2013	11/11	–	6/6	3/3	–
Graham Baker ¹	March 2017	5/5	–	–	–	–
Vinita Bali ²	December 2014	11/11	–	6/6	–	4/4
Virginia Bottomley ³	April 2012	11/11	–	6/6	3/3	4/4
Roland Diggelmann	March 2018	11/11	–	–	–	–
Erik Engstrom	January 2015	11/11	8/8	–	3/3	–
Robin Freestone ⁴	September 2015	11/11	8/8	6/6	3/3	–
Marc Owen ⁵	October 2017	11/11	8/8	–	2/2	4/4
Katarzyna Mazur-Hofsaess ⁶	1 November 2020	3/3	–	–	–	–
Rick Medlock ⁷	9 April 2020	8/8	5/5	–	–	–
Anne-Françoise Nesmes ⁸	27 July 2020	6/6	–	–	–	–
Angie Risley ⁹	September 2017	11/11	–	6/6	–	3/3
Bob White ¹⁰	1 May 2020	7/7	–	3/3	–	2/2

1 Graham Baker resigned from the Board on 9 April 2020.

2 Vinita Bali retired from the Board on 31 December 2020, after six years' of service.

3 Virginia Bottomley is due to retire from the Board at the Annual General Meeting on 14 April 2021, after 9 years' of service.

4 Robin Freestone resigned as Chair of the Audit Committee on 1 September 2020. He remains Senior Independent Director and a member of the Audit Committee.

5 Marc Owen joined the Nomination & Governance Committee on 28 March 2020.

6 Katarzyna Mazur-Hofsaess was appointed to the Board on 1 November 2020.

7 Rick Medlock was appointed to the Board and Audit Committee on 9 April 2020. He was appointed as Chair of the Audit Committee on 1 September 2020.

8 Anne-Françoise Nesmes was appointed to the Board as Chief Financial Officer on 27 July 2020.

9 Angie Risley joined the Compliance & Culture Committee on 8 April 2020.

10 Bob White was appointed to the Board on 1 May 2020. He joined the Compliance & Culture Committee on 27 July 2020 and the Remuneration Committee on 28 July 2020.

In advance of the Board and Committee meetings, the Chair met with the Non-Executive Directors in the absence of Executive Directors. In addition, the Chair held one-to-one discussions with each Board Member throughout the year.

Independence of Directors

We require our Non-Executive Directors to remain independent from management so that they are able to exercise independent oversight and effectively challenge management. We therefore continually assess the independence of each of our Non-Executive Directors.

The Executive Directors have determined that all our Non-Executive Directors are independent in accordance with both UK and US requirements. None of our Non-Executive Directors or their immediate families has ever had a material relationship with the Group. None of them receives additional remuneration apart from Directors' fees, nor do they participate in the Group's share plans or pension schemes. None of them serve as directors of any companies or affiliates in which any other Director is a director. The Board considers all external directorships prior to appointment, reviewing any potential conflict of interests and time commitment for both Executive Directors and Non-Executive Directors.

Management of conflicts of interest

None of our Directors or their connected persons, has any family relationship with any other Director or Officer, nor has a material interest in any contract to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries are, or were, a party during the year or up to 12 February 2021.

Each Director has a duty under the Companies Act 2006 to avoid a situation in which they have or may have a direct or indirect interest that conflicts or might conflict with the interests of the Company. This duty is in addition to the existing duty owed to the Company to disclose to the Board any interest in a transaction or arrangement under consideration by the Company.

If any Director becomes aware of any situation which might give rise to a conflict of interest, they must, and do, inform the rest of the Board immediately and the Board is then permitted under the Company's Articles of Association to authorise such conflict. This information is then recorded in the Company's Register of Conflicts, together with the date on which authorisation was given. In addition, each Director certifies on an annual basis that the information contained in the Register of Conflicts is correct.

When the Board decides whether or not to authorise a conflict, only the Directors who have no interest in the matter are permitted to participate in the discussion and a conflict is only authorised if the Board believes that it would not have an impact on the Board's ability to promote the success of the Company in the long-term. Additionally, the Board may determine that certain limits or conditions must be imposed when giving authorisation. No actual conflicts have been identified, which have required approval by the Board. However, the situations that could potentially give rise to a conflict of interest have been identified and duly authorised by the Board and are reviewed on an annual basis.

Outside directorships

We encourage our Executive Directors to serve as Non-Executive Directors of external companies. We believe that the work they do as Non-Executive Directors of other companies has benefits for their executive roles with the Company, giving them a fresh insight into the role of a Non-Executive Director. During 2020, Roland Diggelmann was also a Non-Executive Director of Accelerate Diagnostics, Inc. listed on the NASDAQ. Anne-Françoise Nesmes is also a Non-Executive Director of Compass Group plc listed on the London Stock Exchange. Anne-Françoise's external appointment was known at the time of joining Smith+Nephew and the Chair and Board was satisfied that she had the capacity for the time commitment required.

Re-appointment of directors

In accordance with the Code, all Directors offer themselves to shareholders for re-election annually, except those who are retiring immediately after the Annual General Meeting. Each Director may be removed at any time by the Board or the shareholders.

Director indemnity arrangements

Each Director is covered by appropriate directors' and officers' liability insurance and there are also Deeds of Indemnity in place between the Company and each Director. These Deeds of Indemnity mean that the Company indemnifies Directors in respect of any proceedings brought by third parties against them personally in their capacity as Directors of the Company. The Company would also fund ongoing costs in defending a legal action as they are incurred rather than after judgement has been given. In the event of an unsuccessful defence in an action against them, individual Directors would be liable to repay the Company for any damages and to repay defence costs to the extent funded by the Company.

Purchase of ordinary shares

Prior to May 2020, in order to avoid shareholder dilution, shares allotted to employees through employee share schemes were bought back on a quarterly basis and subsequently cancelled as stated in Note 19.2 of the Group accounts on [page 197](#). The share buy-back programme for 2020 has been suspended in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The programme remains under review.

Composition, succession and evaluation

Board effectiveness review

The Board effectiveness review in 2020 was internally facilitated by Robin Freestone, Senior Independent Director, assisted by the Company Secretary. The 2020 review comprised a questionnaire completed by each member of the Board. This questionnaire focused on the progress made addressing the issues raised in previous Board evaluations, as well as looking into how the Board had handled particular topics throughout the year. Robin Freestone then conducted individual

interviews with each Board member, where he also specifically discussed the performance of the Chair. In October 2020, he prepared a report, detailing his findings, which he shared with the Chair. The report was then discussed by the full Board in December 2020. In discussion, we concluded the Board operated effectively in spite of the challenges during the year. It looks forward to meeting physically again. Collectively, there was a good breadth of skills, backgrounds and experiences on the Board. The culture was open and collaborative and visits to different markets would return when possible. We did identify three key areas of improvement and the following recommendations were made:

Recommendation 1	Recommendation 2	Recommendation 3
It would be useful to have external speakers presenting on industry and market competitiveness, to augment the internal perspective provided by management.	Further improvements could be made to the measures in place to ensure that the views of stakeholders are considered at the time of every Board decision, by ensuring that presenters to the Board specifically address the potential impact of Board proposals on stakeholders.	Arrangements should be made to facilitate informal Board interaction with each other and the executive team within a virtual environment to supplement formal Board discussions.

The areas for attention identified in the 2019 review have been addressed as follows:

Actions identified	Action taken
The recent change in Chief Executive Officer, after a relatively short period of tenure had highlighted the need for increased oversight at Board level of executive succession planning.	The Board discussed succession planning during the year and in depth at the 2020 Board Strategy Review.
The full Board would welcome more involvement in the appointment of additional Non-Executive Directors.	Additional Board Directors were involved at the interview stages in the appointment of the new Directors during 2020.
Positive feedback had been received on the Board site visits in 2019 to Memphis and to the Schulthess Klinik in Switzerland and more visits such as these would be welcomed.	The travel restrictions during 2020 from the impact of COVID-19 meant the programme (which was to involve a visit to our robotics facility in Pittsburgh) had inevitably taken a step backwards. Whilst the Board enjoyed having virtual updates, including meeting a robotics surgeon, we look forward to meeting our stakeholders again physically when safe to do so.
The Compliance & Culture Committee Chair would work with the Committee and the Chief Executive Officer to further develop an employee engagement programme for 2020.	In spite of the restrictions on travel and meetings during 2020, five Board/employee listening sessions were held, four of them virtually. Further detail is provided on page 103 .

The last externally facilitated Board effectiveness review was carried out in 2018 by Dr Tracy Long of Boardroom Review, who will be facilitating our next external review in 2021. The reviews in 2019 and 2020 were facilitated internally and led by the Senior Independent Director, supported by the Company Secretary.

Board development



Timeline 2020

Board development

February

- Board/employee listening session in Watford.

Summer

- Further Board/employee listening sessions in EMEA and APAC.

September

- Meeting with leading robotics surgeon – Dr Jimmy Chow.

November

- Virtual meeting with entire Executive Committee.

December

- Received business update from Chief Executive Officer.

Board development programme

Our Board development programme is directed to the specific needs and interests of our Directors. We focus the development sessions on facilitating a greater awareness and understanding of our business and stakeholders rather than formal training in what it is to be a Director. We value our visits to the different Smith+Nephew sites around the world, where we meet with the local managers of our businesses and see the daily operations in action. The opportunities for such visits have been limited in 2020 due to travel restrictions and social distancing measures. We look forward to resuming these site visits as soon as we are able.

We have however continued to provide our Directors with virtual opportunities to understand the business better as follows:

- At our Board meeting in September, our Chief R&D Officer, Vasant Padmanabhan presented on the latest developments in our Robotics strategy following the recent launch of the CORI platform. He was accompanied by Dr Jimmy Chow, the first surgeon to use this product and whose insights had helped with its development. This was a useful opportunity for the Board both to learn about an important new product and also to meet with a key customer.
- At our virtual strategy meeting in November, the Board met with the entire executive team and heard presentations on all areas of the business, learning about new products in the pipeline and innovative commercial strategies.
- Members of our Compliance & Culture Committee have held a number of Board/employee listening sessions both physically and virtually, where they have talked with employees and heard from them their views on what it means to work for Smith+Nephew. These sessions are discussed in more detail on [pages 99 and 103](#).

The Chair regularly reviews the development needs of individual Directors and the Board as a whole.

Induction for new Directors

During 2020, we offered induction programmes for each of our new Directors: Anne-Françoise Nesmes, Rick Medlock, Bob White and Katarzyna Mazur-Hofsjaess. These programmes were tailored to their individual skills and experiences and their roles on the Board. These induction programmes included:

- One-to-one meetings with senior executives to understand the roles played by our senior employees and specifically how we do things at Smith+Nephew.
- Meetings with our external advisers for example Slaughter and May, our corporate lawyers, KPMG LLP, our Auditor and Deloitte LLP, our Remuneration Committee adviser to explain the legal and regulatory background to their role on our Board and how these issues are approached at Smith+Nephew.
- Bob White attended an induction session focused on UK governance requirements relating to remuneration matters prior to joining the Remuneration Committee.

Most of the programmes were held virtually due to travel and meeting restrictions, although Rick Medlock was able to attend our Watford office in the period between lockdowns, where he met with a number of members of the finance team, toured our Expert Connect Centre and attended a hands-on product demonstration. Once travel and meeting restrictions are lifted, our new Directors look forward to continuing their induction programmes with site visits, meeting customers and employees and getting more familiar with our products.

Nomination & Governance Committee report



Membership

	Member from	Meetings attended
Roberto Quarta (Chair)	April 2014	3/3
Erik Engstrom	April 2019	3/3
Robin Freestone	April 2019	3/3
Virginia Bottomley ¹	April 2014	3/3
Marc Owen ²	March 2020	2/2

1 Virginia Bottomley is due to retire from the Board and the Committee at the Annual General Meeting on 14 April 2021, after 9 years of service.

2 Mark Owen joined the Committee on 28 March 2020.



Recent appointments to the Board have strengthened our medical devices knowledge."

Roberto Quarta
Chair of the Nomination & Governance Committee

The Terms of Reference for the Nomination & Governance Committee describe the role and responsibilities of this Committee more fully and can be found on our website at www.smith-nephew.com.

In 2020, we held three meetings. In addition to members of the Committee, the Company Secretary, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Human Resources Officer also attended all or some of the meetings.

Since the year end, we have also discussed the future structure of the Board and its committees and completed our year end governance processes.

During the year, there were four new Board appointments. Members of the Committee were involved in the interview and selection process in each case and recommended the appointments to the full Board.

Appointment of Chief Financial Officer

In April, we announced the appointment of Anne-Françoise Nesmes as Chief Financial Officer, replacing Graham Baker, who left the Company in May to pursue his career elsewhere. Anne-Françoise has strong FTSE 100 financial leadership experience and joined us from Merlin Entertainments, where she was Chief Financial Officer. Prior to that, she was Chief Financial Officer at Dechra Pharmaceuticals plc. She is also a Non-Executive Director and Chair of the Audit Committee at Compass Group plc. She joined us on 27 July 2020.

Non-Executive Directors

The Committee has reviewed the composition of the Board and its committees to ensure that it continues to evolve to align with the new Strategic Imperatives and with the developing external regulatory environment.

The Committee appointed Rick Medlock in April 2020 as an additional Non-Executive Director with recent and relevant financial experience to strengthen the financial expertise on the Board. In September 2020, Rick took over as Chair of the Audit Committee replacing Robin Freestone, who continues in his role as Senior Independent Director and remains a member of the Audit Committee. Rick has 30 years' experience in financial management in large international companies and was formerly Chief Financial Officer of Worldpay plc, Misys plc and Inmarsat plc.

Following the appointment of Roland Diggelmann in 2019 as our Chief Executive Officer, who had previously been one of our Non-Executive Directors, the Committee identified the need to strengthen the medical devices experience on the Board. We appointed Bob White in May 2020 and Katarzyna Mazur-Hofsaees in November 2020. Bob has over 25 years' global medical devices experience and is a member of Medtronic's executive team, heading up their Medical Surgical Portfolio. Katarzyna has a strong track record in medical devices including eight years as President of EMEA for Zimmer Biomet. She is currently Chief Executive Officer of the EMEA business of Fresenius.

Vinita Bali stepped down as a member of the Board at the end of 2020 following six years' service and Virginia Bottomley will be retiring from the Board at the Annual General Meeting, when she will have completed nine years' service with the Company.

Russell Reynolds advised the Committee on these appointments ensuring that in all cases, we were presented with a diverse set of candidates to consider.

On 17 February 2021, we also appointed John Ma as a member of the Board. John is an established leader within the MedTech industry with a deep knowledge of the Asia-Pacific region and of surgical robotics, both significant areas of opportunity for Smith+Nephew.

Nomination & Governance Committee report continued

Diversity

We aim for our Board to have a wide range of backgrounds, skills and experiences. We also value a diversity of outlook, approach and style in our Board members. We believe that a balanced Board is stronger and better equipped to consider matters from a broader perspective, understanding the views of our stakeholders as well as our shareholders and therefore come to decisions that have considered a wider range of issues and perspectives than would be the case in a more homogenous Board.

We believe the Board's composition gives us the necessary balance of diversity, skills, experience, independence and knowledge to ensure we continue to run the business effectively and deliver sustainable growth. In order to ensure that our Board remains diverse, we analyse the skills and experiences we require against the skills and experiences on our Board using the matrix below. We review this matrix regularly to ensure that it is refreshed to meet the changing needs of the Company.

Diversity is not simply a matter of gender, ethnicity, social or other measurable characteristics. Diversity of outlook and approach is harder to measure than gender or ethnicity but is equally

important. A Board needs a range of skills from technical adherence to governance or regulatory matters to understanding the business in which we operate and the needs of our stakeholders. It needs some members with a long corporate memory and others who bring new insights from other fields.

There needs to be both support and challenge on the Board as well as a balance of gender, ethnicity, industry, commercial and international experience. When selecting new members for the Board, we take these considerations into account, as well as professional background. A new Board member needs to fit in with their fellow Board members, but should also provide a new way of looking at things.

We will continue to appoint our Directors on merit, valuing the unique contribution that they will bring to the Board, regardless of gender, ethnicity or any other diversity measure.

Succession planning

Following the changes to the executive team in 2018 and 2019 and the move to the franchise led organisational structure, 2020 has been a period of greater stability. The new executive team has been completed with the appointment of Anne-Françoise Nesmes as Chief Financial Officer and Peter Coenen as President of EMEA. The Board and Nomination & Governance Committee have monitored the changes to the organisational structure and approved changes to key leadership roles. Individual Directors have acted as a sounding board for the executive team when considering succession plans in key areas. In November,

the Board as a whole reviewed succession plans for Executives below Board level. These plans included consideration of diversity in the executive pipeline. Pages 74-77 gives details of the members of the Executive Committee, over a third of whom are female, with one member of Asian ethnicity. The Committee will continue to monitor diversity in the executive pipeline.

Governance

During the year, the Nomination & Governance Committee also addressed a number of governance matters.

We received updates from the Company Secretary on new developments in corporate governance and reporting in the UK.

We reviewed the independence of our Non-Executive Directors, considered potential conflicts of interest and the diversity of the Board and made recommendations concerning these matters to the Board.

During 2021 our focus will include:

- Continued oversight of succession planning below Board level.



Roberto Quarta
Chair of the Nomination & Governance Committee

Skills and experience matrix

CEO	Financial	International	Healthcare/ Medical Devices	Emerging Market
Six members of the Board are either current or recent Chief Executive Officers.	Three members of the Board have recent and relevant financial experience.	Ten members of the Board have international experience.	Eight members of the Board have different levels of experience within the Healthcare industry and five members have medical devices experience.	Six members of the Board have Emerging Market experience.
UK Governance	Remuneration	Gender	Ethnic	Other
Seven members of the Board have considerable experience of working in a UK listed environment and six members of the Board have experience of the US listed environment.	Four members of the Board have Remuneration Committee experience within a UK listed context.	Eight members of the Board are male and four are female.	Eleven members of the Board are white and one is of Asian ethnicity.	Various Board members bring experiences in a variety of fields including customer focus, investment markets, government affairs, sustainability and digital.

Responsibilities of the Nomination & Governance Committee

Board composition

- Reviewing the size and composition of the Board.
- Overseeing Board succession plans.
- Recommending the appointment of Directors.
- Monitoring Board diversity.

February

- Approved the re-appointment of Directors who had completed three or six years' service and the annual appointment of Directors serving in excess of six years.
- Reviewed and updated the Committee membership, including approval of the Audit Chair Elect appointment.
- Approved appointment of Anne-Françoise Nesmes, as Chief Financial Officer.
- Received an update on the search for an additional Non-Executive Director with international medical devices experience.
- Considered succession planning required with regard to ensuring the promotion of diversity of gender, social and ethnic backgrounds on the Board.

March

- Approved the appointment of Bob White as Non-Executive Director with international medical devices experience.

September

- Approved the appointment of Katarzyna Mazur-Hofsaess as additional Non-Executive Director with international medical devices experience.
- Received an update on the progress of the appointment of a Non-Executive Director with focused healthcare experience and a broader portfolio focus with regard to ensuring diversity of experience.
- Approved the additional external appointment of Anne-Françoise Nesmes as Audit Chair of Compass Group plc.

Corporate Governance

- Overseeing governance aspects of the Board and its Committees.
- Overseeing the review into the effectiveness of the Board.
- Considering and updating the Schedule of Matters Reserved to the Board and the Terms of Reference of the Board Committees.
- Monitoring external corporate governance activities and keeping the Board updated.
- Overseeing the Board Development Programme and the induction process for new Directors.

February

- Reviewed and approved the Schedule of Matters Reserved to the Board and the Terms of Reference of the Board Committees.



Diversity of outlook and approach ensures the right balance of challenge and support.”

Roberto Quarta

Chair of the Nomination & Governance Committee

Audit Committee report



Membership

	Member from	Meetings attended
Rick Medlock (Chair) ^{1,3}	9 April 2020	5/5
Robin Freestone ^{1,2}	September 2015	8/8
Erik Engstrom	January 2015	8/8
Marc Owen	October 2017	8/8

1 Designated financial experts under the SEC Regulations or recent and relevant financial experience under the UK Corporate Governance Code.
 2 Robin Freestone resigned as Chair of the Audit Committee on 1 September 2020. He remains Senior Independent Director and member of the Audit Committee.
 3 Rick Medlock was appointed to the Board and Audit Committee on 9 April 2020. He was appointed Chair of the Audit Committee on 1 September 2020.

This is my first Audit Committee report for Smith+Nephew, having taken over the role of Chair from Robin Freestone on 1 September 2020. I'd like to thank Robin for his smooth handover, following the half-year announcement and reiterate how grateful the Committee is that he has remained a member. His historical knowledge of both the Company and the Committee are both utilised and appreciated.

In addition to discharging its role in accordance with its Terms of Reference, the Committee has met its commitments to provide assurance in respect of various non-routine matters. Areas of scrutiny for the Committee in 2020 have included:

- Reviewed and closely monitored the impact of COVID-19 upon our financial statements including the impact upon funding/liquidity and going concern to ensure the published information has not only been rigorously challenged by the Committee, but firmly stress tested by management and the Auditor and provides the usual fair, balanced and understandable statement in these challenging times.

- Challenged the work to improve the effectiveness of US collections. Thoroughly understanding the impact of COVID-19 and monitoring those improvements to the collection process identified.
- Continued vigilance over our IT control environment and cybersecurity, which has been heightened during the pandemic. The IT Controls process improvement plan has been closely monitored by the Committee. Following the Audit Committee's recommendation, IT controls are now part of certain employees' objectives.
- Increased monitoring of risk reporting to the Committee. This was partly in response to the increased level of uncertainty during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Consideration of the extent to which we will be able to embed the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) framework into our decision making process in order to enable us to report against the TCFD framework in future years. We assessed the impact of climate change upon our financial statements and concluded there was no material impact.
- Monitored the impact of COVID-19 upon the physical verification of inventory and the ability to enter hospitals or third party warehouses. The Committee challenged management to ensure that sufficient evidence was obtained on the existence of this inventory.

In addition, the Committee reviewed letters received from and the response to our regulators, the Financial Reporting Council (FRC)¹ and SEC, where no matters of significance were raised. The FX related HMRC case was closely monitored by the Committee, who were pleased with the outcome, along with the first phase of the APEX project, which should complete in 2021. In December, the Committee received a report from management on the acquisition, which closed on 4 January 2021, of the Integra business, outlining not only financial matters, but its timetable and a governance update.



Reviewing and closely monitoring the impact of COVID-19 upon our financial statements."

Rick Medlock
Chair of the Audit Committee

As newly appointed Chair of the Committee, I have requested additional updates on cybersecurity, Risk Management and Internal Controls. My appointment was shortly after Anne-Françoise Nesmes' appointment as Chief Financial Officer; we have been able to share our initial positive insights. Much of the work at the December meeting related to preliminary financial matters for the 2020 year end, including internal controls and any impact from the letters and guidance published throughout the year from the FRC, which the Committee felt had been appropriately considered by management.

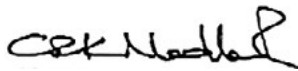
The Committee has been well briefed by the Company Secretary on the impending transition from the FRC to the Audit Regulatory and Governance Authority (ARGA) and recommendations will be considered when implemented, potentially in 2021.

KPMG have now completed their sixth year's audit and continue to provide robust challenge to both management and the Committee. Areas of challenge by KPMG and the Committee are highlighted on [page 90](#).

We have negotiated and will continue to monitor auditor fees. From 1 January 2019, a new senior lead partner, Kamran Walji headed up our audit, under the guidance of our previous lead partner Stephen Oxley, whose five year tenure completed on 31 December 2019. The newly rotated senior partner was able to seamlessly and independently continue his position for the 2020 audits. We would like to thank KPMG for its work in conducting such a rigorous audit, most of which was done virtually.

Our focus for 2021 will include:

- Monitoring ESG planning and reporting, including progress on TCFD and embedding it into decision making from the Executive Committee to the Board.
- Continued oversight of risk management process.
- Monitoring the process improvement plan for IT Controls.
- Further monitoring the impact of COVID-19 on the financial statements.
- Ensuring that we review and consider all UK governance changes following the establishment of Audit Reporting and Governance Authority (ARGA).



Rick Medlock
Chair of the Audit Committee

The Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee describe the role and responsibilities more fully and can be found on our website at www.smith-nephew.com.

- 1 The letter from the FRC noted that its review provided no assurance that the Report and Accounts are correct in all material respects, and that the FRC's role is not to verify the information provided, but to consider compliance with the reporting requirements. The FRC's review is based on a review of the Annual Accounts and does not benefit from detailed knowledge of the business.

Audit Committee report continued

Significant matters related to the financial statements

We considered the following key areas of judgement in relation to the 2020 financial statements and at each half-year and quarterly trading report, which we discussed in all cases with management and the External Auditor:

Valuation of inventories	
<p>A feature of the Orthopaedics franchise (which accounts for approximately 60% of the Group's total inventory and approximately 80% of the total provision for excess and obsolete inventory) is the high level of product inventory required, some of which is located at customer premises and is available for customers' immediate use. Complete sets of products, including large and small sizes, have to be made available in this way. These sizes are used less frequently than standard sizes and towards the end of the product life cycle are inevitably in excess of requirements. Adjustments to carrying value are therefore required to be made to orthopaedic inventory to anticipate this situation. These adjustments are calculated in accordance with a formula based on levels of inventory compared with historical usage. This formula is applied on an individual product line basis and is first applied when a product group has been on the market for two years. This method of calculation is considered appropriate based on experience, but it does involve management estimation of customer demand, effectiveness of inventory deployment, length of product lives, phase-out of old products and efficiency of manufacturing planning systems. The impact of COVID-19 on the provision for excess and obsolete inventory has been assessed, specifically considering the impact of lower sales demand and increased inventory levels.</p>	<p>Our action At each quarter end, we received reports from, and discussed with, management the level of provisioning and material areas at risk. The provisioning level was 18% at 31 December 2020 (16% as at 31 December 2019). We challenged the basis of the provisions and concluded that the proposed levels were appropriate and have been consistently estimated.</p> <p>Challenge by KPMG: During 2020, KPMG challenged management's approach to inventory provisioning in light of the changes in product demand and inventory levels caused by COVID-19 and potential future changes.</p>
Liability provisioning	
<p>The recognition of provisions for legal disputes is subject to a significant degree of estimation. Provision is made for loss contingencies when it is considered probable that an adverse outcome will occur and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. In making its estimates, management takes into account the advice of internal and external legal counsel and uses third party actuarial modelling where appropriate. Provisions are reviewed regularly and amounts updated where necessary to reflect developments in the disputes. The ultimate liability may differ from the amount provided depending on the outcome of court proceedings and settlement negotiations or if investigations bring to light new facts.</p>	<p>Our action As members of the Board, we receive regular updates from the Chief Legal & Compliance Officer. These updates form the basis for the level of provisioning. The Group carries a provision relating to potential liabilities arising on its portfolio of metal-on-metal hip products of \$336 million as of 31 December 2020. We received detailed reports from management on this position, including the actuarial model used to estimate the provision, and challenged the key assumptions, including the number of claimants and projected value of each claim. The provisions for legal matters have increased by \$14 million during the year, primarily due to an increase in the metal-on-metal provision. We have determined that the proposed levels of provisioning at year end of \$369 million included within 'provisions' in Note 17.1 in 2020 (2019: \$355 million) were appropriate in the circumstances.</p> <p>Challenge by KPMG: KPMG challenged management's assumptions in determining the provisions for metal-on-metal hip claims including the work of management appointed actuaries.</p>
Impairment	
<p>In carrying out impairment reviews of acquisition intangible assets, a number of significant assumptions have to be made when preparing cash flow projections. These include the future rate of market growth, discount rates, the market demand for the products acquired, the future profitability of acquired businesses or products, levels of reimbursement and success in obtaining regulatory approvals. If actual results should differ or changes in expectations arise, impairment charges may be required, which would adversely impact operating results. Additionally, the non-current assets held by the Group at 31 December 2020 have been assessed to identify any indicators of impairment as a result of COVID-19, and several downside sensitivity analyses have been undertaken.</p>	<p>Our action We reviewed management's reports on the key assumptions with respect to acquisition intangible assets – particularly the forecast future cash flows and discount rates used to make these calculations. We challenged the downside sensitivity analyses undertaken. We concluded that the carrying value of these assets is appropriately supported by the cash flow projections. We have also considered the disclosure surrounding these reviews, and concluded that the review and disclosure were appropriate.</p> <p>Challenge by KPMG: KPMG challenged management on the impairment conclusions and the basis of the assessment with a particular focus on the recently completed Osiris acquisition.</p>

Other matters related to the financial statements

As well as the identified significant matters, other matters that the Audit Committee considered during 2020 were:

Going concern

The uncertainty as to the future impact on the financial performance and cash flows of the Group as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic has been considered as part of the adoption of the going concern basis in these financial statements.

We reviewed three-year projections as part of the Group's Strategic Plan, and also more detailed cash flow scenarios to 31 December 2022 for going concern purposes and concurred with management that the continued adoption of the going concern basis is appropriate.

Taxation

The Group operates in numerous tax jurisdictions around the world and is subject to factors that may affect future tax charges. We annually review policies and approve the principles for management of tax risks. We review quarterly reports from management evaluating the existing tax profile, tax risks and tax provisions. Based on a thorough report from management of tax liabilities and our challenge of the basis of any tax provisions recorded, we concluded that the levels of provisions and disclosures were appropriate.

Trade receivables

We received reports from management assessing the impact of COVID-19 on the expected credit loss allowance against trade receivables. Current and expected collection of trade receivables since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic has been reflected in country-specific expected credit loss models on a reasonable and supportable basis where possible, taking into account macroeconomic factors such as government support. We concur with management that the expected recoverability of trade receivables balances has been reflected in the expected credit loss allowance.

Post-retirement benefits

The Group has post-retirement defined benefit pension schemes, which require estimation in setting the assumptions. We received a report from management setting out their proposed assumptions for the UK and US schemes and concurred with management that these assumptions were appropriate.

Since the year end

Since the year end we have also reviewed the results for the full year 2020, Annual Report and Accounts for 2020, and have concluded that they are fair, balanced and understandable. In coming to this conclusion, we have considered the description of the Group's strategy and key risks, the key elements of the business model, which is set out on pages 16–17, risks and the key performance indicators and their link to the strategy.

External auditor

Independence of external auditor

Following a competitive tender in 2014, KPMG was appointed external auditor of the Company in 2015. We are satisfied that KPMG are fully independent from the Company's management and free from conflicts of interest. Our Auditor Independence Policy, which ensures that this independence is maintained, is available on the Company's website.

We believe that the implementation of this policy helps ensure that auditor objectivity and independence is safeguarded. The policy also governs our approach when we require our external auditor to carry out non-audit services, and all such services are strictly governed by this policy.

The Auditor Independence Policy also governs the policy regarding audit partner rotation with the expectation that the audit partner will rotate at least every five years. Kamran Walji became the Company's Audit Partner with effect from 1 January 2019, following the five-year tenure of Stephen Oxley on 31 December 2019. The Audit Committee confirms it has complied with the provision of the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) Order 2014.

Effectiveness of external auditor

We conducted a review into the effectiveness of the external audit as part of the 2020 year end process, in-line with previous years. We sought the views of key members of the finance management team, considered the feedback from this process and shared it with management.

During the year, we also considered the inspection reports from the Audit Oversight Board in the UK and determined that we were satisfied with the audit quality provided by KPMG.

The Audit Committee regularly receives feedback from KPMG, including at each meeting where management present their summary of critical accounting estimates as at each quarter end.

Overall therefore, we concluded that KPMG had carried out their audit for 2020 effectively.

The Audit Committee continues to review not only the effectiveness of the external auditor, KPMG, but also its market competitiveness.

Appointment of external auditor at Annual General Meeting

Resolutions will be put to the Annual General Meeting to be held on 14 April 2021 proposing the re-appointment of KPMG as the Company's auditor and authorising the Board to determine its remuneration, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee in accordance with the CMA Order 2014.

Disclosure of information to the auditor

In accordance with Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006, the Directors serving at the time of approving the Directors' Report confirm that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, there is no relevant audit information of which the Auditor, KPMG, is unaware and the Directors also confirm that they have taken reasonable steps to be aware of any relevant audit information and, accordingly, to establish that the Auditor is aware of such information.

Audit Committee report continued

Non-audit fees paid to the Auditor

Non-audit fees are subject to approval in-line with the Auditor Independence Policy which is reviewed annually and forms part of the Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee recognises the importance of the independence of the external auditor and ensures that the Auditor's independence should not be breached. The Audit Committee ensures that the Auditor does not receive a fee from the Company or its subsidiaries that would be deemed large enough to impact its independence or be deemed a contingent fee. The total fees for permitted non-audit services shall be no more than 70% of the average of the fees paid in the last three consecutive financial years for the statutory audits of the Company and its subsidiaries.

Any pre-approved aggregate, individual amounts up to \$25,000 may be authorised by the Group Treasurer and Senior Vice-President Group Finance respectively and amounts up to \$50,000 by the Chief Financial Officer. Any individual amount over \$50,000 must be pre-approved by the Chair of the Audit Committee. If unforeseen additional permitted services are required, or any which exceed the amounts approved, again pre-approval by the Chair of the Audit Committee is required.

The following reflects the non-audit fees incurred with KPMG in 2020, which were approved by the Chair of the Audit Committee. This fee relates to routine services provided by the Auditor in respect of the bond issue in September 2020 and was deemed by the Committee not to infringe auditor objectivity or independence.

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Audit related services	0.4	0.3

The ratio of non-audit fees to audit fees for the year ended 31 December 2020 is 0.06. The ratio of non-audit fees to audit fees for the year ended 31 December 2019 was 0.05.

Full details are shown in Note 3.2 of the Notes to the Group accounts.

Audit fees paid to the auditor

Fees for professional services provided by KPMG, the Group's independent auditor in each of the last two fiscal years, in each of the following categories were:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Audit fees	7.0	6.5
Audit related fees	0.4	0.3
Total	7.4	6.8

Internal audit

The Internal Audit team, which reports functionally to the Audit Committee, carries out risk-based reviews across the Group. These reviews examine the management of risks and controls over financial, operational, IT and transformation programme activities.

The audit team, led by the Group Head of Internal Audit, consists of appropriately qualified and experienced employees. Third parties may be engaged to support audit work as appropriate.

The Group Head of Internal Audit has direct access to, and has regular meetings with, the Audit Committee Chair and prepares formal reports for Audit Committee meetings on the activities and key findings of the function, together with the status of management's implementation of recommendations. The Audit Committee has unrestricted access to all internal audit reports, should it wish to review them.

During the year, the team completed 36 risk-based audits and reviews across the Group. These included: financial controls effectiveness reviews across the EMEA, APAC, US and LATAM regions; IT and various programme assurance reviews ranging from cybersecurity, EU MDR preparedness, IT controls effectiveness; and Group-level reviews of Enterprise Risk Management effectiveness, Shared Services operations, and benefits arising from change programmes and acquisitions. Key issues noted during reviews included the need for all controls operation to always be fully documented. Management has taken swift action to implement Internal Audit's recommendations. The team was able to continue to operate successfully during the COVID-19 pandemic. Although it was not possible to travel, extensive use was made of data extraction and analysis techniques, supplemented by documentation review and interviews.

The function carries out its work in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the Institute of Internal Auditors. Its performance is annually assessed using a structured questionnaire, allowing Non-Executive, Executive and senior management, plus the external auditor, to comment on key aspects of the function's performance. The Audit Committee, which re-approved the function's charter in December 2020, has satisfied itself that adequate, objective internal audit standards and procedures exist within the Group and that the Internal Audit function is effective.

Risk management programme

Whilst the Board is responsible for ensuring oversight of strategic risks relating to the Company, determining an appropriate level of risk appetite, and monitoring risks through a range of Board and Board Committee processes, the Audit Committee is responsible for ensuring oversight of the processes by which operational risks, relating to the Company and its operations are managed and for reviewing financial risks and the operating effectiveness of the Group's Risk Management process.

During the year, we reviewed our Risk Management processes and progress was discussed at our meetings in February, July, September and December. We approved the Risk Management programme for 2020 and monitored performance against that programme, specifically reviewing the work undertaken by the risk champions across the Group, identifying the risks which could impact their areas of our business.

The Risk Management programme in 2020 followed the updated risk management policy and manual rolled out across the Company in 2020. This programme combines a 'bottom-up' approach (whereby risks are identified within business areas by local risk champions working with their leadership teams), with a 'top-down' approach (when the Executive Committee meets as the Risk Committee to consider the risks facing the Group at an enterprise level).

Throughout the year, the Audit Committee maintained oversight of this programme. We reviewed the principal risks identified and the heat maps prepared by management showing how these risks were being managed. We considered where the risk profile was changing.

Since the year end, we have reviewed a report from the Group Head of Internal Audit into the effectiveness of the Risk Management programme throughout the year. We considered the principal risks, the actions taken by management to review those risks and the Board risk appetite in respect of each risk.

We concluded that the Risk Management process during 2020 and up to the date of approval of this Annual Report was effective. Work will continue in 2021 and beyond to continue to enhance the process.

» See pages 53–65 for further information on our Risk Management Process

Viability Statement

We also reviewed management's work in conducting a robust assessment of those risks which would threaten our business model and the future performance or liquidity of the Company, including its resilience to the threats of viability posed by those risks in severe but plausible scenarios. Management have considered various scenarios in assessing the impact of COVID-19 on future financial performance and cash flows, with the key judgement applied being the speed and sustainability of the return to a normal volume of elective procedures in key markets, including the impact of a further extended wave of restrictions on elective procedures in the first half of 2021 and the subsequent recovery. This assessment included stress and sensitivity analyses of these risks to enable us to evaluate the impact of a severe but plausible combination of risks. We then considered whether additional financing would be required in such eventualities. Based on this analysis, we recommended to the Board that it could approve and make the Viability Statement on [page 64](#).

Responsibilities of the Audit Committee

Financial accounting and reporting

- Reviewing significant financial reporting judgements and accounting policies and compliance with accounting standards.
- Ensuring the integrity of the financial statements and their compliance with UK and US statutory requirements.
- Ensuring the Annual Report and Accounts are fair, balanced and understandable and recommending their adoption by the Board.
- Monitoring announcements relating to the Group's financial performance.

Early February

- Reviewed Q4 2019 accounting and reporting matters.
- Report from KPMG on 2019 results, audit and Sarbanes-Oxley (SoX).
- Reviewed draft 2019 Annual Report, including report of the Audit Committee.
- Assessed compliance with UK and US governance requirements.

Late February

- Approved the Annual Report and Accounts for 2019, including report of the Audit Committee – confirming fair, balanced and understandable.
- Noted draft 2019 full year results announcement.
- Reviewed effectiveness of KPMG, including collation of senior stakeholders' views.
- Report from KPMG on 2019 statements – Unqualified Opinion.
- Approved letter of representation for 2019.
- Confirmed Going Concern and Viability Statement.
- Reviewed draft Q4 audited press release and Chief Financial Officer presentation.

April

- Debrief of 2019 annual report process and reviewed plan and timetable for 2020.
- Reviewed summary of Group Company audits.
- Approved Senior Finance Officers Code of Ethics.

May

- Reviewed and endorsed 2020 Q1 Trading Report, announcement and presentation, including the impact of COVID-19.
- Noted KPMG's update.

July

- Reviewed and endorsed H1 results, and announcement, considering the impact of COVID-19, including on going concern.
- Report from KPMG on H1 results.
- Approved letter of representation for H1 2020.
- Approved 2020 external audit engagement letter.

September

- Noted an update on progress in reducing the level of US receivables.

October

- Reviewed and endorsed Q3 Trading Report and announcement, including impact of COVID-19.
- Noted update from KPMG on review of Q3 Trading Report.

December

- Reviewed accounting and reporting matters for 2020, including impact of COVID-19.
- Reviewed and approved trading/non-trading policy, previously approved in February 2020.
- Reviewed 2020 Annual Report timeline and design work.
- Reviewed KPMG's Audit and Controls update, including the impact of COVID-19.

Risk management

- On behalf of the Board, reviewing and ensuring oversight of the processes by which risks are managed, through regular functional reports and presentations and reporting any issues arising out of such reviews to the Board.
- Reviewing the process undertaken and deep-dive work required to complete the Viability Statement and recommending its adoption to the Board.
- Reviewing the impact of risk management and internal controls and working closely with the Compliance & Culture Committee.
- Overseeing risk management processes (see pages 53–65 for further details).

Early February

- Risk management update.
- Review of principal risks through endorsement of Viability Statement.

July

- Received risk management update, including the impact of COVID-19.

September

- Received interim risk management update for new Chair.

December

- Received a risk management update.

Internal audit

- Agreeing Internal Audit plans and reviewing reports of Internal Audit work.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the Internal Audit function.
- Reviewing the control observations made by the Internal Auditor, the adequacy of management's response to recommendations and the status of any unremediated actions.

Late February

- Reviewed effectiveness of Internal Audit including the collation of senior stakeholders' views.

April

- Received an update on progress and the 2020 Internal Audit Plan, including the impact of COVID-19.

July

- Reviewed progress on the 2020 Internal Audit Plan, including the impact of COVID-19.

September

- Received an update on 2020 progress, including the impact of COVID-19.

December

- Reviewed progress against the Internal Audit Plan and approved 2021 Internal Audit Plan and 2021 Internal Audit Charter.

External auditor

- Overseeing the Board's relationship with the external auditor.
- Monitoring and reviewing the independence and performance of the external auditor and evaluating their effectiveness.
- Making recommendations to the Board for the appointment or re-appointment of the external auditor.
- Monitoring and approving the external auditor's fees.

Early February

- Approved 2019 external audit fees.
- Noted independence of KPMG.

Late February

- Reviewed effectiveness and independence and concluded their effectiveness.

April

- Noted external audit plan.
- Approved external auditor fees for 2020.

July

- Approved engagement letter for 2020.
- Noted external audit plan updates.

October

- Approved KPMG 2020 fee schedule.

Internal controls

- Monitoring the effectiveness of internal controls and compliance with the UK Corporate Governance Code 2018 and the SoX Act, specifically sections 302 and 404.
- Reviewing the operation of the Group's risk mitigation processes and the control environment over financial risk.

Early February

- Considered SoX 2019 audit process and MAPs update.

Late February

- Reviewed effectiveness of Internal Controls over financial reporting and SoX.
- Reviewed S302 and S906 certifications.

April

- Considered SoX and MAPs Planning for 2020 including S404 scope.

July

- Reviewed new process for the completion of SoX and MAPs year end work, including the impact of COVID-19.

September

- Considered SoX and MAPs progress.

October

- Reviewed update on IT controls.

December

- Considered SoX and MAPs progress, including the impact of COVID-19.

Fraud & whistle-blowing

- Receiving reports on the processes in place to prevent fraud and to enable whistle-blowing.
- If significant, receive and review reports of potential fraud or whistle-blowing incidents. Reviewed Internal Audit report on fraud.

Early February

- Reviewed year end report, including fraud.

Other matters

Early February

- Approved 2019 external non-audit fees.

Late February

- Noted consulting fees to PwC, EY and Deloitte for 2019.
- Approved Terms of Reference.

April

- Noted appointment of Rick Medlock as Independent Non-Executive Director and Chair Elect of the Committee and resignation of Graham Baker, Chief Financial Officer.
- Received treasury, pensions, insurance and covenant updates.
- Cybersecurity update.
- Project APEX update.
- Approved the Company's policy and report on Conflict Minerals for submission to NYSE.

July

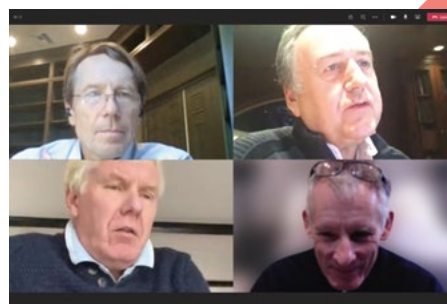
- Noted appointment of Anne-Françoise Nesmes, Chief Financial Officer.
- Approved non-audit fees in relation to the Company's bond issue.

September

- Noted the appointment of Rick Medlock as Chair of the Committee.
- Update on tax matters.
- Update on cybersecurity, including impact of COVID-19.
- Project reports including APEX.

December

- Received updates on cybersecurity, inventory, including impact of COVID-19 Sustainability, TCFD, the Integra acquisition and the Finance Talent Review.



“

I should like to thank Robin Freestone for his smooth handover to me. We value his historical knowledge of the Company and the Committee.”

Rick Medlock
Chair of the
Audit Committee

Responsibilities of the Audit Committee continued

Going concern

The Group's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the financial review and principal risks on [pages 20–23](#) and [53–65](#).

The financial position of the Group, its cash flows, liquidity position and borrowing facilities are described on [page 20–23](#).

In addition, the Notes to the Group accounts include the Group's objectives, policies and processes for managing its capital; its financial risk management objectives; details of its financial instruments and hedging activities; and its exposure to credit risk and liquidity risk.

The Group has considerable financial resources and its customers and suppliers are diversified across different geographic areas. As a consequence, the Directors believe that the Group is well placed to manage its business risk successfully despite the ongoing uncertain economic outlook.

The uncertainty as to the future impact on the financial performance and cash flows of the Group as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic has been considered as part of the adoption of the going concern basis in these financial statements. The Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis for accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

Management also believes that the Group has sufficient working capital for its present requirements.

Evaluation of internal controls

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rule 13a–15(f) and 15d–15(f) under the US Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

There is an established system of internal control throughout the Group and our country business units. The main elements of the internal control framework are:

- The management of each country and Group function is responsible for the establishment, maintenance and review of effective financial controls within their business unit or function.
- The Group's IT organisation is responsible for the establishment of effective IT controls within the core financial systems and underlying IT infrastructure.
- The Financial Controls & Compliance Group has responsibility for the review of the effectiveness of controls operating in the countries, functions and IT organisation, either by performing testing directly; reviewing testing performed in-country; or utilising a qualified third party to perform this management testing on its behalf.
- The Group Finance Manual sets out financial and accounting policies, and is updated regularly. The Group's Minimum Acceptable Practices (MAPs) were updated in 2020 with a new manual. The business is required to self-assess their level of compliance with the MAPs on a regular basis and remediate any gaps.
- MAPs compliance is validated through spot-checks conducted by the Financial Controls & Compliance Group and during both Internal Audit and external audit visits. The technology solution to facilitate the real time monitoring of the operation and testing of controls has been partially implemented in 2020 and this will be completed in 2021.
- There are clearly defined lines of accountability and delegations of authority.
- The Internal Audit function executes a risk-based annual work plan, as approved by the Audit Committee.
- The Audit Committee reviews reports from Internal Audit on their findings on internal financial controls, including compliance with MAPs and from the SVP Group Finance and the heads of the Financial Controls & Compliance, Taxation and Treasury functions.
- The Audit Committee reviews regular reports from the Financial Controls & Compliance Group with regard to compliance with the SoX Act including the scope and results of management's testing and progress regarding any remediation, as well as the aggregated results of MAPs self-assessments performed by the business.
- Business continuity planning, including preventative and contingency measures, back-up capabilities and the purchase of insurance.
- Risk management policies and procedures including segregation of duties, transaction authorisation, monitoring, financial and managerial review and comprehensive reporting and analysis against approved standards and budgets.
- A treasury operating framework and Group treasury team, accountable for all treasury activities, which establishes policies and manages liquidity and financial risks, including foreign exchange, interest rate and counterparty exposures. Treasury policies, risk limits and monitoring procedures are reviewed regularly by the Audit Committee, or the Finance & Banking Committee, on behalf of the Board.
- Our published Group tax strategy which details our approach to tax risk management and governance, tax compliance, tax planning, the level of tax risk we are prepared to accept and how we deal with tax authorities, which is reviewed by the Audit Committee on behalf of the Board.
- The Audit Committee reviews the Group whistle-blower procedures to ensure they are effective.
- The Audit Committee continued to receive and review reports on the progress of the Finance Transformation element of the APEX programme during 2020 and the mitigation of the associated risks.

This system of internal control has been designed to manage rather than eliminate material risks to the achievement of our strategic and business objectives and can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. Because of inherent limitation, our internal controls over financial reporting may not prevent or detect all misstatements. In addition, our projections of any evaluation of effectiveness in future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate. Entities where the Company does not hold a controlling interest have their own processes of internal controls.

We have reviewed the system of internal financial control and satisfied ourselves that we are meeting the required standards both for the year ended 31 December 2020 and up to the date of approval of this Annual Report. No concerns were raised with us in 2020 regarding possible improprieties in matters of financial reporting.

This process complies with the FRC's 'Guidance on Risk Management, Internal Control and Related Financial and Business Reporting' under the UK Corporate Governance Code and additionally contributes to our compliance with the obligations under the SoX Act and other internal assurance activities. There has been no change during the period covered by this Annual Report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Group's internal control over financial reporting.

The Board is responsible overall for reviewing and approving the adequacy and effectiveness of the risk management framework and the system of internal controls over financial, operational (including quality management and ethical compliance) processes operated by the Group. The Board has delegated responsibility for this review to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee, through its Internal Audit function, reviews the adequacy and effectiveness of internal control procedures and identifies any significant weaknesses and ensures these are remediated within agreed timelines. The latest review covered the financial

year to 31 December 2020 and included the period up to the approval of this Annual Report. The main elements of this review are as follows:

- The Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Group's disclosure controls and procedures as at 31 December 2020. Based upon the evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded on 18 February 2021 that the disclosure controls and procedures were effective as at 31 December 2020.
- Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Management assessed the effectiveness of the Group's internal control over financial reporting as at 31 December 2020 in accordance with the requirements in the US under section 404 of the SoX Act. In making that assessment, they used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organisations of the Treadway Commission in Internal Control-Integrated Framework (2013). Based on their assessment, management concluded and reported that, as at 31 December 2020, the Group's internal control over financial reporting was effective based on those criteria. Having received the report from management, the Audit Committee reports to the Board on the effectiveness of controls. KPMG, an independent registered public accounting firm, audited the financial statements included in the 2020 Annual Report, containing the disclosure required by this item, issued an attestation report on the Group's internal control over financial reporting as at 31 December 2020.

Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers

We have adopted a Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers, which applies to the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, the SVP Group Finance and the Group's senior financial officers. There have been no waivers to any of the Code's provisions nor have there been any substantive amendments to the Code during 2020 or up until 18 February 2021. A copy of the Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers can be found on our website at www.smith-nephew.com.

In addition, every individual in the finance function certifies to the Chief Financial Officer that they have complied with the Finance Code of Conduct.

Evaluation of composition, performance and effectiveness of the Audit Committee

The composition, performance and effectiveness of the Audit Committee was evaluated this year in accordance with the EU Audit Reform. Its effectiveness is also reviewed in conjunction with the annual Board evaluation, conducted internally by the Senior Independent Director.

The review by the Audit Committee found the following:

Composition	Rick Medlock has now been appointed as Chair, with further recent and relevant financial experience.
Performance & Effectiveness	The Audit Committee, performs well. A new Chair brings fresh ideas. An efficient use of time and high quality information is provided.

Compliance & Culture Committee report



Membership

	Member from	Meetings attended
Marc Owen (Chair)	March 2018	4/4
Vinita Bali ¹	April 2015	4/4
Virginia Bottomley ²	April 2019	4/4
Angie Risley ³	8 April 2020	3/3
Bob White ⁴	27 July 2020	2/2

- 1 Vinita Bali retired from the Board and the Committee on 31 December 2020, after 6 years' service.
- 2 Virginia Bottomley is due to retire from the Board and the Committee at the Annual General Meeting on 14 April 2021, after 9 years' service.
- 3 Angie Risley joined the Committee on 8 April 2020.
- 4 Bob White joined the Committee on 27 July 2020.

“

Our virtual Board/employee listening sessions give us valuable insight into what is important for our employees.”

Marc Owen

Chair of the Compliance & Culture Committee

The Terms of Reference for the Compliance & Culture Committee describe the role and responsibilities of this Committee more fully and can be found on our website at www.smith-nephew.com.

In 2020, we held four meetings. Each meeting was attended by all members of the Committee. The Company Secretary, the Chief Legal & Compliance Officer and the Chief Quality & Regulatory Affairs Officer, Chief HR Officer, President of Global Operations, responsible for Sustainability and Deputy Company Secretary also attended all or part of the meetings by invitation.

The Committee had expected 2020 to be the year that we fully began our journey of listening to the Employee Voice in accordance with the 2018 Code. Though the global pandemic forced us to adapt our plans, our progress continued. We did manage to have one physical Board/employee listening session at our Watford site in February before further global lockdowns. Even though we could not conduct face-to-face Board/employee listening sessions from March 2020, we continued with our programme virtually. Physically meeting people cannot be underestimated, but the virtual setting worked well. We had calls with a number of employees globally in APAC, Germany, EMEA and the US, whilst Vinita Bali held a call with employees across EMEA. Interestingly, the themes from these sessions were consistent and the learnings we have described later in this report.

At each meeting of the Committee, we continued to note and consider the activities of compliance and enforcement agencies (an important stakeholder of Smith+Nephew) and investigation of any possible improprieties. At every meeting a report on the Quality and Regulatory Affairs (Q/RA) function was provided along with updates of product complaint trends, particular focus was given to topics including the impact of Brexit and the EU MDR framework.

The Conflict Minerals filing was noted and The Modern Slavery Statement was approved. During 2020 management reviewed Smith+Nephew's partners to ensure they were aligned with our own roadmap for Modern Slavery. An in-depth review of compliance training was also provided. With some employees unable to complete their usual work due to the impact of COVID-19, Smith+Nephew took the opportunity to roll out training to its employees on compliance and Smith+Nephew's code of conduct.

In addition, our Chief HR Officer was able to share the high level results of the Gallup survey, discussed further on page 28 and the actions from that survey. She also provided an insight into how employees and stakeholders were living the Smith+Nephew culture during COVID-19.

Sustainability has been a focus for the Committee during 2020 and this will continue in 2021 with reporting in-line with the TCFD framework being a focus for 2021 for our Audit Committee. The President of Global Operations, responsible for Sustainability and Director of Sustainability provided updates on the Sustainability Engagement Plan and priorities or areas of focus by investors and customers. The sustainability strategy, including performance against its 2020 targets was also reviewed by the Committee. The impact of COVID-19 had meant some of these targets were yet to be met, but good progress has been made in the last year and monitoring the performance of the sustainability strategy will be an area of focus for the Committee during 2021.

Oversight of quality & regulatory matters

Product safety and effectiveness is at the heart of our business. Regulatory authorities across the world enforce a complex series of laws and regulations that govern the design, development, approval, manufacture, labelling, marketing and sale of healthcare products. During the year, we received summary reports and provided oversight regarding the general quality and regulatory activities of our business. At each meeting, we received a report on quality and regulatory matters from the Chief Quality & Regulatory Affairs Officer.

We reviewed the results of external regulatory inspections and audits conducted by the FDA and other regulatory agencies. We also reviewed results of internal quality audits and key performance metrics associated with critical quality and regulatory compliance processes. We received reports regarding work being undertaken to prepare our manufacturing and design sites for future inspections, and also received updates on the important efforts to ensure compliance with the EU Medical Device Regulation. During the year we also reviewed progress in areas of focus such as vigilance reporting, acquisition integrations, global regulatory agency interactions and improvements to the Global Quality Framework.

Oversight of ethics & compliance

The sustainability of our business depends on 'Doing the right thing'. During the year, we oversaw the ethics and compliance activities of our business. At each meeting we received a report on ethics and compliance matters from the Chief Legal & Compliance Officer.

We regularly review our compliance programme as it relates to healthcare professionals and third party sellers (such as distributors and sales agents), particularly in higher risk markets. For healthcare professionals, this includes policies, training and certification for employees and sales agents, as well as approval of consulting services and grants and fellowships. For distributors and other high risk third parties, our programme includes screening, contracts with compliance terms, compliance training and certification, site assessments to check compliance controls and monitoring visits to review books and records.

We ensure that comprehensive due diligence is carried out prior to an acquisition and we ensure that following acquisitions new businesses are integrated rapidly into the Smith+Nephew compliance programme.

We oversee the employee compliance training programme, ensuring that all new employees are trained on our Code of Conduct, which sets out our basic legal and ethical principles for conducting business. We also oversee and receive updates on the Company's Privacy programme.

We are updated on significant calls made to our whistle-blower line, which enables employees and members of the public to contact us anonymously through an independent provider (where allowed by local law) and are updated on allegations of potentially significant improprieties and the Company's response.

Oversight of culture

During 2020, the Company built on its core purpose of Life Unlimited, and with this, supporting culture pillars of Care, Collaboration and Courage. Together with our new strategic imperatives, these have created greater alignment across our business and stronger understanding by employees of their role in supporting our collective success.

The Internal Audit department will now embed an assessment of culture into its reports as a further input of the Committee.

The Committee was provided with regular updates from the Chief HR Officer throughout 2020 on culture. From Q2 2020, this included updates on the impact of COVID-19 upon our employees, customers and suppliers. The Chief HR Officer outlined the communication methods and messaging used by management to these key stakeholders, who were informed and engaged during this unprecedented time. Live global employee webcasts continued, led by our Chief Executive Officer and members of the executive team, were welcomed by employees. The Committee was given an overview of their content.

Our 2020 Gallup global employee survey results were shared with the Committee. These results, which allow Smith+Nephew to benchmark against similar companies in our industry, showed marked improvement over the previous year indicating improved levels of engagement across the Company.

The Board and management are proud of these results. Together with the Board/employee listening sessions conducted during the year, the survey results give the Committee useful information from the employee perspective. From the Board/employee listening sessions, the Committee concluded that:

- Employees have a strong affinity with the business, Company, purpose and culture pillars.
- Care and Collaboration were well understood but more work could be done on embedding Courage in the organisation.

During the year it became clear that the impact of COVID-19 would result in a 'new normal' across our markets and in workplaces worldwide. A specific programme was initiated to determine what this would mean for Smith+Nephew, and the Committee was provided updates on this regularly. This work included requesting feedback from employees on new working practices. The Committee was pleased that 7,000 employees responded to this request.

During the year, the Chief HR Officer also informed the Committee about the expansion of Smith+Nephew's Inclusion and Diversity strategy, in particular work to acknowledge racial injustice, spurred by events in the US. The Committee received updates on the 'Standing Together@Smith+Nephew' programme, which focused on increasing ethnic diversity and leadership training on unconscious bias being addressed through courageous conversations.

For specific issues where employees may not feel comfortable articulating their views we have a whistleblowing policy and confidential line, as discussed above.

The Committee has had good oversight on Culture, and indeed Sustainability during this challenging year. The Board/employee listening sessions have been beneficial for all involved, supported by dialogue between executive management and Committee members. The journey will continue and further progress will be made in 2021.

Compliance & Culture Committee report continued

Sustainability

We regularly review management's sustainability programme to ensure alignment with our stakeholders' expectations and monitor management's actions taken against our targets.

In April, the Committee was updated on Smith+Nephew's slightly altered products targets:

- We changed 30% recycled content in 'all' packaging materials to 30% recycled content in 'non-sterile' packaging materials based on the ISO standard for medical device packaging; and
- We added a target around sustainable sourcing. We were also provided with an in-depth comparison of our investor and customer priorities and our strategy and targets and how these are connected.

In October, the Committee reviewed how Smith+Nephew's sustainability strategy ties into Grow + Together + Effectively through our strategic imperative of Becoming the Best Owner and our culture pillars.

In addition detailed actions taken towards reaching Smith+Nephew's sustainability targets, an update on a pilot safety programme in Commercial, with highlights/ additional actions in progress were also monitored by the Committee during 2020.

Our focus for 2021 will include:

- Widening the programme of Board/ employee listening sessions to enable the Board to further monitor and assess the corporate culture in other jurisdictions. Some of the newer Committee members to be involved with such sessions.
- Monitor the actions taken by management following 2020's Board/employee listening sessions.
- Review further employee feedback gathered through the annual survey and other mechanisms to ensure the Board is aware of employees' views and any actions required by management from that feedback. Recent survey results are discussed on [page 28](#).
- Continued oversight of the Company's sustainability programme, including targets and monitor its roll-out to the organisation which was impacted by COVID-19 during 2020.
- Formulate a programme for the Committee and Board to meet and receive direct feedback from our other stakeholders.
- Ensure stakeholder considerations are further embedded into many of the Board's decisions.

This year was my second report to you as Chair of the Compliance & Culture Committee. Even though our progress was slightly impacted by COVID-19, we're proud of the work undertaken and the valuable insights shared by our employees. These sessions provided further colour around the Gallup global employee survey and we enjoyed meeting Smith+Nephew's talent. We hope 2021 will provide an opportunity to continue our work with stakeholders, monitor the impressive work our management team continues to do on culture and oversee the attainment of key milestones with our sustainability programme.



Marc Owen

Chair of the Compliance & Culture Committee

Responsibilities of the Compliance & Culture Committee

Compliance

- Overseeing ethics and compliance programmes, strategies and plans.
- Monitoring ethics and compliance process improvements and enhancements.
- Assessing compliance performance based on monitoring, auditing and internal and external investigations data.
- Reviewing allegations of significant potential compliance issues.
- Receiving reports from the Chief Legal & Compliance Officer.

February

- Approval of the Modern Slavery Statement for the year ended 31 December 2019.
- Received a Legal & Compliance Report update.

April

- Noted conflict mineral report.
- Received a Legal & Compliance Report update, including a review of the compliance training and new effectiveness measures.

July

- Received a Legal & Compliance Report update, including a follow up report on the results of the Internal Audit of the Compliance Validation Assignments (CVA) programme.

October

- Received a Legal & Compliance Report including, update on the progress of the annual code of conduct certification.

Culture

- Oversight of our relationship with stakeholders, including the employee voice and sustainability.
- Receiving and assessing regular functional reports and presentations from the Chief Human Resources Officer.

February

- Received an update on the Company's culture.
- Noted updates from the Board/employee listening session held at the Watford, UK site.

April

- Noted impact of COVID-19 on the Company from a cultural perspective.

July

- Received an update on the Company's culture including a review of the Engagement Survey results and noted the focus for the next steps.
- Noted the inclusion and diversity strategy.
- Noted the actions taken by management in relation to its stakeholders due to COVID-19, which had been linked back to the Company culture pillars of Care, Collaboration and Courage.
- Received an update on how the Board listening sessions would continue virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic.

October

- Received Governance update on recent developments likely to impact the work of the Committee noting the increasing focus on culture and purpose, climate change and sustainability and stakeholder engagement.
- Received an update on the Company culture and roadmap.
- Addressed next steps in Company's employee engagement plan.
- Update on three virtual Board/employee listening sessions with members of the Committee held in Germany, EMEA and APAC.

Quality and Regulatory Affairs (Q/RA)

- Overseeing the processes by which regulatory and quality risks relating to the Company and its operations are identified and managed.
- Receiving and assessing regular functional reports and presentations from the Chief Quality & Regulatory Affairs Officer.

February

- Reviewed Quality & Regulatory report noting status of various Quality and Regulatory metrics and initiatives.

April

- Reviewed Quality & Regulatory report noting status of various quality and regulatory metrics and initiatives including updates on audit results, EU MDR.

July

- Reviewed Quality & Regulatory report noting status of various quality and regulatory metrics and initiatives.

October

- Reviewed the Global Quality & Regulatory report, including an update on the impact of Brexit and the MHRA framework guidance.

Sustainability

- Overseeing the sustainability strategy and reviewing targets.
- Receiving and assessing regular functional reports from the President Operations & GBS.

February

- Received an update on the Company's sustainability framework.

April

- Received an update on sustainability.

October

- Reviewed sustainability strategy, including purpose, vision and metrics.

Other Matters

February

- Approved updated Terms of Reference.

July

- Noted the appointment of Angie Risley on 8 April 2020 and Bob White on 27 July 2020 to the Committee.



“During 2021, we will develop ways of listening to other stakeholders as well as our employees.”

Marc Owen
Chair of the Compliance & Culture Committee

Our approach to stakeholders

Directors' duties

In accordance with section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 and the UK Corporate Governance Code 2018, the Board considers the potential impact on the Company's key stakeholders and takes their views and interests into account when making decisions. All Board papers requiring a Board decision include a section discussing the potential impact on our key stakeholders and how that decision links into our business model and strategic imperatives where appropriate. The Board also takes the opportunity to engage with our stakeholders, as appropriate. Whilst this has been challenging during 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual arrangements have been made where possible. Direct engagement with our stakeholders supplements the information provided in formal Board presentations and enriches the context for our decisions.

Strategic report

Governance

Accounts

Other information

Investors

Our equity investors are the owners of our business and it is important for us to understand their perspectives on capital allocation and how the Company is run.

Areas of interest

- Strategy.
- Performance.
- Dividend.
- Leadership.
- Succession planning.
- Remuneration.

How we engage

- The Chair and Non-Executive Directors are available to meet with investors physically or virtually on request.
- The Board receives reports on meetings taking place between investors and Board members and also reviews significant changes to the share register at each Board meeting.
- Board members receive regular copies of analyst reports.
- The Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer meet with investors.

2020 Highlights

- Executive Directors held 81 meetings with investors representing 51.72% of the Company's Share Capital. 47 of these meetings were held virtually. Main topics for discussion related to performance throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and strategies for recovery.
- Roberto Quarta and Marc Owen met with shareholders. Their discussions included topics such as ESG, culture, product quality, business ethics, cybersecurity, climate change, governance and Board changes. We have seen increased interest from shareholders in stakeholder engagement and Board oversight of such matters.
- Unable to meet retail shareholders at 2020 AGM due to COVID-19 pandemic and therefore provided opportunity for shareholders to submit questions ahead of the meeting, which were addressed in an audio call following the formal meeting.
- We welcomed bond investors as new investors at the time of our bond issue in October 2020. In the lead up to this bond issue, members of management, including the Chief Financial Officer, met virtually with a potential 102 bond investors through 11 group meetings.
- Continued to pay dividends in spite of COVID-19 impact upon our business. Only paid following rigorous stress testing, but considered important to our shareholders, whilst balancing against the needs of all our stakeholders.

2021 Actions

- **The Board will continue to be available to meet with shareholders. Please contact the Company Secretary, if you have matters you wish to raise with the Non-Executive team.**
- **The 2021 Annual General Meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting. Shareholders are discouraged from attending in person due to ongoing concerns around the COVID-19 pandemic, but the meeting will be live streamed, enabling shareholders to attend, vote and ask questions remotely, in-line with the guidance from the FRC and feedback from shareholders.**

Employees

Our employees are crucial to the success of the business and many of the key decisions made by the Board have an impact on them. Our fourth strategic imperative is to strengthen talent and capability. It is therefore important for us to understand the employee perspective and take their views into account. We believe that an engaged workforce is better for business.

Areas of interest

- Talent.
- Engagement with purpose of Life Unlimited and our culture pillars of Care, Collaboration and Courage.
- Innovation.
- Society and the environment.
- Strategy.
- Customers.

How we engage

- The Board discusses results and next steps of annual Gallup survey.
- Updates on culture, people, inclusion & diversity at every Compliance & Culture Committee meeting.
- The Board meets with employees on-site visits, or virtually.
- Board/employee listening sessions.

2020 Highlights

- The Board focused on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on employees' safety and wellbeing.
- Board oversight of management's response to ethnic diversity.
- One physical Board/employee listening session held prior to COVID-19 related restrictions.
- Four further Board/employee listening sessions held virtually.
- Significant improvement in Gallup survey results.

2021 Actions

- Additional Board/employee listening sessions, returning to physical meetings as soon as practicable.
- Continued monitoring of management actions relating to culture, inclusion & diversity, with specific focus on the management response on ethnic diversity.

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» 28 People

Engaging with our Employees

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» People page 28



In February, Marc Owen visited our Head Office in Watford, UK and met with a number of employees. He discussed the Company purpose with employees and listened to how the three culture pillars were embedded. He also toured our Expert Connect Centre, where we train surgeons and sat in on a number of customer service calls.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we held virtual Board/employee listening sessions. Marc Owen hosted virtual meetings with employees across the APAC region and from the DACH (Germany, Austria, Switzerland) region.

Vinita Bali also hosted a virtual session with EMEA employees.

In each of these sessions, employees were interested to learn about the role of the Board and to talk about the issues, which interested them including: inclusion & diversity; and the impact of COVID-19.

Marc Owen hosted a virtual session with employees in Memphis, where the main focus was on our Standing Together initiative.

These discussions give the Board greater insight into what is happening in the Company, a hands-on understanding as to how well the culture pillars,

particularly Care and Collaboration, are being embedded across the organisation and gives us the employee context for when we later make decisions which will impact our employees. These discussions have not led to specific decisions at Board level, but have added a new perspective to our discussions and highlighted the need for increased focus on the culture pillar of Courage. In addition, it has provided an opportunity for our employees to better understand the role of the Board and reinforces the Board's commitment to our culture pillars and connects the Board directly with our employees and what is important to them.

“

Board/employee listening sessions give us additional insight into what is happening in the Company and adds a new perspective to the Board presentations.”

Marc Owen
Chair of Compliance & Culture Committee

Customers and suppliers

Our business model creates value through customer centricity. The better we understand the needs of our customers, the better we are able to serve them and this helps to grow our business. Working in partnership with our suppliers ensures we have the right resources to support this growth.

Areas of interest

- Acting in partnership together, supporting their needs and responding to their requirements.
- Acting ethically and fairly.
- Ensuring product quality, compliant with regulations.
- Prompt and fair payment.

How we engage

- Updates on product quality, regulatory matters and complaints.
- Updates on ethical and compliance matters and complaints.
- The Board meets with key customers such as surgeons and leading hospital administrators during site visits and virtually.
- The Board receives regular updates on supplier and customer relationships.
- Individual Board members accompany sales representatives visiting customers.

2020 Highlights

- The Board and Audit Committee received updates on Brexit and management plans to ensure as smooth a transition as possible.
- The Compliance & Culture Committee received regular reports on the transition to EU MDR, effective 26 May 2021.
- The Board met with a leading robotics surgeon as part of an R&D presentation on our new CORI platform.
- Site visits and accompanying sales representatives have generally not been possible during 2020.
- In January 2020 Marc Owen spent a day with a Sports Medicine sales representative in Los Angeles.
- The Compliance & Culture Committee received regular reports on how customers were being communicated with during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Board was made aware by management that suppliers' payments would not be delayed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

2021 Actions

- Board will meet with more surgeons and hospitals, when physical meetings are again possible.
- Board members will resume programme of spending time with sales representatives in the field.

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Our response to COVID-19



At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board discussed our response. We were clear that putting our stakeholders first would ensure that we got through the crisis together:

- The health and safety of our **employees** was our utmost priority. Safe working practices were immediately implemented in our factories and our offices switched to predominantly home based working.
- We wanted to play our part to support the fight against COVID-19 to support our **customers and patients**. Our factory in Hull worked on the ventilator project and pioneered the Bump system whilst our factory in Memphis made face shields.
- We chose not to lay off or furlough any **employees**. Instead, we provided paid leave for employees who are registered healthcare professionals to volunteer their time in healthcare systems across the world, whilst others were focused on training

and medical education to prepare for recovery.

- Mindful of our **shareholders**, we maintained our dividend payment whilst suspending the small buy-back programme to retain cash. We also strengthened our balance sheet by making our first bond issue.
- We worked with and supported if needed our **suppliers** to ensure that relationships were maintained throughout the crisis.

The Board believes that by focusing on the needs of our stakeholders during the crisis, we have put the Company in the best position for all of us to succeed after the pandemic passes.



From day one, our response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been to put our stakeholders first."

Roberto Quarta
Chair

>> You can read about these actions in more detail on pages 10–13

Governments and regulators

We are subject to the laws and regulations of many governments and regulators across the world and understanding their requirements is important for us to ensure not only product safety and compliance with relevant legislation, but in-line with our first strategic imperative to achieve the full potential of our portfolio.

Areas of interest

- Product safety.
- Compliance with local legal regulatory requirements.
- Competition issues.
- Social and economic concerns.

How we engage

- Management is responsible for ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations and direct engagement between the Board and our regulators is therefore not always appropriate.
- Updates on product quality, regulatory matters and complaints at every Compliance & Culture Committee meeting.
- Updates on ethical and compliance matters and complaints at every Compliance & Culture Committee meeting.
- The Chief Executive Officer met with the UK government and regulators.

2020 Highlights

- Marc Owen participated in a Financial Reporting Council Research Project into approaches to workplace engagement.
- Roberto Quarta participated in a Financial Reporting Council Research Project into Boardroom Dynamics.
- The Board considered the recommendations of the Financial Reporting Council on Annual General Meetings and decided to hold the 2021 meeting as a hybrid meeting.
- The Board supported management's decision to work with the UK government developing ventilators for patients with COVID-19.
- The Board were regularly updated on the impact of Brexit upon Smith+Nephew's regulators and notified bodies.

2021 Actions

- **The Board and the Compliance & Culture Committee will continue to maintain oversight of all matters pertaining to the Company's relationship with governments and regulators across the world through regular updates.**

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Further information about our relationship with other stakeholders including the local communities in which we operate and our impact on the environment and the impact of climate change on our business can be found in our Sustainability Report and on pages 24–27. The Compliance & Culture Committee regularly receives updates on our sustainability programme and our progress towards the achievement of our 2030 sustainability goals.

The Directors' Report, prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the UK Listing Authority's Listing Rules comprising pages 1–137 and 227–241, was approved by the Board on 18 February 2021.

Susan M Swabey

Susan Swabey
Company Secretary

Directors' Remuneration report



Membership

	Member from	Meetings attended
Angie Risley (Chair)	September 2017	6/6
Vinita Bali ¹	April 2015	6/6
Virginia Bottomley ²	April 2014	6/6
Robin Freestone	September 2015	6/6
Roberto Quarta	April 2014	6/6
Bob White ³	28 July 2020	3/3

- 1 Vinita Bali retired from the Board and the Committee on 31 December 2020.
- 2 Virginia Bottomley will retire from the Board and the Committee at the Annual General Meeting on 14 April 2021.
- 3 Bob White joined the Committee on 28 July 2020.



We are hugely impressed by the extraordinary efforts made by employees and management alike across the organisation.”

Angie Risley
Chair of the Remuneration Committee

Dear Shareholder,

2020 was an extraordinary year for us all. Elsewhere in this Annual Report, you will read about the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic had on our business during 2020 and how management and the Board responded to that impact, placing our employees and other stakeholders at the heart of that response. The Remuneration Committee has been hugely impressed by the extraordinary efforts made by employees and management alike across the organisation. These efforts have focused primarily on the safety of our employees and our customers and also ensured that the Company is ready for the recovery when it comes.

During the year, the Remuneration Committee focused on implementing the Remuneration Policy approved by over 97% of the shareholders who voted at the 2020 Annual General Meeting, whilst considering how the pay of our Executive Directors and other employees would be impacted by the business performance as a result of the impact of COVID-19.

We give a warm welcome to Anne-Françoise Nesmes, our new Chief Financial Officer, who joined us in July 2020 and is already making a positive impact.

Review of 2020 Performance

During the year, the Company performed significantly below our expectations at the beginning of the year. Full year revenue was \$4.6 billion, which was down -11.2% on a reported basis, reflecting the impact of COVID-19 on our business through the year,

with a significant recovery in the second half. Trading profit was \$683 million, down -42%.

The impact of COVID-19 was most pronounced on our Orthopaedic Reconstruction, Sports Medicine and ENT businesses, driven by lower levels of elective surgery. Our Advanced Wound Management and Trauma businesses remained more resilient. Overall, revenue from our Orthopaedics franchise declined -13.7%, Sports Medicine & ENT was down -13.2% and AWM down -5.1% on a reported basis.

Across the year, the US, our largest market globally, was down -8.3%. Emerging Markets revenue was down -19.4%.

While the COVID-19 pandemic was a headwind through the year, the resilience of our business, and the strength of our balance sheet means that we're able to maintain our progressive dividend policy.

Performance against targets

We approved the financial targets for the performance conditions for both the Annual Bonus Plan 2020 and the Performance Share Plan 2020 in February before the full global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic was realised and inevitably our financial performance has fallen well behind these targets. The Remuneration Committee monitored performance against these targets and also against the targets under the 2018 Performance Share Programme throughout the year. Aligning pay for performance is an important principle in our remuneration strategy and the Remuneration Committee therefore agreed that it would not be appropriate to adjust these targets to reflect the significantly changed market conditions.

Annual Bonus Plan

Therefore, under the Annual Bonus Plan 2020, the financial targets remained as determined in February 2020. Both revenue growth and trading profit margin were below these targets and therefore there was no payout in respect of the financial targets under this plan.

The Remuneration Committee reviewed the performance of the Executive Directors against their individual business objectives. We concluded that both Roland Diggelmann and Anne-Françoise Nesmes had performed against these individual business objectives, receiving an "achieved" rating. In spite of the significant challenges to the business during the year, our Executive Directors have focused the Company on preparations

for post-COVID-19 recovery, they have placed the wellbeing of our employees at the heart of their decisions and focused on the interests of all our stakeholders. We have seen significantly improved results in response to our annual employee survey and during the pandemic, our employees have supported customers, patients and suppliers. We have also strengthened our balance sheet through our bond issue and have continued to pay dividends throughout 2020. In a normal year, performance such as this against these business objectives would lead to comparable payouts.

However, the Remuneration Committee did not consider, in a year when performance against the financial targets has not been met, that our Executive Directors should receive a bonus pay-out for their business objectives. Roland Diggelmann and Anne-Françoise Nesmes will therefore receive no bonus payout in either cash or shares in respect of 2020. This decision does not reflect our recognition of their leadership and strong focus on preparing the business for the recovery, but acknowledges the need for their pay to align with the financial experience of our investors and other stakeholders.

The targets for the 2021 Annual Bonus Plan have been determined by reference to expectations for our performance in 2021.

Performance Share Programme

Similarly, the Remuneration Committee reviewed performance over the past three years against the targets determined in 2018 for the Performance Share Programme and determined that these awards should vest at 47%. This reflects the performance against the targets over the three-year period from 1 January 2018. Neither Roland Diggelmann nor Anne-Françoise Nesmes was employed by the Company in an executive role in 2018 and therefore they did not hold these awards.

Going forward, we recognise that the business performance in 2020 will impact performance against the targets under the 2019 and 2020 Performance Share Awards. In-line with our approach this year, we will not make any adjustment to these targets when considering the vesting of these awards in future years.

In early 2021, the Remuneration Committee considered the performance framework for the Performance Share Programme (PSP) awards due to be made in 2021.

The Committee was satisfied that the existing measures – indexed TSR, return on invested capital, sales growth and cumulative free cash flow – remain appropriate, and is not proposing any change to these. However, the Committee considers that with COVID-19 continuing to cause significant disruption and uncertainty to our business forecasts, it is impractical at this time to set meaningful and robust performance targets until there is more clarity externally. The risk of setting targets which, with subsequent hindsight, are either unrealistic or insufficiently stretching is material. As such, the Committee is proposing to delay granting the 2021 PSP awards for a period of up to 3 months in order that we can have a much clearer understanding of how COVID-19 will impact our business over 2021–23. This will enable a more rigorous target-setting process to be performed.

We recognise that this means that shareholders will be voting on the 2020 Remuneration Report without the benefit of seeing these targets, but we firmly believe that this approach is in the best interests of all stakeholders, helping to ensure we have stretching, but realistic, three-year business targets in place. Disclosure of the targets will be provided to shareholders at the point the awards are made later in 2021.

Appointment of Anne-Françoise Nesmes as Chief Financial Officer

The Remuneration Committee approved the remuneration arrangements for Anne-Françoise Nesmes, who joined the Company as Chief Financial Officer in July 2020. Her remuneration arrangements are in-line with the Remuneration Policy approved by shareholders in April 2020 and no buy-out awards were required at the time of her appointment.

The wider workforce

The Remuneration Committee maintains oversight of the pay arrangements for the wider workforce and has been very pleased that no employees were laid off or placed on furlough as a result of the pandemic. We have learned about the special efforts made by many of our employees during the pandemic, either working in our factories or volunteering to support health systems across the world. In-line with the provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code, we continue to expand the amount of information with which we are presented in this area, both in terms

of the pay frameworks in place throughout our organisation, and also wider employment conditions and other factors of interest.

We have reviewed the gender pay ratio and are delighted to note that we continue to make positive progress year-on-year, partly as a result of the new initiatives focusing on inclusion and diversity, described more fully on [pages 32 and 33](#). The Board and the Remuneration Committee have monitored these initiatives throughout the year.

Angie Risley

Chair of the Remuneration Committee

Looking forward – Remuneration Committee's focus for 2021

During 2021, the Remuneration Committee intends to:

- Determine meaningful targets for the 2021 Performance Share Programme awards.
- Continue to monitor business performance against the targets under our incentive plans to ensure they remain fit for purpose in a changing business environment.
- Continue to oversee remuneration arrangements across the Company as a whole, monitoring wider employee pay initiatives and our gender pay performance.

Directors' Remuneration report continued

Measures in our variable pay plans	
Performance measures in Annual Bonus Plan for 2021	
Revenue (40%)	Top-line growth is essential for continued progress and long-term value creation.
Trading Margin (40%)	Trading margin focuses on profit and removes volatility.
Business Objectives (20%)	Individual business objectives linked to the strategic imperatives to ensure alignment across the Company.
Performance measures in our Performance Share Programme for 2021	
Revenue Growth (25%)	Top-line growth leading to value creation is a key goal for Smith+Nephew over the next three to five years. Winning market shares is important to create a competitive advantage for Smith+Nephew in driving growth.
Return on Invested Capital (25%)	Provides focus on long-term efficiency and profitability. Bottom-line performance provides balance to revenue measure. Important measure for our investors.
Cumulative Free Cash Flow (25%)	Essential to fund investment, pay down debt and take advantage of market opportunities. Important measure for our investors and forms part of management conversations with the market.
TSR performance against an Index (25%)	Total Shareholder Return aligns Executive reward to the shareholder experience. An indexed approach avoids an anomalous result which can arise if there is a small number of extreme outliers in the Group.

Compliance statement

We have prepared this Directors' Remuneration report (the Report) in accordance with The Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2012–2013 (clauses 81–84) and The Large and Medium-Sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 (the Regulations), The Companies (Directors' Remuneration Policy and Directors' Remuneration Report) Regulations 2019 and The Companies (Miscellaneous Reporting) Regulations 2018. The Report also meets the relevant requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) Listing Rules.

The first part of the Report ([pages 106–127](#)) is the annual report on remuneration (the Implementation Report). The Implementation Report will be put to shareholders for approval as an advisory vote at the Annual General Meeting on 14 April 2021. The Implementation Report explains how the Remuneration Policy was implemented during 2020. The following sections have been audited by KPMG: The Single Figure Tables on Remuneration including related notes ([pages 111–121](#)); details of awards made under the Performance Share Programme ([pages 116–118](#)); Summary of Scheme Interests during the year ([page 120](#)); Payments to former Directors ([page 121](#)); Payments made to past Directors ([page 121](#)); Directors interests in ordinary shares ([page 122](#)) and Senior Management Remuneration ([page 127](#)) have all been audited by KPMG LLP.

The second part of the Report ([pages 128–137](#)) is the Directors' Remuneration Policy Report (the Policy Report) which was approved by shareholders at the Annual General Meeting on 9 April 2020. This Policy Report describes our Remuneration Policy as it relates to the Directors of the Company. All payments we make in relation to Directors of the Company will be in accordance with this Remuneration Policy. This Policy remains unchanged in 2021 and it is intended that it will next be put to shareholders' vote at the Annual General Meeting to be held in 2023.

Remuneration implementation report

The Remuneration Committee presents the Annual Report on Remuneration (the Implementation Report) which will be put to shareholders for an advisory vote at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 14 April 2021. The Terms of Reference of the Remuneration Committee describe our role and responsibilities more fully and can be found on our website: www.smith-nephew.com

Work of the Remuneration Committee in 2020

In 2020, we held six meetings and determined two further matters by written resolution. Each meeting was attended by all members of the Committee. The Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Human Resources Officer, key members of the finance function and the Company Secretary also attended all or part of some of the meetings, except when their own remuneration was being discussed. We also met with the independent remuneration consultants, Deloitte LLP (Deloitte), the remuneration advisors to the Committee.

Since the year end, we have also reviewed the financial results for 2020 against the targets under the short-term and long-term incentive arrangements jointly with the Audit Committee, and have agreed the targets for the Annual Bonus Plan 2021.

We have also determined that there will be no base salary increases for Executive Directors and Executive Officers in April 2021 and that there will be no payment to Executive Directors under the 2020 Annual Bonus Plan. We have determined the vesting under the Performance Share Plan 2018 and considered the impact of COVID-19 on the total remuneration of our Executive Directors and Executive Officers, putting in place measures to continue to motivate and retain our Executive Officers. Finally, we approved the wording of the Directors' Remuneration Report.

Independent Remuneration Committee advisors

During the year, the Committee received information and advice from Deloitte. Deloitte is a global firm, which provides many services to the Company, including tax and consultancy services. Deloitte was appointed by the Committee following a full tender process in 2018 to provide remuneration advice to the Committee, independent from management.

During the year, Deloitte provided advice on market trends and remuneration issues in general, attended Committee meetings, assisted in the review of the Directors' Remuneration report, undertook calculations relating to the TSR performance conditions and advised on annual bonus reviews impacted by COVID-19.

The fees paid to Deloitte for advice to the Committee during 2020, charged on a time and expense basis, were £103,225 (\$132,374). Deloitte complies with the Code of Conduct in relation to Executive Remuneration Consulting in the United Kingdom and the Committee is satisfied that their advice is objective and independent. In addition Willis Towers Watson also provided advice to the Committee around the measures used as part of the Performance Share and Annual Bonus Programme to understand the probability of achievement of the five financial metrics, being 'Revenue' and 'Trading Margin' metrics for the Annual Bonus Plan and 'Revenue growth', 'ROIC' and 'Cumulative FCF' for the Performance Share Plan, the fee for which was £23,000 (\$29,495).

Responsibilities of the Remuneration Committee

Determination of Remuneration Policy and packages

- Determination of Remuneration Policy for Executive Directors, Executive Officers and senior executives.
- Approval of individual remuneration packages for Executive Directors and Executive Officers, at least annually, and any major changes to individual packages throughout the year.
- Consideration of remuneration policies and practices across the Group in particular relating to CEO Pay Ratio and Gender Pay.
- Approval of appropriate performance measures for short-term and long-term incentive plans for Executive Directors, Executive Officers and senior executives.
- Determination of pay-outs under short-term and long-term incentive plans for Executive Directors, Executive Officers and senior executives.

Early February

- Approved quantum of cash payments and awards to Executive Directors and Executive Officers under the Annual Incentive Plan, the Equity Incentive Programme and Performance Share Programme.
- Agreed the targets for the short-term and long-term incentive plans for 2020.
- Approved salary increases for 2020.
- Reviewed the schedule of plans and targets made in 2017, 2018, 2019 and to be made in 2020.
- Considered and approved remuneration arrangements for the Chief Financial Officer, subject to shareholders approval of Remuneration Policy.
- Reviewed and approved remuneration arrangements for Executive Directors and Executive Officers in 2020.
- Noted the Gender Pay Gap and CEO Pay Ratio figures.
- Approved retention awards for Executive Officers.
- Reviewed and approved the proposed 2020 business plan for the Committee.
- Reviewed and approved Chair of the Board and Company Secretary's pay.

Late February

- Reviewed Executive Incentive Arrangements for Executive Officers and senior executives.

April

- Reviewed and approved Executive Incentive Arrangements for 2021 for Executive Officers and senior executives.

Determination of Remuneration Policy and packages continued

July

- Reviewed the schedule of plans and targets for awards.
- Noted share awards made to senior executives.
- Reviewed Remuneration Strategy for Executive Officers and senior executives.

September

- Reviewed the 2020 Remuneration Strategy for direct reports to the Chief Executive Officer.
- Reviewed schedule of plans and targets.
- Noted sign-on share awards and share awards made to senior executives.

November

- Reviewed the 2020 Remuneration Strategy for direct reports to the Chief Executive Officer.
- Reviewed and approved objective measures for senior executives.
- Reviewed the schedule of plans and targets.
- Noted sign-on share awards and share awards made to senior executives and employees.

Oversight of all Company Share Plans

- Determination of the use of long-term incentive plans and overseeing the use of shares in executive and all employee plans.

Early February

- Reviewed and approved the rules of the Global Share Plan 2020 and Deferred Share Bonus Plan 2020.
- Monitored adherence to shareholding guidelines for Executive Directors, Executive Officers and senior executives.

July

- Monitored adherence to shareholding guidelines for Executive Directors, Executive Officers and senior executives.
- Approved rules of the Deferred Bonus Plan 2020.
- Monitored dilution limits and the number of shares available for use in respect of discretionary and all-employee share plans.
- Approved shareholding guidelines for Executive Directors, Executive Officers and senior executives.

Reporting and engagement with shareholders on remuneration matters

- Approval of the Directors' Remuneration report ensuring compliance with related governance provisions.
- Continuation of constructive engagement on remuneration matters with shareholders.

Early February

- Reviewed draft Remuneration report.

Late February

- Approved Remuneration report.

July

- Reviewed matters arising from Annual General Meeting and proposals for Investor engagement.
- Update on the development of a dashboard.

November

- Considered and approved proposal for shareholder engagement programme.

Other matters

Early February

- Audit Committee in attendance to answer questions related to audited numbers and provide assurance.
- Approved Terms of Reference.



“
We seek to align pay with financial performance.”

Angie Risley
Chair of the Remuneration Committee

Single total figure on remuneration (audited)

The amounts for 2020 have been converted into US\$ for ease of comparability using the exchange rates of £ to US\$1.28238 and CHF to US\$1.065417 (2019: £ to US\$1.2757 and CHF to US\$1.0063).

	Roland Diggelmann Appointed 1 November 2019		Anne-Françoise Nesmes Appointed 27 July 2020		Graham Baker Appointed 1 March 2017 (resigned from the Board 9 April 2020)	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
Fixed pay						
Base salary	\$1,470,275	\$231,449	\$324,211	–	\$217,644	\$707,252
Pension payments	\$176,433	\$27,775	\$38,905	–	\$39,367	\$217,014
Taxable benefits	\$51,065	\$6,590	\$6,942	–	\$9,296	\$29,869
Annual variable pay						
Annual Incentive Plan/Annual Bonus Plan – cash element	–	–	–	–	–	\$726,646
Hybrid						
Annual Incentive Plan/Annual Bonus Plan – equity element	–	–	–	–	–	\$353,627
Long-term variable pay						
Performance Share Programme	–	–	–	–	–	\$816,640
Total	\$1,697,773	\$265,814	\$370,058	–	\$266,307	\$2,851,048

Base salary	the actual salary receivable for the year.
Pension payments	the value of the salary supplement in lieu of pension or contribution to any pension scheme made by the Company.
Taxable benefits	the gross value of all taxable benefits (or benefits that would be taxable in the UK) received in the year.
Annual Incentive Plan – cash element/Annual Bonus Plan	the value of the cash incentive payable for performance in respect of the relevant financial year.
Annual Incentive Plan – equity element/Annual Bonus Plan	the value of the equity element awarded in respect of performance in the relevant financial year, but subject to an ongoing performance test as described on page 113 of this report.
Performance Share Programme	the value of shares vesting that were subject to performance over the three-year period ending on 31 December in the relevant financial year. For awards vesting in early 2021 this is based on an estimated share price of 1,487.50p per share, which was the average price of a share over the last quarter of 2020. The amount of this award that will be attributable to share price increase from the date of grant to 1,487.50p per share was £66,369 for Namal Nawana. The value of the 2017 share awards that vested in 2020 have now been restated. Graham Baker's 2017 Performance Share Programme vested on 9 March 2020, the actual vesting share price was 1,576.22p per share. His total Performance Share Programme received for 2019 is restated as \$816,640 using the 2019 £:US\$ exchange rate of US\$1.2757 for that calculation. Under the Global Share Plan 2010 rules good leavers vest a week earlier than employees. Therefore, Olivier Bohuon's 2017 Performance Share Programme vested on 3 March 2020, the actual vesting share price was 1,797.50p per share. His total Performance Share Programme remuneration received for 2019 is restated as \$1,130,232, using the same 2019 £:US\$ exchange rate.
Total	the sum of the above elements.

All data is presented in our reporting currency of US Dollars (USD). Amounts for Roland Diggelmann have been converted from Swiss Francs and from GBP for Anne-Françoise Nesmes and Graham Baker using average exchange rates. Given currency movements in 2020, this may give the impression of changes that are misleading. Data is presented in local currency in the subsequent sections in the interests of full transparency.

Remuneration implementation report continued

Fixed pay

Base salary

Executive base salaries are usually reviewed in February each year, with any changes to take effect from 1 April. It was agreed upon Roland Diggelmann's appointment as Chief Executive Officer on 1 November 2019 that his base salary would be CHF1,380,000 and no review of that base salary would take place until 2021.

Graham Baker's base salary increased by 2% to £568,277 with effect from 1 April 2020. He resigned from the Company on 30 April 2020.

Anne-Françoise Nesmes was appointed Chief Financial Officer on 27 July 2020 and received a base salary of £580,000.

In February 2021, we reviewed the base salaries of the Executive Directors, and determined that there would be no change to their base salaries. This decision aligns to our approach across the entire Company, except for employees in lower paid roles, China and certain countries, where statutory increases are mandatory. These employees will receive salary increases in line with local rates of inflation.

Pension payments

Roland Diggelmann participates in the Swiss Profond pension plan. He is employed under a Swiss contract, which is where he is domiciled. During 2020, total Company pension contributions for Roland amounted to CHF165,600, which is equivalent to 12% of his base salary.

Anne-Françoise Nesmes receives a salary supplement of 12% of basic salary to apply towards her retirement savings, in lieu of membership of one of the Company's pension schemes. This is in-line with the pension arrangement for the wider UK workforce.

Graham Baker received a salary supplement of 20% of his basic salary, which totalled £30,698 between 1 January 2020 and 9 April 2020 when he was a member of the Board.

Benefits

In 2020, our Executive Directors, Roland Diggelmann, Anne-Françoise Nesmes (and Graham Baker for the period he served during 2020) received death in service cover of seven-times basic salary, of which four-times salary is payable as a lump sum, with the balance used to provide for any spouse and dependent persons. Each Executive Director received health cover for themselves and their families, a car allowance and financial consultancy advice. The same arrangements will apply in 2021 for Roland Diggelmann and Anne-Françoise Nesmes. The following table summarises the value of benefits in respect of 2019 and 2020.

	Roland Diggelmann		Anne-Françoise Nesmes Appointed 27 July 2020		Graham Baker Resigned on 9 April 2020	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
Health cover	CHF6,893	CHF1,149	£444	–	£356	£1,318
Car and fuel allowance	CHF32,400	CHF5,400	£4,969	–	£5,915	£21,052
Financial consultancy advice	£7,175	–	–	–	£978	£1,044

Annual incentives

Annual Bonus Plan 2020

Following the approval of the Remuneration Policy at the 2020 Annual General Meeting, the maximum opportunity under the Annual Bonus Plan for Executive Directors is 215% of base salary, subject to satisfactory performance against the performance measures detailed below. 50% of the award is paid in cash and 50% is deferred into shares which will vest after three years.

The performance measures and weightings which applied to the Annual Bonus Plan 2020 were as follows:

	Weighting	Threshold as a percentage of salary	Target as a percentage of salary	Maximum as a percentage of salary
Revenue	40%	12.8%	43%	86%
Trading Margin	40%	12.8%	43%	86%
Business Objectives	20%	6.4%	21.5%	43%

The 2020 targets for revenue and trading margin are shown below and were determined in February 2020 prior to the point at which the COVID-19 virus became a pandemic, affecting our global business:

	Threshold	Target	Maximum	Actual ¹
Revenue	\$5,279m	\$5,436m	\$5,592m	\$4,590m
Trading Margin	22.5%	23%	23.8%	14.9%

1 At constant exchange rates. See page 222.

The revenue target for 2020 was set by reference to our expectations for growth for the year at the beginning of 2020. Threshold was set at 3 percentage points below target and maximum was set at 3 percentage points above target.

The trading margin target was set by reference to our expectations for growth for the year. Threshold was set at 50bps below target and maximum was set 80bps above target.

Accordingly, the following amounts have been earned by Roland Diggelmann and Anne-Françoise Nesmes for 2020 under the Annual Incentive Plan in respect of their financial objectives.

Roland Diggelmann	CHF 0
Anne-Françoise Nesmes	£0

As well as considering the monetary outcome of the formulaic calculation of these awards, the Committee considered that this performance fairly represented the overall financial performance during the year.

Business Objectives

In determining performance against the Business Objectives, the Executive Directors have been assessed on the same basis as applies to all employees across the Group using a four-point rating scale reflecting both what has been achieved and how it has been achieved. At the beginning of the year, specific business objectives were determined relating to achievement of the corporate strategy. For 2020, these objectives were Growth, People and Business processes as in 2019. Performance against these business objectives was considered alongside consideration of how the Executive Director performed in respect of our culture pillars of Care, Collaboration and Courage. This includes consideration of performance against sustainability, compliance and quality metrics. Their overall performance has been assessed according to the extent to which the Executive Directors have met the expectations of the Board. The 20% of the Annual Bonus Plan which is attributable to Business Objectives will be paid out as follows:

Performance	% of base salary
Below expectations	Nil
Partially met expectations	6.4%
In-line with expectations	21.5%
Above expectations	43%

Remuneration implementation report continued

Annual incentives continued

When setting business objectives for the upcoming year, the Board looks not only at the expected financial performance for the year, but also at the actions it expects the Executive Directors to carry out in the year to build a solid foundation for financial performance over the longer term. In reviewing performance against these objectives at the end of the year, the Board is mindful that there is not always a necessary correlation between financial performance and the achievement of business objectives. The table below sets out how Roland Diggelmann and Anne-Françoise Nesmes have performed against the business objectives of Growth, People and Business Processes.

Roland Diggelmann

Anne-Françoise Nesmes

Growth

- Against target to lead execution of New Product Development programme from ideation to successful full commercial launch achieved significant new launches in orthopaedics (OR30° Dual Mobility Hip), robotics (CORI°), enabling technologies (INTELLIO°), sports medicine (HEALICOIL° Knotless) and ENT (Tula°).
- Against target to deliver and integrate acquisitions to capture valuable technology achieved acquisitions in high growth segments of extremities (Integra's Extremities Orthopaedics business), ENT (Tusker) and ASCs (multiple acquisitions supporting launch of Positive Connections programme and ARIA° platform).

- Against target to build understanding of customer base, portfolio and segmentation achieved a strong understanding of our customer base, our business, our product portfolio and our acquisition strategy.

People

- Against target of embedding culture pillars and purpose, and improving employee engagement as measured by the Gallup Q12, increased cadence of employee communication, including virtual town halls, and exceeded target for both participation and engagement in annual employee survey.
- Against target to build a high performance executive management team that models the culture and demonstrates proven business results successfully filled open Chief Financial Officer and President EMEA positions.
- Against target to drive increased gender diversity increased female representation in senior management positions at Vice-President and above by 7% and reduced attrition.

- Against target to build understanding of and relationships with business, including Executive Committee, Board and senior leaders completed in-depth induction plan and achieved positive feedback.
- Against target to assess Finance and IT function to support business most effectively completed review, identified actions and filled open position in leadership team.
- Against target to define strategy for Finance along with 2021 priorities achieved overall vision for the function and defined strategic priorities.

Business processes

- Against target to simplify our organisation and end-to-end processes initiated New Normal programme to respond to changed employee and customer expectations; continued operations and commercial excellence programme to improve efficiency, delivering to plan in 2020; and significantly enhanced sales force effectiveness training utilising downtime during lockdown; recruited new medical education leader and significantly increased training provision through deployment of digital tools.
- Against target to uphold the highest standards of quality and compliance optimised regulatory frameworks and deployed enhanced processes and technology; enhanced compliance programme by implementing new systems, simplified processes and adapted monitoring to address new risks caused by the pandemic.
- Against delivering the long-term sustainability strategy targets, progress has been made in sourcing renewable electricity and zero waste to landfill at our largest sites in the US; on track with recyclable and responsible sourcing packaging milestones, with product donations and volunteering held back by COVID-19 impact.

- Against target to ensure 2021 budget reflects COVID-19 related business uncertainty achieved fiscal planning with agreement from Executive Committee and Board.
- Against target to launch Group's debut bond, secured \$1 billion bond issue providing attractive long-term funding to invest in delivering strategic imperatives.

This resulted in a calculated bonus achievement of 23% of salary in respect of Roland Diggelmann.

This resulted in a calculated bonus achievement of 20% of salary in respect of Anne-Françoise Nesmes.

However, the Remuneration Committee have determined that in a year when performance against the financial targets has not been met, it would be inappropriate to pay our Executive Directors a bonus in respect of their business objectives, notwithstanding the work they both did in 2020 to prepare the Company for recovery post-COVID-19 and their focus on our employees, customers, investors and other stakeholders. Therefore, no annual bonus will be paid to the Executive Directors in respect of 2020.

Annual Bonus Plan 2021

The maximum opportunity under the Annual Bonus Plan for Executive Directors will be 215% of base salary, subject to satisfactory performance against the performance measures detailed below. 50% of the award will be paid in cash and 50% will be deferred into shares which will vest after three years and which will be subject to a further two-year holding period.

The performance measures and weightings which apply to the Annual Bonus Plan 2021 are as follows:

	Weighting	Threshold as a percentage of salary	Target as a percentage of salary	Maximum as a percentage of salary
Revenue	40%	12.8%	43%	86%
Trading Margin	40%	12.8%	43%	86%
Business Objectives	20%	6.4%	21.5%	43%

For reasons of commercial sensitivity, we are unable to disclose the precise targets for revenue and trading margin for 2021 now, but they will be disclosed retrospectively in the 2021 Annual Report, when performance against those targets are determined.

The revenue target for 2021 is set by reference to our expectations for growth for the year. Due to the uncertainty caused by the impact of COVID-19 we have set a wider vesting range than previous years. Threshold is set at 8 percentage points below target and maximum is set at 8 percentage points above target.

The trading margin target is set by reference to our expectations for growth for the year. Threshold is set at 140bps below target and maximum is set 120bps above target.

In determining performance against the Business Objectives, the Executive Directors will be assessed on the same basis as applies to all employees across the Group using a four-point rating scale reflecting both what has been achieved and how it has been achieved. At the beginning of the year, specific business objectives are determined relating to achievement of the corporate strategy. For 2021, these objectives will be Growth, People and Business processes as in 2020. Performance against these business objectives will be considered alongside consideration of how the Executive Director performed in respect of our culture pillars of Care, Collaboration and Courage. This includes consideration of performance against sustainability, compliance and quality metrics. Their overall performance will be assessed according to the extent to which the Executive Director has met the expectations of the Board and the 20% of the Annual Bonus Plan which is attributable to Business Objectives will be paid out as follows:

Performance	% of base salary
Below expectations	Nil
Partially met expectations	6.4%
In-line with expectations	21.5%
Above expectations	43%

Remuneration implementation report continued

Long-term incentives

Performance Share Programme

Performance Share Programme 2018

Since the end of the year, the Committee has reviewed the vesting of conditional awards made to former Executive Directors in 2018 under the Global Share Plan 2010. Neither of the existing Executive Directors were employed as Executive Directors when the awards were made in 2018. Vesting of the conditional awards made in 2018 was subject to performance conditions based on equal weighting of 25% TSR, global revenue growth, cumulative free cash flow and return on invested capital measured over a three-year period commencing 1 January 2018.

25% of the award was based on the Company's TSR relative to two equally weighted peer groups against which the Company's TSR performance was measured and defined at the start of each performance period (in this case 1 January 2018) based on constituents of the following:

- A sector-based peer group based on those companies classified as the S&P 1200 Global Healthcare subset comprising medical devices, equipment and supplies companies (official industry classifications of 'Health Care Equipment and Supplies, Life Sciences Tools & Services and Health Care Technology'). Against this peer group, the Company was 36th in a peer group of 39. Therefore there was 0% payout against this element.
- FTSE 100 constituents excluding financial services and commodities companies. This is in response to shareholders who assess our performance not based on sector, but instead based on the index we operate in. Against this peer group, the Company was 22nd in a peer group of 59. There was therefore a 170% payout against this element.

The total payout against the TSR measure was therefore 21% out of the 25% target.

25% of the award was based on Global Revenue Growth. The threshold set in 2018 was \$15,346 million with a target of \$15,777 million. Over the three-year period, the adjusted revenues in Global Revenue Growth were \$14,639 million. These adjustments include translational foreign exchange and Board approved M&A. This part of the award therefore vested at 0% out of the 25% target.

25% of the award was based on cumulative free cash flow performance. The target set in 2018 was \$1,810 million with maximum at \$2,046 million. Over the three-year period, the adjusted cumulative free cash flow was \$1,817 million which was just above target. These adjustments include items such as Board approved M&A and restructuring programmes and translational foreign exchange. This part of the award therefore vested at 26% of the 25% target.

25% of the award was subject to return on invested capital (ROIC). ROIC was defined as:

$$\frac{\text{Operating Profit}^1 \text{ less Adjusted Taxes}^2}{(\text{Opening Net Operating Assets} + \text{Closing Net Operating Assets})^3 \div 2}$$

1 Operating Profit is as disclosed in the Group income statement in the Annual Report.

2 Adjusted taxes represents our taxation charge per the Group income statement adjusted for the impact of tax on items not included in operating profit notably interest income and expense, other finance costs and share of results of associates.

3 Net Operating Assets comprises net assets from the Group balance sheet (Total assets less Total liabilities) excluding the following items: Investments, Investments in associates, Retirement benefit assets and liabilities, Long-term borrowings, Bank overdrafts, borrowings and loans, IFRS 16 lease liabilities and right-of-use assets, and Cash at bank.

The target set in 2018 was an average over three years of 12.9% with maximum at 14.1%. The adjusted average ROIC measurement for the three years was 10.7%. These adjustments include Board approved M&A. This part of the award therefore vested at 0% of the 25% target.

In summary therefore, the Performance Share Programme award made in 2018 will vest at 47% of target.

	Threshold	Target	Maximum	Actual	Percentage Vesting
TSR	Median	–	Upper Quartile	Above Median	21%
Global Revenue Growth	\$15,346m	\$15,777m	\$16,251m	\$14,639m	0%
Cumulative Free Cash Flow	\$1,575m	\$1,810m	\$2,046m	\$1,817m	26%
Return on Invested Capital	11.6%	12.9%	14.1%	10.7%	0%

Neither of the existing Executive Directors were employed as Executive Directors when the awards were made in 2018.

Overall therefore, the conditional awards made in 2018 will vest at 47% of target (23.5% of maximum) on 9 March 2020. For awards vesting in early 2021 this is based on an estimated share price of 1,487.50p per share, which was the average price of a share over the last quarter of 2020.

As well as considering the monetary outcome of the formulaic calculation of these awards, the Committee considered whether discretion should be applied to override these formulaic outcomes and concluded that the monetary outcomes were aligned with the financial performance of the Company during the performance period and the intention of the Remuneration Policy.

Performance Share Programme 2020

In accordance with the Remuneration Policy approved by shareholders at the Annual General Meeting held on 9 April 2020, performance share awards were granted to the Executive Directors under the Global Share Plan 2020 approved by shareholders at the Annual General Meeting in 2020 to a maximum value of 275% of salary (137.5% for target performance) measured over the three financial years commencing 1 January 2020 against four equally weighted performance measures: Indexed TSR, return on invested capital, sales growth and cumulative free cash flow. The performance conditions for these awards were determined in February 2020, prior to the point at which the COVID-19 virus became a pandemic affecting our global business. The award made to Anne-Françoise Nesmes was pro-rated to reflect her length of service in 2020. Maximum payout under each element will only be for significant outperformance. The targets at maximum were therefore set at higher levels than in previous years. On vesting, sufficient shares will be sold to cover taxation obligations and the Executive Directors will be required to hold the net shares for a further period of two years.

The Company's TSR performance will be measured against two equally weighted peer groups which are defined at the start of each performance period based on constituents of the following:

- A sector-based peer group based on those companies classified as the S&P 1200 Global Healthcare subset comprising medical devices, equipment and supplies companies (official industry classifications of 'Health Care Equipment and Supplies, Life Sciences Tools & Services and Health Care Technology').
- FTSE 100 constituents excluding financial services and commodities companies. The Group's TSR performance and its performance relative to the comparator groups is independently monitored and reported to the Remuneration Committee by Deloitte LLP.

TSR performance is relative to the two separate indices as follows:

Relative TSR	Award vesting as % of salary at date of grant	
	Sector Based Peer Group	FTSE 100 Peer Group
Below the index	Nil	Nil
Equalling the index	8.6%	8.6%
8% above the index	34.4%	34.4%

Awards will vest on a straight-line basis between these points. The maximum has been set significantly above target reflecting the maximum opportunity for outperformance.

Remuneration implementation report continued

Long-term incentives continued

Performance Share Programme continued

Return on invested capital (ROIC) will be measured as follows for the 2020 grants:

ROIC is defined as:

$$\frac{\text{Adjusted Operating Profit}^1 \text{ less Adjusted Taxes}^2}{(\text{Opening Adjusted Net Operating Assets} + \text{Closing Adjusted Net Operating Assets})^3 \div 2}$$

- 1 Adjusted Operating Profit is as disclosed in the Group income statement in the Annual Report less amortisation of acquired intangible assets.
- 2 Adjusted Taxes represents our taxation charge per the Group income statement adjusted for the impact of tax on items not included in Adjusted Operating Profit notably amortisation of acquired intangible assets, interest income and expense, other finance costs and share of results of associates.
- 3 Net Operating Assets comprises net assets from the Group balance sheet (Total assets less Total liabilities) excluding the following items: accumulated amortisation of acquired intangible assets, Investments, Investments in associates, Retirement benefit assets and liabilities, Long-term borrowings, Bank overdrafts, borrowings and loans, IFRS 16 lease liabilities and right-of-use assets, and Cash at bank.

The targets are as follows:

Return on Invested Capital (three-year average)	Award vesting as % of salary
Below Threshold 10.5%	Nil
Threshold 10.5% (-1.5% of target)	17.2%
Target 12.0%	34.4%
Maximum or above 13.5% (+1.5% of target)	68.8%

Awards will vest on a straight-line basis between these points.

Revenue growth focuses on growth in both Established Markets and Emerging Markets and the targets are as follows:

Revenue growth over three-year period commencing 1 January 2020	Award vesting as % of salary
Below Threshold	Nil
Threshold (-2% of target)	17.2%
Target – set by reference to our expectations	34.4%
Maximum or above (+4% of target)	68.8%

It is not possible to disclose precise targets for sales growth as this will give commercially sensitive information to our competitors concerning our growth plans and is potentially price-sensitive information. This target however will be disclosed in the 2022 Annual Report, when the Committee will discuss performance against the target. The maximum has been set significantly above target reflecting the increased maximum opportunity for outperformance.

Cumulative free cash flow is defined as net cash inflow from operating activities, less capital expenditure, less the cash flow input of certain adjusted items. Free cash flow is the most appropriate measure of cash flow performance because it relates to cash generated to finance additional investments in business opportunities, debt repayments and distribution to shareholders. This measure includes significant elements of operational financial performance and helps to align Executive Directors' award with shareholder value creation.

It is important as it is derived from increased revenues and healthy trading profits. Having a healthy cash flow will enable us to continue to grow and invest. 25% of the award will be subject to cumulative free cash flow performance and will vest as follows:

Cumulative free cash flow	Award vesting as % of salary
Below \$2,057m	Nil
\$2,057m (-10% of target)	17.2%
\$2,285m	34.4%
\$2,742m or more (+20% of target)	68.8%

The maximum has been set significantly above target reflecting the maximum opportunity for outperformance.

Performance Share Programme 2021

In early 2021, the Remuneration Committee considered the performance framework for Performance Share Programme awards due to be made in 2021. The Committee was satisfied that the existing measures – relative TSR, ROIC, sales growth and cumulative free cash flow – remain appropriate, and is not proposing any change to these. However, the Committee considers that with COVID-19 continuing to cause significant disruption and uncertainty to our business forecasts, it is impractical at this time to set meaningful and robust performance targets until there is more clarity externally. The risk of setting targets which, with subsequent hindsight, are either unrealistic or insufficiently stretching is material. As such, the Committee is proposing to delay granting the 2021 Performance Share Programme awards for a period of up to three months, from the usual March grant date, in order that we can have a much clearer understanding of how COVID-19 will impact our business over 2021–23. This will enable a more rigorous target-setting process to be performed.

TSR performance

The Company's TSR performance will be measured against two equally weighted peer groups which are defined at the start of each performance period based on constituents of the following:

- A sector-based peer group based on those companies classified as the S&P 1200 Global Healthcare subset comprising medical devices, equipment and supplies companies (official industry classifications of 'Health Care Equipment and Supplies, Life Sciences Tools & Services and Health Care Technology'). This is the same sector-based peer group as 2019 and 2020.
- FTSE 100 constituents excluding financial services and commodities companies. The Group's TSR performance and its performance relative to the comparator groups is independently monitored and reported to the Remuneration Committee by Deloitte LLP.

ROIC

ROIC will be defined as:

$$\frac{\text{Adjusted Operating Profit}^1 \text{ less Adjusted Taxes}^2}{(\text{Opening Adjusted Net Operating Assets} + \text{Closing Adjusted Net Operating Assets})^3 \div 2}$$

- 1 Adjusted Operating Profit is as disclosed in the Group income statement in the Annual Report less amortisation of acquired intangible assets.
- 2 Adjusted Taxes represents our taxation charge per the Group income statement adjusted for the impact of tax on items not included in Adjusted Operating Profit notably amortisation of acquired intangible assets, interest income and expense, other finance costs and share of results of associates.
- 3 Net Operating Assets comprises net assets from the Group balance sheet (Total assets less Total liabilities) excluding the following items: accumulated amortisation of acquired intangible assets, Investments, Investments in associates, Retirement benefit assets and liabilities, Long-term borrowings, Bank overdrafts, borrowings and loans, IFRS 16 lease liabilities and right-of-use assets, and Cash at bank.

The targets will be disclosed at the time the Performance Share Programme awards are made.

Revenue growth will be determined at the time the Performance Share Programme awards are made and will be disclosed in the 2023 Annual Report, when the Committee will discuss performance against the target. It is not possible to disclose precise targets at the time of grant, as this will give commercially sensitive information to our competitors concerning our growth plans and would be potentially price-sensitive.

Remuneration implementation report continued

Long-term incentives continued

Performance Share Programme continued

Cumulative free cash flow will be disclosed at the time the performance share awards are made.

Details of outstanding awards made under the Performance Share Programme

Details of conditional awards over shares granted to Executive Directors subject to performance conditions are shown below. These awards were granted under the Global Share Plan 2010 prior to 9 April 2020 and under the Global Share Plan 2020 after 9 April 2020. The performance conditions and performance periods applying to these awards are detailed below:

	Date granted	Number of ordinary shares under award at maximum	Date of vesting
Roland Diggelmann	21 May 2020	193,072	21 May 2023
Anne-Françoise Nesmes	21 December 2020	42,726	21 December 2023

Summary of scheme interests awarded during the financial year (audited)

Director	Roland Diggelmann		Anne-Françoise Nesmes ²		Graham Baker ^{1,3}	
	Number of shares	Face value	Number of shares	Face value	Number of shares	Face value
Annual Equity Incentive Programme award	–	–	–	–	16,601	£278,564
Performance Share Programme award at maximum (see pages 117–118)	193,072	£3,207,891	42,726	£688,529	–	–

1 Annual Equity Incentive Programme awards granted in 2020 were based on performance for 2019.

2 Anne-Françoise Nesmes was appointed as Chief Financial Officer on 27 July 2020. Due to an administrative oversight, a Performance Share Programme award was not made to Anne-Françoise Nesmes on 13 August 2020, as had been the original intention (13 August 2020 being the quarterly date on which share awards were made to certain other employees). When this administrative oversight came to light in December 2020, a Performance Share Programme award was made to Anne-Françoise Nesmes in respect of the same number of shares she would have received had the award been made on the correct date in August 2020, calculated by reference to the closing share price of 1,611.5p on 12 August 2020. This was because the share price on 18 December 2020 (closing share price the day before the date of grant under the Global Share Plan 2020 rules) of 1,534.5p would have resulted in her receiving more shares than she would have done in August 2020. The Performance Share Programme award made to Anne-Françoise Nesmes has been pro-rated to reflect her length of service in 2020.

3 Graham Baker resigned from the Board on 9 April 2020. Any outstanding awards under the Performance Share Programme or Equity Incentive Programme lapsed upon his leaving date.

Please see Policy Table on pages 130–132 for details of how the above plans operate. Following approval of the 2020 Remuneration Policy, no further Annual Equity Incentive Programme awards will be granted. The number of shares is calculated using the closing share price on the day before grant, which for the Annual Equity Incentive Programme awards granted on 9 March 2020 was 1,678.0p and for the Performance Share Programme award granted on 21 May 2020 was 1,661.5p.

Single total figure on remuneration Chair and Non-Executive Directors (audited)

Director	Basic annual fee ¹		Committee Chair/ Senior Independent Director fee		Intercontinental travel fee		Total 2019
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	
Roberto Quarta	£427,069	£420,240	–	–	–	–	£427,069
Vinita Bali	\$129,780	\$129,780	–	–	\$7,000	\$49,000	\$178,780
Virginia Bottomley	£69,500	£69,500	–	–	–	£3,500	£73,000
Erik Engstrom	£69,500	£69,500	–	–	–	£3,500	£73,000
Robin Freestone	£69,500	£69,500	£20,000	£20,000	–	£3,500	£93,000
Katarzyna Mazur-Hofsaess ²	£10,500	–	–	–	–	–	£10,500
Rick Medlock ³	£52,377	–	£6,667	–	–	–	£59,044
Marc Owen	\$129,780	\$129,780	\$35,000	\$25,039	\$7,000	\$42,000	\$196,819
Angie Risley	£69,500	£69,500	£20,000	£20,000	–	–	£89,500
Bob White ⁴	\$89,780	–	–	–	–	–	\$89,780

1 The basic annual fee includes shares purchased for the Chair and Non-Executive Directors in lieu of part of the annual fee, details of which can be found on the table below.

2 Katarzyna Mazur-Hofsaess was appointed as a Non-Executive Director with effect from 1 November 2020.

3 Rick Medlock was appointed as a Non-Executive Director with effect from 9 April 2020. He was appointed as Chair of the Audit Committee on 1 September 2020.

4 Bob White was appointed as a Non-Executive Director with effect from 1 May 2020.

Chair and Non-Executive Director Fees

In February 2021 the Committee reviewed the fees paid to the Chair and determined that with effect from 1 April 2021 the fees paid would remain unchanged:

Annual fee paid to the Chair	£428,645 of which £107,161 paid in shares
Annual fee paid to Non-Executive Directors	£69,500 of which £6,500 paid in shares or \$129,780 of which \$9,780 paid in shares
Intercontinental travel fee (per meeting)	£3,500 or \$7,000
Fee for Senior Independent Director and Committee Chair	£20,000 or \$35,000

Payments to former directors (audited)

Share awards granted to Graham Baker lapsed on his resignation from the Company on 30 April 2020. These included outstanding shares awarded under the Performance Share Programme, Equity Incentive Programme and ShareSave options:

Year Awarded	Lapsed awards/options		
	Performance Share Programme Number of Shares	Equity Incentive Programme Number of Shares	ShareSave Options Number of Options
2018	75,058	7,245	2,734
2019	70,960	12,096	–
2020	–	16,601	–

Payments made to other past Directors (audited)

No payments were made to other past Directors in 2020.

Service contracts

Executive Directors are employed on rolling service contracts with notice periods of up to 12 months from the Company and six months from the Executive Director. Further information can be found on [page 135](#) of the Policy Report.

Outside directorships

Roland Diggelmann is a Non-Executive Director of Accelerate Diagnostics Inc. His remuneration for this role is paid entirely in stock options. On 1 April 2020, he received a stock option in respect of 13,779 shares which vested and became exercisable in 12 equal monthly instalments from 1 May 2020 at an option price of \$8.33.

Anne-Françoise Nesmes is a Non-Executive Director of Compass Group plc and received £35,868 in respect of this appointment for the period 27 July 2020 to 31 December 2020.

Remuneration implementation report continued

Directors' interests in ordinary shares (audited)

Beneficial interests of the Executive Directors in the ordinary shares of the Company are as follows:

	Roland Diggelmann			Anne-Françoise Nesmes ¹			Graham Baker	
	1 January 2020	31 December 2020	12 February 2021 ²	27 July 2020	31 December 2020	12 February 2021 ²	1 January 2020	9 April 2020 ³
Ordinary shares	6,668	18,168	18,168 ⁴	–	–	–	14,205	42,605
Share options	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,734 ⁶	2,734 ⁶
Performance Share Programme awards	–	193,072 ⁵	193,072 ⁵	–	42,726 ⁵	42,726 ⁵	225,184 ⁶	146,018 ⁶
Equity Incentive Programme awards	–	–	–	–	–	–	32,628 ⁶	35,942 ⁶

1 Anne-Françoise Nesmes was appointed to the Board as Chief Financial Officer on 27 July 2020.

2 The latest practicable date for this Annual Report.

3 Graham Baker resigned from the Board on 9 April 2020.

4 The ordinary shares held by Roland Diggelmann on 12 February 2021 represent 25.53% of his base annual salary.

5 These share awards are subject to further performance conditions before they may vest, as detailed on [pages 117–118](#).

6 Graham Baker's Performance Share Programme awards of 75,058 (at maximum) granted on 7 March 2018 and 70,960 (at maximum) granted on 7 March 2019 lapsed in full upon his resignation. Furthermore, Graham Baker's Equity Incentive Programme awards of 7,245 granted on 7 March 2018, 12,096 granted on 7 March 2019 and 16,601 granted on 9 March 2020 lapsed in full upon his resignation. His 2,734 share options granted on 18 September 2018 under his ShareSave plan also lapsed upon his resignation.

The beneficial interest of each Executive Director is less than 1% of the ordinary share capital of the Company.

Beneficial interests of the Chair and Non-Executive Directors in the ordinary shares of the Company are as follows:

Director	1 January 2020 (or date of appointment if later)	31 December 2020 (or date of retirement if earlier)	12 February 2021 ¹	Shareholding as % of annual fee ^{2,3}
Roberto Quarta ⁴	59,429	63,319	63,319	233.58
Graham Baker ⁵	14,205	42,605	N/A	N/A
Vinita Bali ^{4,6}	7,394	7,672	N/A	N/A
Virginia Bottomley	19,252	19,546	19,546	442.25
Roland Diggelmann	6,668	18,168	18,168	25.53
Erik Engstrom	15,973	16,200	16,200	366.54
Robin Freestone	15,951	16,178	16,178	366.04
Katarzyna Mazur-Hofsaess	–	–	–	–
Rick Medlock	–	249	249	5.63
Anne-Françoise Nesmes	–	–	–	–
Marc Owen ⁴	7,508	7,786	7,786	132.11
Angie Risley	4,541	4,769	4,769	107.90
Bob White ⁴	–	6,270	6,270	106.38

1 The latest practicable date for this Annual Report.

2 Calculated using the closing share price of 1,572.5p per ordinary share and \$44.04 per ADS on 12 February 2021, and an exchange rate of £1:\$1.38.

3 All Non-Executive Directors in office since 1 January 2020 held the required shareholding during the year. Due to their length of service some Non-Executive Directors have not met their shareholding requirements, but this will continue to be monitored in accordance with the Remuneration Policy.

4 Roberto Quarta, Vinita Bali, Marc Owen and Bob White hold some of their shares in the form of ADS.

5 Graham Baker resigned from the Board as an Executive Director with effect from 9 April 2020.

6 Vinita Bali retired as a Non-Executive Director with effect from 31 December 2020.

The beneficial interest of each Non-Executive Director is less than 1% of the ordinary share capital of the Company.

Chief Executive Officer remuneration compared to employees generally

The percentage change in the remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer between 2019 and 2020 compared to that of employees generally was as follows:

	Base salary % change 2020	Benefits % change 2020	Annual cash bonus % change 2020
Chief Executive Officer	0%	0%	0%
Chief Financial Officer	4% ¹	-57%	-100% ²
Roberto Quarta	2%	N/A	N/A
Virginia Bottomley	0%	N/A	N/A
Erik Engstrom	0%	N/A	N/A
Robin Freestone	0%	N/A	N/A
John Ma	N/A	N/A	N/A
Katarzyna Mazur-Hofsaess	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rick Medlock	N/A	N/A	N/A
Marc Owen	0%	N/A	N/A
Angie Risley	0%	N/A	N/A
Bob White	NA	N/A	N/A
Average for all employees	3.3%	N/A	N/A

¹ Represents the difference between the annual salary of Graham Baker for 2019 and Anne-Françoise Nesmes for 2020.

² Represents the difference in the annual cash bonus for Graham Baker for 2019 and Anne-Françoise Nesmes for 2020.

The average cost of wages and salaries for employees generally decreased by 5.9% in 2020 (see Note 3.1 to the Group accounts). Figures for annual cash bonuses are included in the numbers.

When considering remuneration arrangements for our Executive Directors, the Committee takes into account pay across the Group in the following ways:

- Salary levels and increases for all employees including Executive Directors take account of the scope and responsibility of position, the skills, experience and performance of the individual and general economic conditions within the relevant geographical market. When considering increases to Executive Director base salaries, the Committee considers the average pay increases in the market where the Executive Director is based.
- All employees including the Executive Directors have performance objectives determined at the beginning of the year which cascade down from the Strategic Imperatives for the Group.
- The level of variable pay determined for all employees, whether in the form of shares or cash is dependent on performance against these imperatives, both financially and personally.
- Executive Directors participate in benefits plans and arrangements comparable to benefits paid to other senior executives in the relevant geography. Executive Directors participate in the same senior executive incentive plans, (currently the Annual Bonus Programme and the Performance Share Programme) as other Executive Officers and senior executives. The level of award reflects the differing seniority of participants and the market the Executive is located. Performance conditions for the Performance Share Programme are the same for Executive Directors and Executive Officers. Executives however have only three measures with no reference to ROIC. For the Annual Bonus Plan (ABP) Performance Measures apply to all Executives consistently however weighting between Financials and Non-Financials differs based on the position.

Chief Executive Officer pay ratio

The regulations provide three options which may be used to calculate the pay for the employees at the 25th percentile, median and 75th percentile. We have used option A (as set out in the Companies (Miscellaneous Reporting) Regulations 2018), following guidance issued by some proxy advisers and institutional shareholders. The ratio has been calculated by comparing against the full-time equivalent pay of all UK employees within the Group including both our entities Smith & Nephew UK Limited and T.J.Smith and Nephew, Limited.

Option A calculates pay for all employees on the same basis as the single figure for remuneration calculated for Executive Directors. The period for which the employee pay has been calculated under Option A is the calendar year 2020. The single figure for remuneration for each employee includes earned salary, annual incentive, allowance, pension and benefits for 2020. Part-time employees have been excluded for the purpose of calculations.

Comparisons have been made with employees at median (P50), lower (P25) and upper (P75) quartiles. We have used the actual salaries paid to our employees in UK. The values were listed lowest to highest and three percentiles were identified. We are confident this methodology gives us the most reflective pay at the median. The Committee is satisfied that the individuals identified in the employee comparison group appropriately reflect the employee pay profile at those quartiles, and that the overall picture presented by the ratios is consistent with our pay, reward and progression policies for UK employees.

Remuneration implementation report continued

The table below sets out the ratio at the median, lower and upper quartiles:

Year	P25 (lower quartile)	P50 (median)	P75 (upper quartile)
2018 – voluntary	142:1	95:1	59:1
2019	116:1	81:1	51:1
2020	42:1	29:1	19:1

In 2020 the ratio reduced due to impact of COVID-19 on bonuses paid to the Chief Executive Officer.

The table below provides the total pay figure used for each quartile employee, and the salary component within this.

Component	CEO ¹	P25 (lower quartile)	P50 (median)	P75 (upper quartile)
Salary	\$1,470,275	\$40,201	\$52,668	\$64,054
Total pay	\$1,697,773	\$40,201	\$57,880	\$91,178

¹ Roland Diggelmann is paid in Swiss Francs and this figure was converted into US Dollars for comparative reasons using CHF to US\$1.065417.

Relative importance of spend on pay

When considering remuneration arrangements for our Executive Directors and employees as a whole, the Committee also takes into account the overall profitability of the Company and the amounts spent elsewhere, particularly in returning profits to shareholders in the form of dividends and share buy-backs.

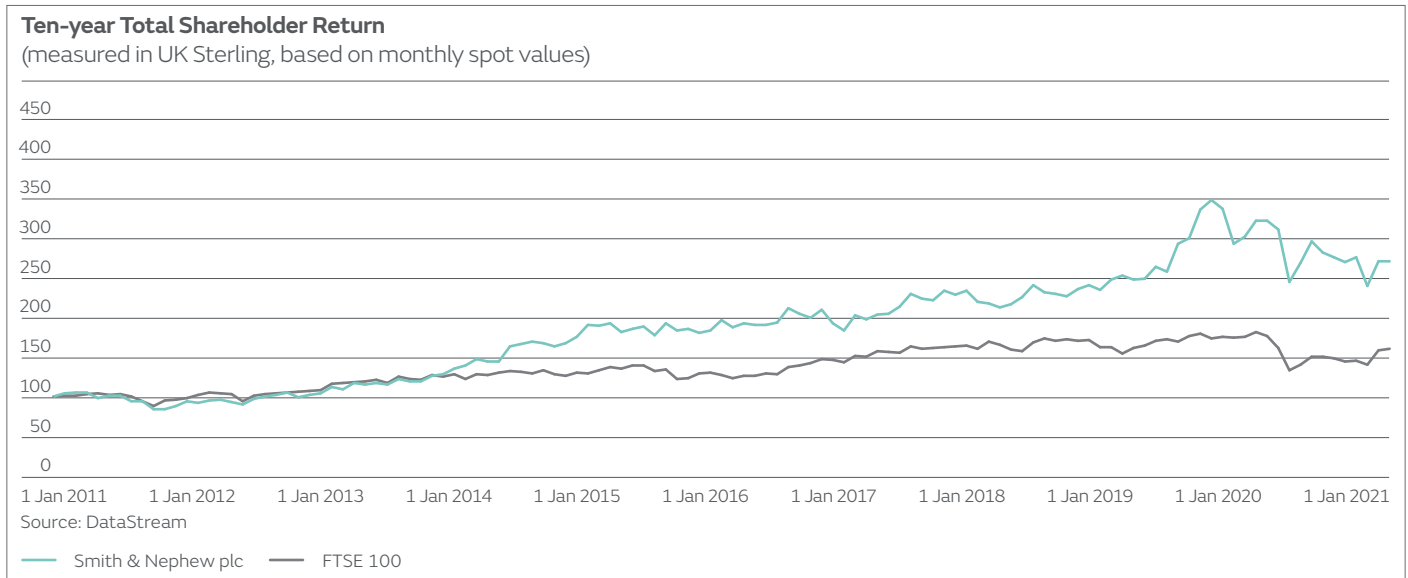
The following table sets out the total amounts spent in 2020 and 2019 on remuneration, the attributable profit for each year and the dividends declared and paid in each year.

	For the year to 31 December 2020	For the year to 31 December 2019	% change
Attributable profit for the year	\$448m	\$600m	-25%
Dividends paid during the year	\$328m	\$318m	+3%
Share buy-back ¹	\$16m	\$63m	-75%
Total Group spend on remuneration	\$1,392m	\$1,435m	-3%

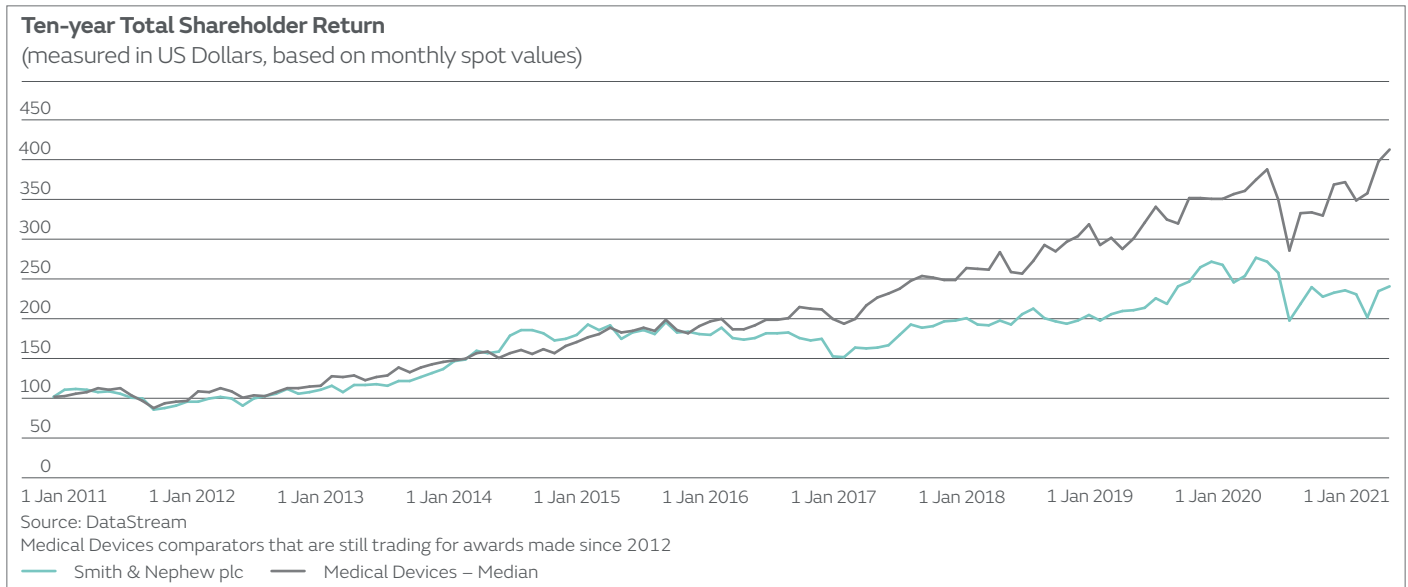
¹ Shares are bought in the market in respect of shares issued as part of the executive and employee share plans. The share buy-back programme for 2020 has been suspended in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and remains under review.

Total Shareholder Return

A graph of the Company's TSR performance compared to that of the FTSE 100 index is shown below in accordance with Schedule 8 to the Regulations.



However, as we also compare the Company's performance to a tailored sector peer group of medical devices companies (see [page 116](#)), when considering TSR performance in the context of the Global Share Plan 2010 and Global Share Plan 2020, we feel that the following graph showing the TSR performance of this peer group is also of interest.



Remuneration implementation report continued

Table of historic data

The following table details information about the pay of the Chief Executive Officer in the previous 10 years:

Year	Chief Executive Officer	Single figure of total remuneration \$	Annual Cash Incentive payout against maximum %	Long-term incentive vesting rates against maximum opportunity	
				Performance shares %	Options %
2020	Roland Diggelmann	\$1,697,773	0 ⁹	–	–
2019	Roland Diggelmann ¹	\$265,814 ⁷	–	–	–
2019	Namal Nawana ²	\$4,489,374 ⁷	71 ⁸	–	–
2018	Namal Nawana	\$2,883,632	69	–	–
2018	Olivier Bohuon ³	\$2,383,582	63	46.5	–
2017	Olivier Bohuon	\$5,116,689	61	54	–
2016	Olivier Bohuon	\$3,332,850	30	8	–
2015	Olivier Bohuon	\$5,342,377	75	33.5	–
2014	Olivier Bohuon	\$6,785,121	43	57	–
2013	Olivier Bohuon	\$4,692,858	84	0	–
2012	Olivier Bohuon	\$4,956,771	84	–	–
2011	Olivier Bohuon ^{4,5}	\$7,442,191	68	–	–
2011	David Illingworth ⁶	\$3,595,787	37	27	27

1 Appointed Chief Executive Officer on 1 November 2019.

2 Appointed Chief Executive Officer on 7 May 2018 and resigned on 31 October 2019.

3 Retired as Chief Executive Officer on 7 May 2018.

4 Appointed Chief Executive Officer on 1 April 2011.

5 Includes recruitment award of €1,400,000 cash and a share award of over 200,000 ordinary shares with a value of €1,410,000 on grant.

6 Resigned as Chief Executive Officer on 1 April 2011.

7 Prior years are restated to reflect amounts not known at the date of signing the previous Annual Report.

8 Calculated as 106.7% for Namal Nawana (disclosed on page 108 of the Company's Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2019), divided by the maximum potential payout of 150%.

9 Due to the impact of COVID-19 upon the Chief Executive Officer's financial targets, a cash award of 0% was achieved.

Gender Pay ratio

In 2020, the Committee reviewed our UK Gender Pay ratio. It was noted that today our Gender Pay gap is greater than we would like it to be, but we have seen an improvement in our mean and median pay gap in the UK. The mean pay gap has reduced from 28% in 2019 to 22% in 2020 and the median pay gap from 18% to 16% for the same period. We shall continue to review these figures.

Shareholding requirements

The Chief Executive Officer is required to hold three times his salary in the form of shares and the Chief Financial Officer is required to hold two times her salary. Executive Directors have five years from their appointment within which to meet that holding requirement. Due to the tenure of the Executive Directors neither have met their shareholding requirements, but this will continue to be monitored in accordance with the Remuneration Policy.

Post cessation shareholding requirements

In addition, Executive Directors are expected to hold vested shares for up to two years post-vesting of the Performance Share Programme and Deferred Bonus Shares. They are expected to hold up to their shareholding requirement only. These shares are held in the Vested Share Account provided by the Company's share plan administrator.

Statement of voting at Annual General Meeting

At the Annual General Meeting held on 9 April 2020, votes cast by proxy and at the meeting and votes withheld in respect of the votes on the Directors' Remuneration report and Directors' Remuneration Policy are noted below:

Resolution	Votes for	% for	Votes against	% against	Total votes validly cast	Votes withheld
Approval of the Directors' Remuneration Policy	676,749,445	97.71	15,843,720	2.29	692,593,165	352,762
Approval of the Directors' Remuneration report (excluding policy)	681,744,061	98.43	10,850,266	1.57	692,594,327	351,642

Senior management remuneration (audited)

The Group's administrative, supervisory and management body (senior management) is comprised for US reporting purposes, of Executive Directors and Executive Officers. Details of the current Executive Directors and Executive Officers are given on pages 69–77.

Compensation paid to senior management in respect of 2018, 2019 and 2020 was as follows:

	2020	2019	2018
Total compensation (excluding pension emoluments, but including cash payments under the performance-related incentive plans)	\$12,369,000	\$17,020,000	\$15,935,000
Total compensation for loss of office	–	\$5,559,000	\$433,000
Aggregate increase in accrued pension scheme benefits	–	–	–
Aggregate amounts provided for under supplementary schemes	\$1,753,000	\$1,564,000	\$1,570,000

As at 12 February 2021, senior management owned 367,570 shares and 10,934 ADSs, constituting less than 0.1% of the share capital of the Company. For this purpose, the Group is defined as the Executive Directors, members of the Executive Committee, including the Company Secretary and their Persons Closely Associated. Details of share awards granted during the year and held as at 12 February 2021 by members of senior management are as follows:

	Share awards granted during the year	Total share awards held as at 12 February 2021
Equity Incentive Programme awards	155,849	223,850
Performance Share Programme awards at maximum	524,332	838,346
Conditional Share Awards under the Global Share Plan 2010	240,829	295,137
Conditional Share Awards under the Global Share Plan 2020	13,120	–
Options under Employee ShareSave plans	437	1,162

The Smith+Nephew Employee Share Trust

Note 19.2 of these accounts states the movement in Treasury Shares and the Trust during 2020. No more shares are held within the Trust than are required for the next six months' of anticipated vestings. Any unvested shares held in the Trust are not voted upon at shareholder meetings. No more than 5% of the issued share capital at 31 December 2020 is held within the Trust. At 31 December 2020 shares were held in the Trust representing 0.14% of the issued share capital.

Dilution headroom

The Remuneration Committee ensures that at all times the number of new shares which may be issued under any share-based plans, including all-employee plans, does not exceed 10% of the Company's issued share capital over any rolling 10-year period (of which up to 5% may be issued to satisfy awards under the Company's discretionary plans). The Company monitors headroom closely when granting awards over shares taking into account the number of options or shares that might be expected to lapse or be forfeited before vesting or exercise. In the event that insufficient new shares are available, there are processes in place to purchase shares in the market to satisfy vesting awards and to net-settle option exercises.

Over the previous 10 years (2011 to 2020), the number of new shares issued under our share plans has been as follows:

All-employee share plans	7,407,929 (0.84% of issued share capital as at 12 February 2021)
Discretionary share plans	27,873,044 (3.15% of issued share capital as at 12 February 2021)

By order of the Board, on 18 February 2021

Angie Risley

Chair of the Remuneration Committee

The Policy report

The following section sets out our Directors' Remuneration Policy ('Policy'). This Policy was approved by shareholders at the Annual General Meeting held on 9 April 2020 and all financial amounts are as at that date.

In designing the Policy, the Committee followed a robust process which included discussions on the content of the Policy at four Committee meetings. The Committee considered input from management and our independent advisors, and sought the views of the Company's major shareholders and other stakeholders, including employees.

Changes to policy

The 2020 Remuneration Policy made the following changes to the 2017 Remuneration Policy:

- For new appointments and the current Chief Executive Officer, the maximum cash allowance paid in lieu of pension has reduced from 30% to 12% of base salary, to bring it fully into line with the wider UK workforce. For the Chief Financial Officer, the maximum amount will taper over the life of the Policy such that it also reaches 12% of base salary by 1 January 2022, compared to 30% under the previous policy.
- The former Annual Cash Incentive Plan (CIP) and Annual Equity Incentive Plan (EIP) have been simplified and amalgamated into an integrated Annual Bonus Plan, which is structured as a 50% cash bonus and 50% deferred share award:
 - The aggregate maximum opportunity of 215% of base salary is unchanged;
 - The aggregate target opportunity has reduced from 70% of maximum to 50% of maximum;
- If considering the former Equity Incentive Plan as a form of deferred bonus, for the annual incentive arrangements as a whole the amount deferred into shares has been increased from around a third of the total amount to 50%, with the time period for release lengthened from evenly over three years to all after three years.
- The maximum annual opportunity under the Performance Share Programme has been increased from 190% to 275% of base salary.
- Incorporates post-employment shareholding guidelines, which have been introduced from 1 January 2020.

Future policy table – Executive Directors

Base salary and benefits

Base salary

Core element of remuneration, paid for doing the expected day-to-day job.

How the component operates	Maximum levels of payment	Framework in which performance is assessed
<p>Salaries are normally reviewed annually with any increase applying from 1 April. Salary levels and increases take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Scope and responsibility of position; – Skill/experience and performance of the individual Executive Director; – General economic conditions in the relevant geographical market; – Average increases awarded across the Company, with particular regard to increases in the market in which the Executive Director is based; and – Market movements within a peer group of similarly sized listed companies. 	<p>The base salary of the Executive Directors with effect from 1 April 2020 will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Roland Diggelmann CHF 1,380,000. – Graham Baker £568,277. <p>While there is no maximum salary level, any increases will normally be in-line with the wider employee population within the relevant geographic area.</p> <p>Higher increases may be made under certain circumstances, at the Committee's discretion. For example, this may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – increase in the scope and/or responsibility of the individual's role; and – development of the individual within the role. <p>A full explanation will be provided in the Implementation Report should higher increases be approved in exceptional cases.</p> <p>In addition, where an Executive Director has been appointed to the Board at a lower than typical salary, larger increases may be awarded to move them closer to market practice as their experience develops.</p>	<p>Performance in the prior year is one of the factors taken into account and poor performance is likely to lead to a zero salary increase.</p>

Pension and payment in lieu of pension

Provide Executive Directors with an allowance for retirement planning.

How the component operates	Maximum levels of payment	Framework in which performance is assessed
<p>Executive Directors receive a cash allowance in lieu of membership of a Company-run pension scheme.</p> <p>In jurisdictions where the local law requires employees to participate in a Company-run pension scheme, Executive Directors participate in the local pension scheme to the extent of the amount paid in respect of the majority of our UK-based workforce.</p> <p>Base salary is the only component of remuneration which is pensionable.</p>	<p>The current Chief Executive Officer participates in the Swiss pension plan, and the Company contribution is 12% of his base pay in-line with the wider UK workforce. For any newly appointed Executive Directors, the maximum cash allowance payable in lieu of a pension is 12% of base salary.</p> <p>For the current Chief Financial Officer, the maximum cash allowance payable in lieu of a pension over the life of this Policy will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 2020: 20% of base salary. – 2021: 12% of base salary. 	None.

Benefits

Provide employees with a market competitive benefits package.

How the component operates	Maximum levels of payment	Framework in which performance is assessed
<p>A wide range of benefits may be provided depending on the benefits provided for comparable roles in the location in which the Executive Director is based.</p> <p>These benefits will include, as a minimum: healthcare cover, life assurance, long-term disability, annual medical examinations, company car or car allowance. The Committee retains the discretion to provide additional benefits, where necessary or relevant in the context of the Executive Director's location.</p> <p>Where applicable, relocation costs may be provided in-line with the Company's relocation policy for senior executives, which may include, amongst other items: removal costs, assistance with accommodation, living expenses for self and family and financial consultancy advice.</p> <p>In some cases, such payments may be grossed up.</p>	<p>While no maximum level of benefits is prescribed, they are set at an appropriate market competitive level, taking into account a number of factors, which may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The jurisdiction in which the individual is based. – The level of benefits provided for other employees within the Company. – Market practice for comparable roles within appropriate pay comparators. <p>The actual amount payable will depend on the cost of providing such benefits to an employee in the location at which the Executive Director is based.</p> <p>The Committee keeps the benefit policy and benefit levels under regular review.</p>	None.

The Policy report continued

All-employee arrangements

All-employee share plans

To enable Executive Directors to participate in all-employee share plans on a similar basis as other employees.

How the component operates	Maximum levels of payment	Framework in which performance is assessed
ShareSave Plans are operated in the UK and 32 other countries internationally. In the US, an Employee Stock Purchase Plan is operated. These plans enable employees to save on a regular basis and then buy shares in the Company. Executive Directors are able to participate in such plans on a similar basis to other employees, depending on where they are located.	Executive Directors may currently invest up to £500 per month in the UK ShareSave Plan, in-line with UK participants. The Committee may exercise its discretion to increase this amount up to the maximum permitted by HM Revenue & Customs. Similar limits will apply in different locations.	None.

Annual incentives

Annual Bonus Plan

Incentivises delivery of the business plan on an annual basis. Rewards performance against key performance indicators which are critical to the delivery of our business strategy.

How the component operates	Maximum levels of payment	Framework in which performance is assessed
<p>The Annual Bonus Plan is designed to reward performance over the year against financial and business objectives determined at the start of the year.</p> <p>At the end of the year, the Committee determines pay out levels based on the extent to which performance against these objectives has been achieved.</p> <p>The Committee has full discretion to adjust outcomes under the Annual Bonus Plan where the amount that a participant would/could receive under an Award would result in the participant receiving an amount which the Committee considers cannot be justified or which the Committee considers to be an unfair or undeserved benefit to the Participant. In exercising this discretion, the Committee may consider all circumstances, including (but not limited to): the financial performance of the Company; any changes in the Company's share price; and the performance, conduct and contribution of the participant.</p> <p>Malus and clawback provisions apply, as detailed in the notes to this table.</p> <p>Half of the award is paid in cash after the end of the performance year and half is deferred into shares under the Deferred Share Bonus Plan (DSBP), which vest after three years.</p>	<p>The maximum opportunity is 215% of base salary.</p> <p>50% of maximum is payable for on-target performance (107.5% of base salary).</p> <p>15% of maximum is payable for threshold performance (32% of base salary).</p>	<p>The Committee will determine the appropriate performance measures at the start of each financial year, in order to ensure that the Annual Bonus Plan focuses on key business priorities for the Company.</p> <p>Typically, 80% of the annual bonus will be based on financial performance measures. For 2020, the Committee has determined that these should be Revenue growth (40%) and Trading Profit Margin (40%).</p> <p>The remainder will usually be based on business objectives linked to key areas of strategic focus.</p> <p>The Committee retains the discretion to adjust the relative weightings of the financial and strategic components and to adopt any performance measure that is relevant to the Company.</p> <p>Under whatever measures are chosen, the Committee will set appropriately challenging targets at the start of each year. In doing so, they will take into account a number of internal and external reference points, including the Company's key strategic objectives for the year.</p> <p>The Committee may amend the performance conditions applicable to an award in accordance with the terms of the performance conditions or if events happen which cause the Committee to consider that it fails to fulfil its original purpose and would result in an unfair benefit for the participant in the reasonable opinion of the Committee.</p>

Long-term incentives

Performance Share Programme

To motivate and reward performance linked to the long-term strategy and share price of the Company.

The performance measures which determine the level of vesting of the Performance Share Awards are linked to our corporate strategy.

How the component operates	Maximum levels of payment	Framework in which performance is assessed
<p>Awards are granted pursuant to the terms of the Performance Share Programme. Awards are normally made in the form of conditional share awards, but may be awarded in other forms if appropriate, including nil cost options or a combination thereof.</p> <p>Awards vest after three years, subject to the achievement of stretching performance targets linked to the Company's strategy. The Committee has full discretion to adjust outcomes under the Performance Share Programme where the amount that a participant would/could receive under an Award would result in the participant receiving an amount which the Committee considers cannot be justified or which the Committee considers to be an unfair or undeserved benefit to the Participant. In exercising this discretion, the Committee may consider all circumstances, including (but not limited to): the financial performance of the Company; any changes in the Company's share price; and the performance, conduct and contribution of the participant.</p> <p>Participants may receive an additional number of shares equivalent to the amount of dividend payable on ordinary shares during the relevant performance period.</p> <p>On vesting, a number of shares are sold to cover the tax liability. The remaining shares are required to be held by the Executive Director for a further two-year holding period.</p> <p>The Committee may, in the event of any variation of the Company's share capital, demerger, delisting, or other event which may affect the value of awards, adjust or amend the terms of awards in accordance with the plan rules.</p> <p>Malus and clawback provisions apply, as detailed in the notes to this table.</p>	<p>The maximum annual opportunity is 275% of base salary.</p> <p>For on-target levels of performance, 50% of the award vests (137.5% of base salary).</p> <p>For threshold levels of performance, 25% of the award vests (68.75% of base salary).</p>	<p>The Committee aims to align the Performance Share Programme performance measures with the Company's key long-term strategic objectives. In this manner, strong performance against the measures should lead to long-term sustainable value creation for our shareholders.</p> <p>Measures used will typically include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Financial measures – to reflect the financial performance of our business and a direct and focused measure of Company success. – Shareholder return measures – a measure of the ultimate delivery of shareholder returns, providing direct alignment. – Strategic measures – aligned with the Company's long-term strategy. <p>The make-up and weighting of each measure will be determined by the Committee each year to reflect the particular strategic objectives over the relevant performance period.</p> <p>For the 2020 awards, it is proposed to use the following four measures, all equally weighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Revenue growth. – Return on Invested Capital. – Cumulative free cash flow. – Total Shareholder Return (TSR) performance against: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An index of Global Healthcare companies; and ▪ The FTSE 100 index. <p>Maximum Payment will only be made for significant outperformance.</p> <p>The Committee may amend the performance conditions applicable to an award in accordance with the terms of the performance conditions or if events happen which cause the Committee to consider that it fails to fulfil its original purpose and would result in an unfair benefit for the participant in the reasonable opinion of the committee.</p>

The Policy report continued

Shareholding guidelines

Within-employment shareholding guidelines

To align Executive Directors with shareholders and the long-term success of the Company.

How the component operates	Maximum levels of payment	Framework in which performance is assessed
<p>The Chief Executive Officer is expected to build a shareholding of 300% of base salary and the Chief Financial Officer is expected to build a shareholding of 200% of base salary.</p> <p>The Committee expects Executive Directors to satisfy this requirement within 5 years.</p> <p>Until the relevant shareholding guidelines have been met, Executive Directors are required to hold 50% of any shares vesting from Company incentive plans after tax.</p>	Not Applicable.	None.

Post-employment shareholding guidelines

To provide extended alignment with shareholders post-departure from the Company.

How the component operates	Maximum levels of payment	Framework in which performance is assessed
<p>Executive Directors will normally be required to maintain their within employment shareholding guideline (or their actual holding if lower) for a period following cessation.</p> <p>At the current time, the Committee requires Executive Directors to maintain 100% of their guideline for two years following departure.</p>	Not Applicable.	None.

Notes to future policy table – Executive Directors

Malus and clawback

At any time prior to the vesting of an award or payment of a cash bonus, the Committee may determine that an unvested award or part of an award may not vest, including to zero on the occurrence of a Trigger Event, as defined below (regardless of whether or not the performance conditions have been met). At any time up to three years after the vesting of an award or payment of a cash bonus, the Committee may determine that any cash bonus, vested shares, or their equivalent value in cash be returned to the Company on the occurrence of a Trigger Event. A Trigger Event shall occur if any of the following matter is discovered where:

- there has been a misstatement of the Company's financial results which has resulted in a material overpayment to participants, which is in the form of Awards under the Plan or otherwise, irrespective of whether the relevant participants are at fault;
- there has been an error in determining the size of the Award or to the extent to which the performance conditions have been satisfied, or erroneous or misleading data, which has resulted in the vesting of an Award which would not otherwise have vested or which would otherwise have vested to a materially lesser extent;
- there has been a significant adverse change in the financial performance or reputation of the Company, including corporate failure and/or any significant loss at a general level or in respect of a global business unit or function in which a participant worked; and/or
- the Committee determines that the conduct, capability or performance of a participant or any team, business area or profit centre warrants a review.

These provisions will apply under the Global Share Plan 2020 and the Annual Bonus Plan 2020.

Legacy matters

The Committee can make remuneration payments and payments for loss of office outside of the Policy set out above where the terms of the payment were agreed (i) before the Policy set out in this report came into effect, provided the terms of

the payment were consistent with any applicable policy in force at the time they were agreed; or (ii) at a time when the relevant individual was not an Executive Director of the Company (or other person to whom the Policy set out above applies) and that, in the opinion of the Committee, the payment was not in consideration for the individual becoming an Executive Director of the Company (or such other person). This includes the exercise of any discretion available to the Committee in connection with such payments. For these purposes, payments include the Committee satisfying awards of variable remuneration and, in relation to an award over shares, the terms of the payment are agreed at the time the award is granted.

The Policy set out above applies equally to any individual who would be required to be treated as an Executive Director under the applicable regulations. The Committee can make remuneration payments and payments for loss of office outside of the Policy set out above if such payments are required by law in a relevant country.

Consideration of employment conditions elsewhere in the Company and differences between arrangements for Executive Directors and workforce as a whole

The Committee discusses, and takes into account pay arrangements across the Company when determining the pay of Executive Directors in the following ways:

Base salary

Increases to Executive Director base salaries are generally in-line with base salary budgets in the geography in which the Executive Director is based, although the Committee will also have oversight of base salary budgets across the Company more generally when making the decision.

Pension contributions and payments in lieu of a pension

A range of different pension arrangements operate across the Group depending on location and/or length of service. Executive Directors either participate in pension arrangements relevant to their local market or receive a cash payment in lieu of a pension.

Benefits

Benefit packages vary across the world depending on local market practice. Executive Directors receive a range of benefits in-line with the standard executive benefits package in the geography in which they are based.

Annual Bonus Plan

Nearly all employees have performance-based pay, primarily in form of the Annual Bonus. Employees at different levels throughout the group participate in Annual Bonus Plans with different payment outcomes. The annual performance objectives are cascaded down to all employees from the objectives set at the beginning of the year for the Executive Directors and Executive Officers, to ensure that the performance of all employees is linked to the Strategic Imperatives. In 2019, 9 Executive Officers and 37 senior executives participated in the Annual Bonus Plan on the same basis as the Executive Directors subject to lower limits.

All Employee Share Plans

We operate two all-employee share plan arrangements depending on the most appropriate arrangement for different geographies. In 2019, in the US, 2,651 employees participated in the Employee Stock Purchase Plan. In 2019, in the UK and 32 other countries, 2,770 employees participated in the ShareSave Plan. Executive Directors, Executive Officers and senior executives participated in these plans depending on where they are located.

Long term incentives

10 Executive Officers and 38 senior executives participate in the Performance Share Programme on the same basis as the Executive Directors subject to lower limits.

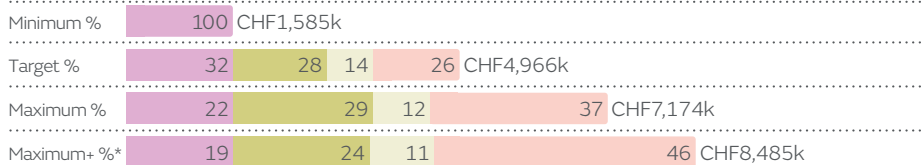
Shareholding requirements

Executive Officers and senior executives who participate in the Annual Bonus Plan and the Performance Share Programme are also required to build a significant shareholding in the Company.

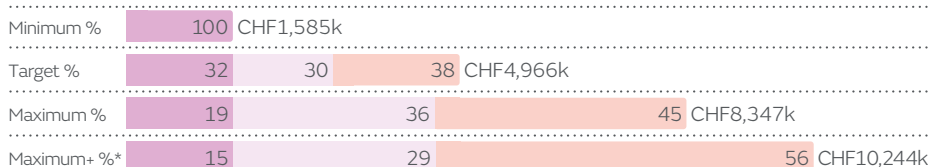
The Policy report continued

Chief Executive Officer

Current

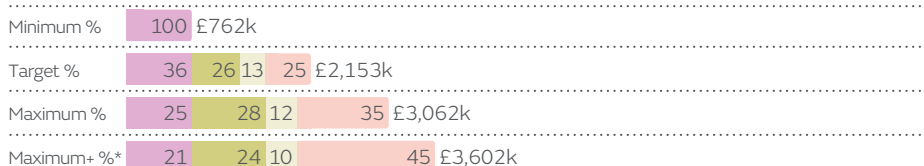


Proposed

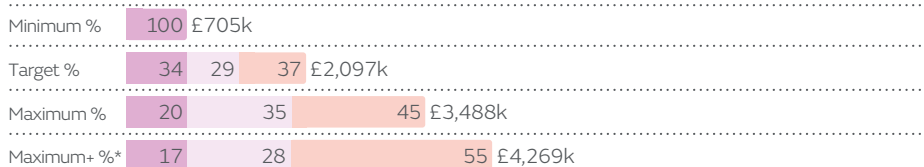


Chief Financial Officer

Current



Proposed



* + 50% share price growth Fixed pay Cash incentive Equity incentive Annual bonus PSP

	Assumed performance	Assumptions used for proposed Policy
Fixed pay	All performance scenarios	– Consists of total fixed pay, including base salary and pension allowance (as at 1 April 2020) and benefits (as received during 2019).
Variable pay	Minimum Performance	– No pay out under the Annual Bonus Plan. – No vesting under the Performance Share Programme.
	Target Performance	– 50% of maximum payout under the Annual Bonus Plan (ie 107.5% of salary). – 50% vesting under the Performance Share Programme (ie 137.5% of salary).
	Maximum Performance	– 100% of the maximum pay out under the Annual Bonus Plan (ie 215% of salary). – 100% vesting under the Performance Share Programme (ie 275% of salary).
	Maximum performance (including 50% share price growth scenario)	– 100% of the maximum pay out under the Annual Bonus Plan (ie 215% of salary). – 100% vesting under the Performance Share Programme (ie 275% of salary). – 50% growth in share price.

Illustrations of the application of the Remuneration Policy 2020

The following charts show the potential split between the different elements of the Executive Directors' remuneration under four different performance scenarios:

Performance Share Programme awards have been shown at face value with no discount rate assumptions.

The charts provide illustrative values of the remuneration package in 2020. Actual outcomes may differ from those shown.

Policy on recruitment arrangements

Our policy on the recruitment of Executive Directors is to pay a fair remuneration package for the role being undertaken and the experience of the Executive Director appointed. In terms of base salary, we will seek to pay a salary comparable, in the opinion of the Committee, to that which would be paid for an equivalent position elsewhere. The Committee will determine a base salary in-line with the Policy and having regard to the parameters set out in the Future Policy Table. Incoming Executive Directors will be entitled to pension (or cash payment in lieu of pension), benefits and incentive arrangements aligned with those set out in the Policy table above. On that basis, the aggregate annual opportunity under their incentive arrangements would not exceed 490% of base salary.

We recognise that in the event that we require a new Executive Director to relocate to take up a position with the Company, we may also pay relocation and related costs, in-line with the relocation arrangements we operate across the Group.

For external appointments, the Committee may award compensation for the forfeiture of remuneration awards from a previous employer. In doing so, the Committee would aim to structure the replacement awards in a like-for-like manner to the extent possible, taking into account relevant factors, including:

- The form of the forfeited awards (eg cash or shares);
- Any performance conditions attached to them and the likelihood of these conditions being satisfied; and
- The proportion of the vesting and/or performance period remaining.

The Committee will have regard to the best interests of both Smith+Nephew and its shareholders and is conscious of the need to pay no more than is necessary, particularly when determining buy-out arrangements.

In making buy-out awards to new appointments, the Committee may grant awards under the relevant provision in the Financial Conduct Authority Listing Rules, which allows for the granting of awards specifically to facilitate, in unusual circumstances, the recruitment of an Executive Director, without seeking prior shareholder approval. In doing so, it will comply with the provisions in force at the date of this report.

The overall approach outlined above would also apply to internal appointments, with the proviso that any commitments entered into before promotion which are inconsistent with the Policy will continue to be honoured.

We will aim to provide details via an announcement to the London Stock Exchange of an incoming Executive Director's remuneration arrangements at the time of their appointment.

Service contracts

We employ Executive Directors on rolling service contracts with notice periods of up to twelve months from the Company and six months from the Executive Director. On termination of the contract, we may require the Executive Director not to work his or her notice period and pay them an amount equivalent to the base salary, pension contributions (or payment in lieu of pension) and benefits they would have received if they had been required to work their notice period.

Under the terms of the Executive Directors' service contracts, Executive Directors are restricted for a period of 12 months after leaving the employment of the Company from working for a competitor, soliciting orders from customers and offering employment to employees of Smith+Nephew. The Company retains the right to waive these provisions in certain circumstances. In the event that these provisions are waived or the former Executive Director commences employment earlier than at the end of the notice period, no further payments shall be made in respect of the portion of notice period not worked. Directors' service contracts are available for inspection at the Company's registered office: Building 5, Croxley Park, Hatters Lane, Watford, Hertfordshire WD18 8YE.

Policy for payment for loss of office

Our policy regarding termination payments to departing Executive Directors is to limit severance payments to pre-established contractual terms. In the event that the employment of an Executive Director is terminated, any compensation payable will be determined in accordance with the terms of the service contract between the Company and the Executive Director, as well as the rule of any incentive plans.

Under normal circumstances (excluding termination for gross misconduct) all leavers are entitled to receive termination payments in lieu of notice equal to base salary, pension contributions (or payment in lieu of pension) and benefits. In some circumstances, additional benefits may become payable to cover reimbursement of untaken holiday leave, repatriation and outplacement fees, the costs of meeting any settlement agreement, and legal and financial advice.

In the event that an Executive Director dies or leaves for reasons of ill-health, redundancy or retirement in agreement with the Company, or for any other reason for which the Committee determines that good leaver treatment is appropriate:

- They may be eligible to receive an annual bonus on a time pro-rated basis for the period of the year that they have worked. The annual bonus will typically be subject to business and individual performance in the same manner as for the continuing Executive Directors, and paid at the usual time. In-line with Company policy for all our employees, Executive Directors leaving in the last three months of the year may be eligible to receive a full year bonus, while those joining in the last three months of the year may not be eligible to receive any bonus.
- Outstanding Deferred Share Bonus Plan awards will subsist and be released in-line with their original timeframes, unless the Committee determines otherwise. They will not normally be pro-rated.

- Outstanding Performance Share Programme awards will typically be pro-rated for the time worked during the relevant performance period, and tested for performance at the end of the performance period, unless the Committee determines otherwise. The two-year holding period will usually continue to be enforced.
- Any outstanding awards under the Deferred Share Bonus Plan or Performance Share Programme will remain subject to the same terms and conditions (including, malus and clawback) as applied at time of grant.

For participants who leave for any other reason, outstanding Deferred Share Bonus Plan and Performance Share Programme awards will lapse in full.

One-off awards granted on appointment will normally lapse on leaving except in cases of death, retirement, redundancy or ill-health. The Committee has discretion to permit such awards to vest in other circumstances and will be subject to satisfactorily meeting applicable performance conditions.

We will supply details via an announcement to the London Stock Exchange of a departing Executive Director's termination arrangements as soon as is practicable.

Policy on shareholding requirements

The Committee believes that one of the best ways our Executive Directors' interests can be aligned with that of shareholders is for them to hold a significant number of shares in the Company. The Chief Executive Officer is therefore expected to build a holding of Smith+Nephew shares worth three times his or her base salary and the Chief Financial Officer is expected to build a holding of two times his or her base salary. Executive Directors are required to retain at least 50% of the shares (after tax) vesting under Company incentive plans until this shareholding requirement has been met, recognising that differing international tax regimes affect the pace at which Executive Directors may fulfil the shareholding requirement.

The Policy report continued

When calculating whether or not this requirement has been met, Ordinary Shares or ADRs held by the Executive Directors and their immediate family are included, as are unvested awards under the Deferred Share Bonus Plan (on a net-of-tax basis), but not Performance Share Programme awards. Ordinarily we would expect Executive Directors to achieve their shareholding requirement within a period of five years from the date of appointment.

Executive Directors are also required to hold any shares vesting under the Performance Share Programme for a period of two years after vesting.

The 10 Executive Officers and 38 senior executives who participate in the Annual Bonus Plan and Performance Share Programme are also required to build a significant shareholding in the Company, extending the principle of alignment with our shareholders across the senior management team.

Policy on post cessation shareholding

Executive Directors are required to retain any shareholding up to the applicable shareholding requirement (or their actual holding on departure if lower) for a period of two years after cessation of employment.

In order to reinforce this expectation, and to the extent that the shareholding requirement has not been reached, all vested Deferred Share Bonus Plan and Performance Share Programme shares will be held in a Vested Share Account, which will not be accessible until two years post cessation of employment. In addition, former Executive Directors will be required to seek permission to deal during this period.

Consultation with employees relating to Executive Director remuneration

While the Committee does not directly consult with our employees as part of the process of determining executive pay, the Committee does receive feedback from employee surveys and takes this into account when reviewing executive pay. In addition, a significant number of our employees are shareholders and so are able to express their views in the same way as other shareholders. During 2019, no comments from employees relating to Executive Remuneration were raised during Board site visits.

Statement of consideration of shareholder views

Angie Riskey, the Committee Chair, engaged extensively with shareholders during development of the 2020 Remuneration Policy. The feedback received was presented to and discussed at length by the Committee, and informed the final shape of the proposals which are being put to the 2020 AGM.

Angie met with shareholders holding in excess of 38% of the Company's Share capital, and corresponded with a further 8.5%, meaning that almost half of our register were asked for their views. This included 17 of our top 20 shareholders plus a number of shareholders who, although holding a smaller number of shares, had indicated earlier in the year that they would be interested in engaging with the Company on remuneration matters. In addition, we met with the Investment Association, ISS and Glass Lewis to obtain their input.

The Chair appreciated the positive and constructive tone of the consultation. It was pleasing that shareholders were on the whole supportive of the proposals, particularly the:

- Emphasis on long-term sustainable performance;
- Simplification of the short-term incentive plans;
- Increased deferral of the short-term incentive opportunity;
- Reduction in target opportunity in the short-term arrangements;
- Reduction in pension payments; and
- Introduction of post-cessation shareholding requirements.

Some shareholders were cautious about the increase in maximum opportunity under the Performance Share Programme, and in particular looked for reassurance that maximum vesting under the plan would only be achieved for very stretching performance.

The Committee took all comments received on board during its subsequent discussions. With respect to the latter concern raised by some shareholders, in setting targets for the 2020 Performance Share Programme cycle, the Committee considers that the upper end of the performance ranges will require significant outperformance of internal and external forecasts for performance, as well as of the FTSE 100 and our direct peers. Further information is shown on [page 112–113](#) of the 2019 Annual Report.

Future policy table – Chair and Non-Executive Directors

The following table and accompanying notes explain the different elements of remuneration we pay to our Chair and Non-Executive Directors. This Policy is unchanged from 2017. No element of their remuneration is subject to performance. All payments made to the Chair are determined by the Remuneration Committee, whilst payments made to the Non-Executive Directors are determined by those Directors who are not themselves Non-Executive Directors, currently the Chair, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer.

Annual fees

Basic annual fee

To attract and retain Directors by setting fees at rates comparable to what would be paid in an equivalent position elsewhere.

A proportion of the fees are paid in shares in the third quarter of each year in order to further align Non-Executive Directors' fees with the interests of shareholders.

How the component operates	Maximum levels of payment
<p>Fees will be reviewed on an annual basis. In future, any increase will be paid in shares until 25% of the total fees is paid in shares.</p> <p>Fees are set in-line with market practice for fees paid by similar sized UK listed companies.</p> <p>Annual fees are set and paid in UK Sterling or US Dollars depending on the location of the Non-Executive Director. If appropriate, fees may be set and paid in alternative currencies.</p>	<p>Annual fees are currently as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – £63,000 in cash plus £6,500 in shares; or – \$120,000 in cash plus \$9,780 in ADRs. <p>Chair fees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – £315,180 in cash plus £105,060 in shares. <p>Whilst it is not expected to increase the fees paid to the Non-Executive Directors and the Chair by more than the increases paid to employees generally, in exceptional circumstances, higher fees might become payable.</p> <p>The total maximum aggregate fees payable to the Non-Executive Directors will not exceed £1.5m as set out in the Company's Articles of Association.</p>

Fee for Senior Independent Director and Committee Chair

To compensate Non-Executive Directors for the additional time spent as Committee Chair or Senior Independent Director.

How the component operates	Maximum levels of payment
<p>A fixed fee is paid, which is reviewed annually.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – £20,000 in cash. – \$35,000 in cash. <p>Whilst it is not expected that the fees paid to the Senior Independent Director or Committee Chairs will exceed the increases paid to employees generally, in exceptional circumstances, higher fees might become payable.</p>

Intercontinental travel

To compensate Non-Executive Directors for the time spent travelling to attend meetings in another continent.

How the component operates	Maximum levels of payment
<p>A fixed fee is paid, which is reviewed annually.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – £3,500 in cash; or – \$7,000 in cash. <p>Whilst it is not expected to increase these fees by more than the increases paid to employees generally, in exceptional circumstances, higher fees might become payable.</p>

Notes to future policy table – Non-Executive Directors

Additional duties undertaken by Non-Executive Directors

In the event that the Chair or a Non-Executive Director is required to undertake significant executive duties in order to support the Executive Directors during a period of absence due to illness or a gap prior to the appointment of a permanent Executive Director, the Committee is authorised to determine an appropriate level of fees which shall be payable. These fees will not exceed the amounts which would normally be paid to a permanent Executive Director undertaking such duties and shall not include participation in short or long-term incentive arrangements or benefit plans.

Policy on recruitment arrangements

Any new Non-Executive Director shall be paid in accordance with the current fee levels on appointment, in-line with the Policy set out above. With respect to the appointment of a new Chair, fee levels will take account of market rates, the individual's profile and experience, the time required to undertake the role and general business conditions. In addition, the Committee retains the right to authorise the payment of relocation assistance or an accommodation allowance in the event of the appointment of a Chair not currently based in the UK.

Letters of appointment

The Chair and Non-Executive Directors have letters of appointment which set out the terms under which they provide

their services to the Company. These are available for inspection at the Company's registered office: Building 5, Croxley Park, Hatters Lane, Watford, Hertfordshire WD18 8YE, United Kingdom.

The appointment of the Non-Executive Directors is not subject to a notice period, nor is there any compensation payable on loss of office, for example, should they not be re-elected at an Annual General Meeting. The appointment of the Chair is subject to a notice period of six months.

The Chair and Non-Executive Directors are required to acquire a shareholding in the Company equivalent in value to one time their basic fee within two years of their appointment to the Board.

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Other information

Statement of Directors' responsibilities in respect of the Annual Report and Financial Statements

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Form 20-F and the Group and Parent Company financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare Group and Parent Company financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the Group financial statements in accordance with international accounting standards in conformity with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and applicable law and have elected to prepare the Parent Company financial statements in accordance with UK accounting standards and applicable law, including FRS 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework. In addition the Group financial statements are required under the Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules to be prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ('IFRS') adopted pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1606/2002 as it applies in the European Union ('IFRS as adopted by the EU') and the Directors have also chosen to prepare the Group financial statements in accordance with IFRS as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Group and Parent Company and of their profit or loss for that period. In preparing each of the Group and Parent Company financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable, relevant, reliable and prudent;
- for the Group financial statements, state whether they have been prepared in accordance with international accounting standards in conformity with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, IFRS as adopted by the EU and IFRS as issued by the IASB;

- for the Parent Company financial statements, state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the Parent Company financial statements;
- assess the Group and Parent Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and
- use the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Group or the Parent Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Parent Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Parent Company and enable them to ensure that its financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Group and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Under applicable law and regulations, the Directors are also responsible for preparing a Strategic Report, Directors' Report, Directors' Remuneration Report and Corporate Governance Statement that comply with that law and those regulations.

The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Responsibility statement of the Directors in respect of the Annual Report

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge:

- the financial statements, prepared in accordance with the applicable set of accounting standards, give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Company and the undertakings included in the consolidation taken as a whole; and
- the Strategic Report and Directors' Report include a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the position of the issuer and the undertakings included in the consolidation taken as a whole, together with a description of the principal risks and uncertainties that they face.

The Strategic Report, which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, comprises [pages 1–65](#).

The Directors' Report, prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the UK Listing Authority's Listing Rules, and Disclosure Rules and Transparency Rules, comprising [pages 1–137](#) and [227–241](#), was approved by the Board and signed on its behalf.

We consider the Annual Report and financial statements, taken as a whole, are fair, balanced and understandable and provide the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Group's position and performance, business model and strategy.

By order of the Board, on 18 February 2021



Susan Swabey
Company Secretary



Independent auditor's UK report

Independent auditor's report to the members of Smith & Nephew Plc

1. Our opinion is unmodified

We have audited the financial statements of Smith & Nephew plc ("the Company") for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the Group Income Statement, Group Statement of Comprehensive Income, Group Balance Sheet, Group Cash Flow Statement, Group Statement of Changes in Equity, Company Balance Sheet, Company Statement of Changes in Equity and the related notes.

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the parent Company's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of the Group's profit for the year then ended;
- the Group financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with international accounting standards in conformity with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006;
- the parent Company financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with UK accounting standards, including FRS 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework; and
- the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, as regards the Group financial statements, Article 4 of the IAS Regulation to the extent applicable.

Additional opinion in relation to IFRSs as issued by the IASB

As explained in the accounting policies set out in the consolidated financial statements in addition to complying with its legal and regulatory obligation to apply international accounting standards in conformity with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Group has also applied IFRS as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by the IASB.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities are described below. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is a sufficient and appropriate basis for our opinion. Our audit opinion is consistent with our report to the Audit Committee.

We were first appointed as auditor by the shareholders on 9 April 2015. The period of total uninterrupted engagement is for the 6 financial years ended 31 December 2020. We have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities under, and we remain independent of the Group in accordance with, UK ethical requirements including the FRC Ethical Standard as applied to listed public interest entities. No non-audit services prohibited by that standard were provided.

2. Key audit matters: our assessment of risks of material misstatement

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements and include the most significant assessed risks of material misstatement (whether or not due to fraud) identified by us, including those which had the greatest effect on: the overall audit strategy; the allocation of resources in the audit; and directing the efforts of the engagement team. We summarise below the key audit matters, in decreasing order of audit significance, in arriving at our audit opinion above, together with our key audit procedures to address those matters and, as required for public interest entities, our results from those procedures. These matters were addressed, and our results are based on procedures undertaken, in the context of, and solely for the purpose of, our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and consequently are incidental to that opinion, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. Our identification of key audit matters remains unchanged from 2019 with the following exceptions: (i) we have removed the key audit matter related to the Osiris Therapeutics, Inc. ('Osiris') business combination as this transaction was executed and accounted for in 2019; and (ii) we have removed the key audit matter related to the evaluation of uncertain tax positions following the conclusion of tax audits leading to a significant release of provisions. We continue to perform audit procedures in respect of this matter.



The risk**Subjective estimate**

As discussed in note 17 to the financial statements, the Group holds a provision of \$336 million (2019: \$315 million) in respect of potential liabilities arising from the ongoing exposure to legal claims for metal-on-metal hip products.

The estimate for this provision requires the Group to use an actuarial model and make a number of key assumptions relating to the number of claimants and settlement outcome. Given the limited historical track record of metal-on-metal claims settled, the effect of these matters is that, as part of our risk assessment, we determined that the provision has a high degree of estimation uncertainty, with a potential range of reasonable outcomes greater than our materiality for the financial statements as a whole.

The financial statements (note 17.1) disclose the range estimated by the Group.

» Refer to [page 90](#) (Audit Committee Report), [page 187](#) (accounting policy) and [pages 154, 187–188](#) (financial disclosures)

Our response**Our procedures included:**

- **Control operation:** We evaluated the design and tested the operating effectiveness of certain internal controls over the Group's legal provision process. This included controls over the Group's review, challenge and assessment of the metal-on-metal provision and related key assumptions including estimating the number of claimants and the settlement outcomes.
- **Enquiry of lawyers:** We obtained correspondence directly from the Group's external counsel on the status of open metal-on-metal court proceedings and settlement negotiations. We compared the number of open metal-on-metal claims per the Company's records against these confirmations, and considered any relevant information provided in our evaluation of the related exposure.
- **Our actuarial expertise:** We involved actuarial specialists with relevant skills and knowledge, who assisted in challenging the number of claimants and settlement outcomes used in statistical projections in determining the provision, as well as the range of reasonably possible outcomes determined by the Group, by reference to historical data including settlement amounts, number of new claimants, and experience of other cases. In addition, the actuarial professionals assisted in evaluating whether the statistical model applied by the Group is in line with actuarial professional standards and industry practice for similar product liability claims. We evaluated the scope, competency, and objectivity of the Group's experts involved in developing the actuarial model used in the determination of the provision by considering the work they were engaged to perform, their professional qualifications, and reporting lines.
- **Assessing disclosures:** We assessed the Group's disclosures in respect of the metal-on-metal hip provision, including disclosures on how sensitive the provision is to changes in key assumptions and the range of possible outcomes.

Our results

We found the level of provisioning and disclosures in respect of metal-on-metal hip products to be acceptable (2019: acceptable).

Independent auditor's UK report continued

Excess and Obsolescence (E&O) provision for Orthopaedics Inventory

Risk vs 2019: ◀▶

The risk

Subjective estimate

The Group has high levels of Orthopaedics inventory that is available for customers' immediate use. Complete sets of products including large and small sizes (which are used less frequently) have to be made available to customers at their premises. An assessment is made by the Group to identify excess or obsolete inventory.

As a result, the Group has recognised a provision for excess and obsolete inventory (E&O provision) for Orthopaedics which is approximately 80% of the total E&O provision. As discussed in note 12 to the consolidated financial statements, the Group's total E&O provision is \$377 million (2019: \$308 million).

The key input into this provision is the estimate of the future utilisation of inventory on hand.

There was a high degree of subjectivity in assessing a number of the assumptions applied by the Group in calculating the future utilisation of inventory. Future utilisation is based on assumptions of historical sales of inventory adjusted for internal or external factors such as effectiveness of inventory deployment, length of product lives and planned phase out of products which may impact the demand for the product. In addition, COVID-19 has brought greater volatility to historical sales of inventory and greater uncertainty to future utilisation leading to a high level of measurement uncertainty.

» Refer to [page 90](#) (Audit Committee Report), [page 174](#) (accounting policy) and [pages 153 and 175](#) (financial disclosures)

Our response

Our procedures included:

- **Control operation:** We evaluated the design and tested the operating effectiveness of certain internal controls over the Group's process for assessing the E&O provision, including controls over the assumptions listed to the left to determine expected future utilisation of Orthopaedics inventory.
- **Test of detail:** We assessed and challenged the assumptions listed to the left, in the E&O provision through a combination of interviews of finance and operations personnel and inspection of internal budgets, including a selection of product plans to assess the impact of plans for phasing out product lines on future utilisation of Orthopaedics inventory.
- **Historical comparisons:** We evaluated the Group's ability to accurately estimate the E&O provision by comparing historically recorded provisions to actual results and historically estimated future utilisation to actual utilisation.
- **Sensitivity analysis:** We assessed the sensitivity of the key assumptions, listed to the left, incorporating the recent volatility in sales of inventory, to consider their impact on the Group's determination of the calculation of the provision recognised.
- **Assessing disclosures:** Assessing the adequacy of the Group's disclosures in respect of E&O provision.

Our results

The results of our testing were satisfactory, and we considered the level of E&O provision for Orthopaedics inventory to be acceptable (2019: acceptable).

Parent company financial statements only: Recoverability of Parent Company's investment in subsidiaries

Risk vs 2019: ◀▶

The risk

Low risk, high value

The carrying amount of the Parent Company's investments in subsidiaries held at cost less impairment represents 61% (2019: 75%) of the Parent Company's total assets.

We do not consider the valuation of these investments to be at a high risk of significant misstatement, or to be subject to a significant level of judgement. However, due to their materiality in the context of the Parent Company financial statements as a whole, this is considered to be the area which had the greatest effect on our overall audit strategy and allocation of resources in planning and completing our Parent Company audit.

Our response

Our procedures included:

- **Test of detail:** Comparing a sample of the highest value investments representing 98% (2019: 98%) of the total investment balance with the relevant subsidiaries' draft balance sheets to identify whether their net assets, being an approximation of their minimum recoverable amount, were in excess of their carrying amount and assessing whether those subsidiaries have historically been profit-making.
- **Assessing subsidiary audits:** Assessing the work performed by the subsidiary audit teams and on that sample of subsidiaries, consider the results of their work on profits and net assets.

Our results

We found the Directors' assessment of the recoverability of the investment in subsidiaries to be acceptable (2019: acceptable).

3. Our application of materiality and an overview of the scope of our audit

Materiality

Materiality for the group financial statements as a whole was set at \$36 million (2019: \$49 million), determined with reference to a benchmark of Group revenue, of which it represents 0.79% (2019: benchmark of Group profit before tax, normalised to exclude 2019 restructuring costs of \$134 million, legal & other charges of \$50 million and a charge of \$34 million related to acquisition and disposal related items as disclosed in note 6, of which it represented 5.1%).

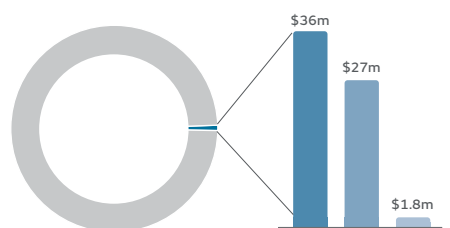
As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the profit of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2020 was significantly impacted with profit before tax declining by 67%, however the overall size of the business, both geographically and in terms of products, did not reduce. In these situations, auditing standards allow for an alternative benchmark to be used in determining materiality that is most likely to influence the decision making of the users of the financial statements and appropriately reflects the size of the business. We determined that revenue was the most appropriate alternative benchmark in these circumstances to determine materiality.

In line with our audit methodology, our procedures on individual account balances and disclosures were performed to a lower threshold, performance materiality, so as to reduce to an acceptable level the risk that individually immaterial misstatements in individual account balances add up to a material amount across the financial statements as a whole.

Materiality for the parent company financial statements as a whole was set at \$32 million (2019: \$36 million), determined with reference to a benchmark of company total assets, of which it represents 0.3% (2019: 0.4%).

Performance materiality for the group and parent company was set at 75% (2019: 75%) of materiality for the financial statements, which equates to \$27 million (2019: \$37 million), and 75% (2019: 65%) for the parent company, which equates to \$24 million (2019: \$23 million). We applied this percentage in our determination of

Group revenue	Group materiality
\$4,560m	\$36m
2019	2019
(Group normalised profit before tax)	\$49m
\$961m	



Group revenue	
Group materiality	
Whole financial statements materiality	\$36m (2019: \$49m)
Group performance materiality	\$27m (2019: \$36m)
Misstatements reported to the Audit Committee	\$1.8m (2019: \$2.5m)

performance materiality because we did not identify any factors indicating an elevated level of risk.

We agreed to report to the Audit Committee any corrected or uncorrected identified misstatements exceeding \$1.8 million (2019: \$2.5 million), in addition to other identified misstatements that warranted reporting on qualitative grounds.

Scoping

Of the group's 118 (2019: 111) reporting components, we subjected 6 (2019: 7) to full scope audits for group purposes and 34 (2019: 29) to audits of specified account balances and specific risk focussed audit procedures focussed on revenue, receivables and cash (8 (2019: 7)) and inventory (6 (2019: 3)).

The latter were not individually financially significant enough to require a full scope audit for group purposes but did present specific individual risks that needed to be addressed.

The components within the scope of our work accounted for the percentages illustrated opposite.

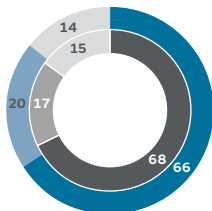
The remaining 14% (2019: 15%) of total group revenue, 12% (2019: 13%) of group profit before tax and 8% (2019: 18%) of total group assets is represented by 78 (2019: 75) reporting components, none of which individually represented more than 2% (2019: 2%) of any of total group revenue, group profit before tax or total group assets. For these residual components, we performed analysis at an aggregated group level to re-examine our assessment that there were no significant risks of material misstatement within these.

The Group team instructed component auditors as to the significant areas to be covered, including the relevant risks detailed above and the information to be reported back. The Group team approved the component materialities, which ranged from \$5 million to \$28 million (2019: \$5 million to \$37 million), having regard to the mix of size and risk profile of the Group across the components. The work on 18 of the 40 components (2019: 18 of the 36 components) was performed by component auditors and the rest, including the audit of the parent company, was performed by the Group team.

Independent auditor's UK report continued

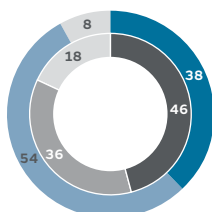
Group revenue

86%
2019
85%



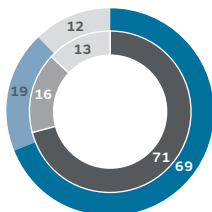
Group total assets

92%
2019
82%



Group profit before tax

88%
2019
87%



■	Full scope for group audit purposes 2020
■	Audit of specific account balances and specific risk-focused audit procedures 2020
■	Full scope for group audit purposes 2019
■	Audit of specific account balances and specific risk-focused audit procedures 2019
■	Residual components

The Group audit team had planned to visit component locations in the USA, China, UK, Germany, South Africa and Costa Rica; however, these visits were prevented by movement restrictions relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, senior members of the group engagement team used video conferencing to oversee the component auditor work and had video discussions with management of the 6 component locations in scope of the group audit we had planned to visit (USA, China, UK, Germany, South Africa and Costa Rica). In addition, in all locations except China, the group audit team conducted remote file reviews by senior members of the audit team to evaluate whether work performed over key areas of the audit was sufficient. The Group audit team also attended local final audit closing meetings via conference call. Due to regulatory restrictions, a remote file review was not possible for the Chinese component; therefore, the Group audit team increased progress calls, obtained extended reporting and held an expanded closing meeting with the Chinese component audit team to understand, assess and challenge the audit approach and findings.

4. We have nothing to report on going concern

The Directors have prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis as they do not intend to liquidate the Group or the Company or to cease their operations, and as they have concluded that the Group's and the Company's financial position means that this is realistic. They have also concluded that there are no material uncertainties that could have cast significant doubt over their ability to continue as a going concern for 22 months from the date of approval of the financial statements ("the going concern period").

We used our knowledge of the Group, its industry, and the general economic environment to identify the inherent risks to its business model and analysed how those risks might affect the Group's and Company's financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period. The risk that we considered most likely to adversely affect the Group's

and Company's available financial resources and metrics relevant to debt covenants over this period was an extended downturn in elective surgery volumes as a consequence of COVID-19, leading to a sustained medium-term decline in revenue and profits.

We also considered less predictable but realistic second order impacts, such as adverse working capital movements, including delays in customer payments, due to COVID-19, temporary loss of key production capability (caused by COVID-19 driven labour shortages or otherwise) resulting in an inability to manufacture key products for a period of time, new product liability claims giving rise to significant claims and legal fees and pricing and reimbursement pressures or a currency exchange volatility leading to a long-term decline in revenue and profits.

We considered whether these risks could plausibly affect the liquidity or covenant compliance in the going concern period by comparing severe, but plausible downside scenarios that could arise from these risks individually and collectively against the level of available financial resources and covenants indicated by the Group's financial forecasts.

Our procedures also included:

- Critically assessing assumptions in the base case and downside scenarios, particularly in relation to revenues and its impact on forecast liquidity and covenant compliance, by comparing to historical trends in severe economic situations (primarily 2020 financial performance), overlaying knowledge of the entity's plans based on approved budgets, as well as our knowledge of the entity and the sector in which it operates.
- Considering whether the going concern disclosure in note 1 to the financial statements gives a full and accurate description of the Directors' assessment of going concern, including the identified risks, and related sensitivities.

Our conclusions based on this work:

- we consider that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate;
- we have not identified, and concur with the directors' assessment that there is not, a material uncertainty related to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Group's or Company's ability to continue as a going concern for the going concern period;
- we have nothing material to add or draw attention to in relation to the directors' statement in note 1 to the financial statements on the use of the going concern basis of accounting with no material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt over the Group and Company's use of that basis for the going concern period, and we found the going concern disclosure in note 1 to be acceptable; and
- the related statement under the Listing Rules set out on [page 23](#) is materially consistent with the financial statements and our audit knowledge.

However, as we cannot predict all future events or conditions and as subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgements that were reasonable at the time they were made, the above conclusions are not a guarantee that the Group or the Company will continue in operation.

5. Fraud and breaches of laws and regulations – ability to detect identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud ("fraud risks") we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- Enquiring of directors, the Audit Committee, internal audit, compliance officers and inspection of policy documentation as to the Group's high-level policies and procedures to prevent and detect fraud, including the internal audit function, and the Group's channel for "whistleblowing", as well as whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud.

- Reading Board and all relevant committee minutes.
- Considering remuneration incentive schemes (primarily the annual bonus plan) and performance targets for management and directors, including revenue and trading margin targets for management remuneration.
- Using analytical procedures to identify any usual or unexpected relationships.
- Using our own forensic specialists to assist us in identifying fraud risks based on discussions of the circumstances of the Group and Company.

We communicated identified fraud risk factors throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of fraud throughout the audit. This included communication from the group component audit teams of relevant fraud risk factors identified at the Group level and request to component audit teams to report to the Group audit team any instances of fraud that could give rise to a material misstatement at the group level.

As required by auditing standards, and taking into account our overall knowledge of the control environment, we perform procedures to address the risk of management override of controls, in particular the risk that Group and component management may be in a position to make inappropriate accounting entries and the risk of bias in accounting estimates and judgements such as inventory provisioning and expected credit losses.

On this audit we do not believe there is a fraud risk related to revenue recognition based on the following assessment:

- The accounting for the majority of the Group's sales is non-complex, and subject to limited levels of judgment with limited opportunities for manual intervention in the sales process to fraudulently manipulate revenue. There is also a short time period between order and delivery.
- Revenue related rebates and deductions are relevant for sales made to distributors in certain markets, and the calculation of these includes a level of estimation which may be subject to management bias. However, given the materiality of the respective accruals, their contractual terms, and the historic profile of these deductions, including frequency of settlement, we are satisfied

that there is no significant risk of fraud associated with these sales. We are also satisfied that there are no significant risks around fraudulent sales to distributors, including channel stuffing, given the materiality of these arrangements, number and size of agreements and levels of channel inventory.

We did not identify any additional fraud risks.

In determining the audit procedures, we took into account the results of our evaluation and testing of the operating effectiveness of the Group-wide fraud risk management controls.

We also performed procedures including:

- Identifying journal entries and other adjustments to test for all full scope components based on specific risk-based criteria and comparing the identified entries to supporting documentation. These included those posted by senior finance management, those posted to unusual accounts, and those with missing user identification; and
- Assessing significant accounting estimates for bias.

We discussed with the Audit Committee other matters related to actual or suspected fraud, (over and above allegations of possible violations of anti-corruption laws in India detailed on [page 217](#)) for which disclosure is not necessary, and considered any implications for our audit.

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to non-compliance with laws and regulations

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience, through discussion with the directors and other management (as required by auditing standards), and from inspection of the Group's regulatory and legal correspondence and discussed with the directors and other management the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We engaged forensic specialists to assist in the review of relevant correspondence and attend discussions with management on relevant matters.

Independent auditor's UK report continued

As the Group is regulated, our assessment of risks involved gaining an understanding of the control environment including the entity's procedures for complying with regulatory requirements.

We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. This included communication from the group to component audit teams of relevant laws and regulations identified at the Group level, and a request for component auditors to report to the group team any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that could give rise to a material misstatement at group.

The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Group is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation (including related companies legislation), distributable profits legislation, and taxation legislation and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the Group is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation or the loss of the Group's license to operate. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: Food and Drug Administration regulations in the US and the compliance of business practices with the UK Bribery Act and the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act recognising the regulated nature of the Group's activities. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and

regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Therefore, if a breach of operational regulations is not disclosed to us or evident from relevant correspondence, an audit will not detect that breach.

We assessed the disclosures in the principal risks section of the Annual Report on [page 56](#) related to allegations of possible violations of anti-corruption laws in India compared to our knowledge based on discussion with the Company's external legal advisors and review of documentation including whistleblowing reports.

Context of the ability of the audit to detect fraud or breaches of law or regulation

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of fraud, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Our audit procedures are designed to detect material misstatement. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance or fraud and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

6. We have nothing to report on the other information in the Annual Report

The directors are responsible for the other information presented in the Annual Report together with the financial statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except as explicitly stated below, any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether, based on our financial statements audit work, the information therein is materially misstated or inconsistent with the financial statements or our audit knowledge. Based solely on that work we have not identified material misstatements in the other information.

Strategic report and directors' report

Based solely on our work on the other information:

- we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and the directors' report;
- in our opinion the information given in those reports for the financial year is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion those reports have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Directors' remuneration report

In our opinion the part of the Directors' Remuneration Report to be audited has been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Disclosures of emerging and principal risks and longer-term viability

We are required to perform procedures to identify whether there is a material inconsistency between the directors' disclosures in respect of emerging and principal risks and the viability statement, and the financial statements and our audit knowledge.

Based on those procedures, we have nothing material to add or draw attention to in relation to:

- the directors' confirmation within the viability statement on [pages 64](#) that they have carried out a robust assessment of the emerging and principal risks facing the Group, including those that would threaten its business model, future performance, solvency and liquidity;
- the Principal Risks disclosures describing these risks and how emerging risks are identified, and explaining how they are being managed and mitigated; and

- the directors' explanation in the viability statement of how they have assessed the prospects of the Group, over what period they have done so and why they considered that period to be appropriate, and their statement as to whether they have a reasonable expectation that the Group will be able to continue in operation and meet its liabilities as they fall due over the period of their assessment, including any related disclosures drawing attention to any necessary qualifications or assumptions.

We are also required to review the viability statement, set out on [page 64](#) under the Listing Rules. Based on the above procedures, we have concluded that the above disclosures are materially consistent with the financial statements and our audit knowledge.

Our work is limited to assessing these matters in the context of only the knowledge acquired during our financial statements audit. As we cannot predict all future events or conditions and as subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgements that were reasonable at the time they were made, the absence of anything to report on these statements is not a guarantee as to the Group's and Company's longer-term viability.

Corporate governance disclosures

We are required to perform procedures to identify whether there is a material inconsistency between the directors' corporate governance disclosures and the financial statements and our audit knowledge.

Based on those procedures, we have concluded that each of the following is materially consistent with the financial statements and our audit knowledge:

- the directors' statement that they consider that the Annual Report and financial statements taken as a whole is fair, balanced and understandable, and provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Group's position and performance, business model and strategy;
- the section of the Annual Report describing the work of the Audit Committee, including the significant issues that the Audit Committee considered in relation to the financial

statements, and how these issues were addressed; and

- the section of the Annual Report that describes the review of the effectiveness of the Group's risk management and internal control systems.

We are required to review the part of Corporate Governance Statement relating to the Group's compliance with the provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code specified by the Listing Rules for our review. We have nothing to report in this respect.

7. We have nothing to report on the other matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006, we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent Company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent Company financial statements and the part of the Directors' Remuneration Report to be audited are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We have nothing to report in these respects.

8. Respective responsibilities

Directors' responsibilities

As explained more fully in their statement set out on [page 139](#), the directors are responsible for: the preparation of the financial statements including being satisfied that they give a true and fair view; such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; assessing the Group and parent Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Group or the parent Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue our opinion in an auditor's report. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

A fuller description of our responsibilities is provided on the FRC's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

9. The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Zulfikar Walji (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of KPMG LLP,
Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants
15 Canada Square
London E14 5GL

18 February 2021

Group income statement

	Notes	Year ended 31 December 2020 \$ million	Year ended 31 December 2019 \$ million	Year ended 31 December 2018 \$ million
Revenue	2	4,560	5,138	4,904
Cost of goods sold		(1,396)	(1,338)	(1,298)
Gross profit		3,164	3,800	3,606
Selling, general and administrative expenses	3	(2,562)	(2,693)	(2,497)
Research and development expenses	3	(307)	(292)	(246)
Operating profit	2 & 3	295	815	863
Interest income	4	6	10	8
Interest expense	4	(62)	(65)	(59)
Other finance costs	4	(7)	(18)	(20)
Share of results of associates	11	14	1	(11)
Profit before taxation		246	743	781
Taxation	5	202	(143)	(118)
Attributable profit for the year¹		448	600	663
Earnings per ordinary share¹	6			
Basic		51.3¢	68.6¢	76.0¢
Diluted		51.2¢	68.4¢	75.7¢

The Group has adopted IFRS 16 Leases from 1 January 2019 using the modified retrospective approach. Under this approach comparative information is not restated. Refer to Note 7 for further details.

Group statement of comprehensive income

	Notes	Year ended 31 December 2020 \$ million	Year ended 31 December 2019 \$ million	Year ended 31 December 2018 \$ million
Attributable profit for the year¹		448	600	663
Other comprehensive income:				
<i>Items that will not be reclassified to income statement</i>				
Remeasurement of net retirement benefit obligations	18	10	(14)	11
Taxation on other comprehensive income	5	(4)	2	(1)
Total items that will not be reclassified to income statement		6	(12)	10
<i>Items that may be reclassified subsequently to income statement</i>				
Cash flow hedges – forward foreign exchange contracts				
(Losses)/gains arising in the year		(24)	14	21
(Gains)/losses transferred to inventories for the year		(6)	(19)	2
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations		21	21	(132)
Taxation on other comprehensive income	5	4	–	(3)
Total items that may be reclassified subsequently to income statement		(5)	16	(112)
Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year, net of taxation		1	4	(102)
Total comprehensive income for the year¹		449	604	561

The Group has adopted IFRS 16 Leases from 1 January 2019 using the modified retrospective approach. Under this approach comparative information is not restated. Refer to Note 7 for further details.

1 Attributable to equity holders of the Company and wholly derived from continuing operations.

The Notes on pages 152–204 are an integral part of these accounts.

Group balance sheet

	Notes	At 31 December 2020 \$ million	At 31 December 2019 \$ million
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	7	1,449	1,323
Goodwill	8	2,928	2,789
Intangible assets	9	1,486	1,567
Investments	10	9	7
Investments in associates	11	108	103
Other non-current assets	13	33	35
Retirement benefit assets	18	133	106
Deferred tax assets	5	202	150
		6,348	6,080
Current assets			
Inventories	12	1,691	1,614
Trade and other receivables ¹	13	1,211	1,328
Cash at bank	15	1,762	277
		4,664	3,219
Total assets		11,012	9,299
Equity and liabilities			
Equity attributable to owners of the Company			
Share capital	19	177	177
Share premium		612	610
Capital redemption reserve		18	18
Treasury shares	19	(157)	(189)
Other reserves		(329)	(324)
Retained earnings		4,958	4,849
Total equity		5,279	5,141
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term borrowings and lease liabilities	15	3,353	1,975
Retirement benefit obligations	18	163	136
Other payables	14	94	102
Provisions	17	294	214
Deferred tax liabilities	5	141	167
		4,045	2,594
Current liabilities			
Bank overdrafts, borrowings, loans and lease liabilities	15	337	72
Trade and other payables	14	1,022	1,046
Provisions	17	123	203
Current tax payable		206	243
		1,688	1,564
Total liabilities		5,733	4,158
Total equity and liabilities		11,012	9,299

1 Trade and other receivables includes a current tax receivable of \$95m (31 December 2019: \$21m).

The accounts were approved by the Board and authorised for issue on 18 February 2021 and are signed on its behalf by:

Roberto Quarta
Chair

Roland Diggelmann
Chief Executive Officer

Anne-Françoise Nesmes
Chief Financial Officer

The Notes on pages 152–204 are an integral part of these accounts.

Group cash flow statement

	Notes	Year ended 31 December 2020 \$ million	Year ended 31 December 2019 \$ million	Year ended 31 December 2018 \$ million
Cash flows from operating activities				
Profit before taxation		246	743	781
Net interest expense	4	56	55	51
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment		562	502	435
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment and software		34	16	19
Share-based payments expense (equity-settled)	22	26	32	35
Share of results of associates	11	(14)	(1)	11
Net movement in post-retirement benefit obligations		1	(4)	(35)
Increase in inventories		(45)	(204)	(152)
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables		209	30	(108)
(Decrease)/increase in trade and other payables and provisions		(103)	201	71
Cash generated from operations ¹		972	1,370	1,108
Interest received		2	4	2
Interest paid		(61)	(56)	(54)
Income taxes refunded/(paid)		22	(150)	(125)
Net cash inflow from operating activities		935	1,168	931
Cash flows from investing activities				
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired		(170)	(869)	(29)
Capital expenditure		(443)	(408)	(347)
Net (purchase)/proceeds from sale of investments		(2)	23	(4)
Distribution from associate	11	9	3	2
Net cash used in investing activities		(606)	(1,251)	(378)
Cash flows from financing activities				
Proceeds from issue of ordinary share capital		2	2	3
Purchase of own shares		(16)	(63)	(48)
Payment of capital element of lease liabilities	20	(55)	(46)	–
Proceeds from borrowings due within one year	20	–	–	24
Settlement of borrowings due within one year	20	(5)	(125)	(30)
Proceeds from borrowings due after one year	20	1,950	1,290	370
Settlement of borrowings due after one year	20	(400)	(740)	(371)
Proceeds from own shares		9	9	10
Settlement of currency swaps	20	7	(2)	(8)
Equity dividends paid	19	(328)	(318)	(321)
Net cash from/(used in) financing activities		1,164	7	(371)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,493	(76)	182
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	20	257	333	155
Exchange adjustments	20	1	–	(4)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year²		1,751	257	333

The Group has adopted IFRS 16 Leases from 1 January 2019 using the modified retrospective approach. Under this approach comparative information is not restated. Refer to Note 7 for further details.

1 Includes \$117m (2019: \$123m, 2018: \$83m) of outgoings on restructuring and rationalisation expenses, \$24m (2019: \$36m, 2018: \$3m) of acquisition and disposal related items and \$75m (2019: \$105m inflow, 2018: \$104m outflow) of legal and other items.

2 Cash and cash equivalents is net of bank overdrafts of \$11m (2019: \$20m, 2018: \$32m).

The Notes on pages 152–204 are an integral part of these accounts.

Group statement of changes in equity

	Share capital \$ million	Share premium \$ million	Capital redemption reserve \$ million	Treasury shares ² \$ million	Other reserves ³ \$ million	Retained earnings ⁴ \$ million	Total equity \$ million
At 31 December 2017	178	605	17	(257)	(228)	4,329	4,644
Adjustment on initial application of IFRS 9 (net of tax)	–	–	–	–	–	(11)	(11)
Adjusted balance as at 1 January 2018	178	605	17	(257)	(228)	4,318	4,633
Attributable profit for the year ¹	–	–	–	–	–	663	663
Other comprehensive expense	–	–	–	–	(112)	10	(102)
Equity dividends declared and paid	–	–	–	–	–	(321)	(321)
Share-based payments recognised	–	–	–	–	–	35	35
Taxation on share-based payments	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
Purchase of own shares	–	–	–	(48)	–	–	(48)
Cost of shares transferred to beneficiaries	–	–	–	40	–	(30)	10
Cancellation of treasury shares	(1)	–	1	51	–	(51)	–
Issue of ordinary share capital ⁵	–	3	–	–	–	–	3
At 31 December 2018	177	608	18	(214)	(340)	4,625	4,874
Attributable profit for the year	–	–	–	–	–	600	600
Other comprehensive income	–	–	–	–	16	(12)	4
Equity dividends declared and paid	–	–	–	–	–	(318)	(318)
Share-based payments recognised	–	–	–	–	–	32	32
Taxation on share-based payments	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
Purchase of own shares	–	–	–	(63)	–	–	(63)
Cost of shares transferred to beneficiaries	–	–	–	38	–	(29)	9
Cancellation of treasury shares	–	–	–	50	–	(50)	–
Issue of ordinary share capital ⁵	–	2	–	–	–	–	2
At 31 December 2019	177	610	18	(189)	(324)	4,849	5,141
Attributable profit for the year ¹	–	–	–	–	–	448	448
Other comprehensive income	–	–	–	–	(5)	6	1
Equity dividends declared and paid	–	–	–	–	–	(328)	(328)
Share-based payments recognised	–	–	–	–	–	26	26
Taxation on share-based payments	–	–	–	–	–	(4)	(4)
Purchase of own shares	–	–	–	(16)	–	–	(16)
Cost of shares transferred to beneficiaries	–	–	–	37	–	(28)	9
Cancellation of treasury shares	–	–	–	11	–	(11)	–
Issue of ordinary share capital ⁵	–	2	–	–	–	–	2
At 31 December 2020	177	612	18	(157)	(329)	4,958	5,279

1 Attributable to equity holders of the Company and wholly derived from continuing operations.

2 Refer to Note 19.2 for further information.

3 Other reserves comprises gains and losses on cash flow hedges, foreign exchange differences on translation of foreign operations and net changes on fair value of trade investments. The cumulative translation loss within other reserves at 31 December 2020 was \$297m (2019: \$318m loss, 2018: \$339m loss).

4 Within retained earnings is a capital reserve of \$2,266m (2019: \$2,266m, 2018: \$2,266m).

5 Issue of ordinary share capital in connection with the Group's share incentive plans.

The Notes on pages 152–204 are an integral part of these accounts.

Notes to the Group accounts

1 Basis of preparation

Smith & Nephew plc (the Company) is a public limited company incorporated in England and Wales. In these accounts, the 'Group' means the Company and all its subsidiaries. The principal activities of the Group are to develop, manufacture, market and sell medical devices and services.

The Group has prepared its accounts in accordance with International Accounting Standards in conformity with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) adopted pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1606/2002 as it applies in the European Union. The Group has also prepared its accounts in accordance with IFRS as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) effective as at 31 December 2020. IFRSs as adopted pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1606/2002 as it applies in the European Union differs in certain respects from IFRS as issued by the IASB. However, the differences have no impact for the periods presented.

The preparation of accounts in conformity with IFRS requires management to use estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the accounts and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. The accounting policies requiring management to use significant estimates and assumptions are: inventories, liability provisions and impairment. These are discussed in Note 1.2 below. Although these estimates are based on management's best knowledge of current events and actions, actual results ultimately may differ from those estimates. Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to estimates are recognised prospectively.

The uncertainty as to the future impact on the financial performance and cash flows of the Group as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic has been considered as part of the Group's adoption of the going concern basis in these financial statements. The Directors have prepared three-year projections as part of our Strategic Plan and also more detailed cash flow scenarios to 31 December 2022 for going concern purposes.

The Group had access to \$1,751m of cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2020. The Group's net debt, excluding lease liabilities, at 31 December 2020 was \$1,722m with access to committed facilities of \$4.5bn with an average maturity of 5.2 years. At the date of approving these consolidated financial statements the funding position of the Group has remained unchanged and the cash position is not materially different other than the payment associated with the acquisition of the Extremity Orthopaedics business of Integra LifeSciences Holdings Corporation as described in note 23.

The Group has \$265m of private placement debt due for repayment in 2021. \$1,550m of private placement debt is subject to financial covenants. The principal covenant on the private placement debt is a leverage ratio of <3.5x which is measured on a rolling 12-month basis at half year and year end. There are no financial covenants in any of the Group's other facilities.

The Directors have considered various scenarios in assessing the impact of COVID-19 on future financial performance and cash flows, with the key judgement applied being the speed and sustainability of the return to a normal volume of elective procedures in key markets, including the impact of a further extended wave of restrictions on elective procedures in the first half of 2021 and the subsequent recovery. Throughout these scenarios, which include a severe but plausible outcome, the Group continues to have headroom on its borrowing facilities and financial covenants.

The Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company and the Group are well placed to manage their business risks, have sufficient funds to continue to meet their liabilities as they fall due and to continue in operational existence for a period of at least 22 months from the date of the approval of the financial statements. The financial statements have therefore been prepared on a going concern basis.

Accordingly, the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis (in accordance with the guidance 'Guidance on Risk Management, Internal Control and Related Financial and Business Reporting' issued by the FRC) in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

New accounting standards effective 2020

A number of new standards are effective from 1 January 2020 but they do not have a material effect on the Group's financial statements. The Group applied the interest rate benchmark reform amendments retrospectively to hedging relationships that existed at 1 January 2020 or were designated thereafter and that are directly affected by interest rate benchmark reform.

Accounting standards issued but not yet effective

A number of new standards and amendments to standards are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 January 2021 and earlier application is permitted; however, the Group has not early adopted them in preparing these consolidated financial statements. The Group had a number of interest rate swaps outstanding at 31 December 2020 which all mature in 2021 and for which published US Dollar LIBOR rates will still be available. The Group has a revolving credit facility of \$1,000m and private placement notes of \$25m which will be subject to IBOR reform. The Group expects that the interest rates for both will be changed to SOFR (Secured Overnight Financing Rate) in 2021 and that no significant modification gain or loss will arise as a result. The other new standards and amendments to standards are not expected to have a significant impact on adoption.

1.1 Consolidation

The Group accounts include the accounts of Smith & Nephew plc and its subsidiaries for the periods during which they were members of the Group.

Subsidiaries are entities controlled by the Group. The Group controls an entity when it is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity. Subsidiaries are consolidated in the Group accounts from the date that the Group obtains control, and continue to be consolidated until the date that such control ceases. Intra-group balances and transactions, and any unrealised income and expenses arising from intra-group transactions, are eliminated on consolidation. All subsidiaries have year ends which are co-terminous with the Group's, with the exception of jurisdictions whereby a different year end is required by local legislation.

When the Group loses control over a subsidiary, it derecognises the assets and liabilities of the subsidiary and any related components of equity. Any resulting gain or loss is recognised in profit or loss. Any retained interest in the former subsidiary is measured at fair value.

1.2 Critical judgements and estimates

The Group prepares its consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS as issued by the IASB and IFRS adopted pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1606/2002 as it applies in the European Union, the application of which often requires judgements and estimates to be made by management when formulating the Group's financial position and results. Under IFRS, the Directors are required to adopt those accounting policies most appropriate to the Group's circumstances for the purpose of presenting fairly the Group's financial position, financial performance and cash flows.

The Group's accounting policies do not include any critical judgements. The Group's accounting policies are set out in Notes 1–23 of the Notes to the Group accounts. Of those, the policies which require the most use of management's estimation are outlined below. The critical estimates are consistent with 31 December 2019 except for business combinations, which is not a critical estimate at 31 December 2020 as there were no significant acquisitions in the year, and taxation, which is not a critical estimate at 31 December 2020 following the conclusion of tax audits leading to a significant release of provisions (see Note 5 for further details). Management's assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on critical and other estimates is also outlined below.

Valuation of inventories

A feature of the Orthopaedics franchise (which accounts for approximately 60% of the Group's total inventory and approximately 80% of the total provision for excess and obsolete inventory) is the high level of product inventory required, some of which is located at customer premises and is available for customers' immediate use. Complete sets of products, including large and small sizes, have to be made available in this way. These sizes are used less frequently than standard sizes and towards the end of the product life cycle are inevitably in excess of requirements. Adjustments to carrying value are therefore required to be made to orthopaedic inventory to anticipate this situation. These adjustments are calculated in accordance with a formula based on levels of inventory compared with historical usage. This formula is applied on an individual product line basis and is first applied when a product group has been on the market for two years. This method of calculation is considered appropriate based on experience, but it does require management's estimate in respect of customer demand, effectiveness of inventory deployment, length of product lives and phase-out of old products. See Note 12 for further details.

COVID-19 impact assessment: Management have assessed the impact of COVID-19 on the provision for excess and obsolete inventory, specifically considering the impact of lower sales demand and increased inventory levels. Where possible, management have taken steps to reduce manufacturing output and purchase levels to respond to actual demand. Management have not changed their policy for calculating the provision since 31 December 2019, nor is a change in the key assumptions underlying the methodology expected in the next 12 months. As a result of decreased sales demand and increased inventory levels, of which COVID-19 was a significant contributing factor, the provision has increased from \$308m at 31 December 2019 to \$377m at 31 December 2020. The provision for excess and obsolete inventory is not considered to have a range of potential outcomes that is significantly different to the \$377m at 31 December 2020 barring unforeseen changes in sales demand like those experienced in 2020.

Notes to the Group accounts continued

1 Basis of preparation continued

Liability provisioning

The recognition of provisions for legal disputes related to metal-on-metal cases is subject to a significant degree of estimation. Provision is made for loss contingencies when it is considered probable that an adverse outcome will occur and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. In making its estimates, management takes into account the advice of internal and external legal counsel. Provisions are reviewed regularly and amounts updated where necessary to reflect developments in the disputes. The value of provisions may require future adjustment if experience such as number, nature or value of claims or settlements changes. Such a change may be material in 2021 or thereafter. The ultimate liability may differ from the amount provided depending on the outcome of court proceedings and settlement negotiations or if investigations bring to light new facts. See Note 17 for further details.

COVID-19 impact assessment: Management considered whether there had been any changes to the number and value of claims due to COVID-19 and to date have not identified any changes in trends. If the experience changes in the future the value of provisions may require adjustment.

Impairment

In carrying out impairment reviews of intangible assets and goodwill, a number of significant assumptions have to be made when preparing cash flow projections. These include the future rate of market growth, discount rates, the market demand for the products acquired, the future profitability of acquired businesses or products, levels of reimbursement and success in obtaining regulatory approvals. If actual results should differ or changes in expectations arise, impairment charges may be required which would adversely impact operating results. This critical estimate is not considered to have a significant risk of material adjustment in 2021 or thereafter based on sensitivity analyses undertaken (as outlined below). See Notes 8 and 9 for further details on impairment reviews.

COVID-19 impact assessment: Management have assessed the non-current assets held by the Group at 31 December 2020 to identify any indicators of impairment as a result of COVID-19. Where an impairment indicator has arisen, impairment reviews have been undertaken by comparing the expected recoverable value of the asset to the carrying value of the asset. The recoverable amounts are based on cash flow projections using the Group's base case scenario in its going concern models, which was reviewed and approved by the Board. Additionally, severe downside sensitivity analyses have been undertaken on the base case scenario. No material impairments were identified as a result of the impairment reviews and sensitivity analyses undertaken.

1.3 Other estimates

Management have also considered the impact of COVID-19 on other estimates:

Trade receivables

Management have assessed the impact of COVID-19 on the expected credit loss allowance against trade receivables. Current and expected collection of trade receivables since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic has been reflected in country-specific expected credit loss models on a reasonable and supportable basis where possible, taking into account macroeconomic factors such as government support. In some instances, it was not possible to incorporate the specific effects of COVID-19 and macroeconomic factors on a reasonable and supportable basis. Where the effects of COVID-19 could not be reflected in expected credit loss models, further adjustments to the models were considered. These adjustments were based on the most recent information on the expected recoverability of trade receivable balances. The Group's expected credit loss allowance increased from \$59 million at 31 December 2019 to \$71 million at 31 December 2020. This estimate is not considered to have a significant risk of material adjustment in 2021 or thereafter.

1.4 Foreign currencies

Functional and presentation currency

The Group accounts are presented in US Dollars. The Company's functional currency is US Dollars.

Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to the respective functional currencies of Group companies at exchange rates at the dates of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated to the functional currency at the exchange rate as at the reporting date. Non-monetary items are not retranslated.

Foreign operations

Balance sheet items of foreign operations, including goodwill and fair value adjustments arising on acquisition are translated into US Dollars on consolidation at the exchange rates at the reporting date. Income statement items and the cash flows of foreign operations are translated at average rates as an approximation to actual transaction rates, with actual transaction rates used for large one-off transactions.

Foreign currency differences are recognised in 'Other comprehensive income' and accumulated in 'Other reserves' within equity. These include: exchange differences on the translation at closing rates of exchange of non-US Dollar opening net assets; the differences arising between the translation of profits into US Dollars at actual (or average, as an approximation) and closing exchange rates; to the extent that the hedging relationship is effective, the difference on translation of foreign currency borrowings or swaps that are used to finance or hedge the Group's net investments in foreign operations; and the movement in the fair value of forward foreign exchange contracts used to hedge forecast foreign exchange cash flows.

The exchange rates used for the translation of currencies into US Dollars that have the most significant impact on the Group results were:

	2020	2019	2018
Average rates			
Sterling	1.28	1.28	1.33
Euro	1.14	1.12	1.18
Swiss Franc	1.07	1.01	1.02
Year end rates			
Sterling	1.37	1.32	1.28
Euro	1.23	1.12	1.14
Swiss Franc	1.14	1.04	1.02

2 Business segment information

From 1 January 2019 onwards, with the Group's operating structure organised around three global franchises, the chief operating decision maker began to monitor performance, make operating decisions and allocate resources on a global franchise basis in contrast with 2018 and prior, where these were done on a Group-wide basis. The new operating structure led to the appointment of three franchise presidents. The franchise presidents have responsibility for upstream marketing, driving product portfolio and technology acquisition decisions, and full commercial responsibility for their franchise in the US. Regional presidents in EMEA and APAC are responsible for the implementation of the global franchise strategy in their respective regions.

Based on the aforementioned changes, the Group has concluded that there are three reportable segments from January 2019. The Group has not restated comparative information, other than revenue, as historical financial information is not available on a franchise basis.

The Executive Committee ('ExCo') comprises the Chief Financial Officer ('CFO'), the three franchise presidents, the two regional presidents and certain heads of function, and is chaired by the Chief Executive Officer ('CEO'). ExCo is the body through which the CEO uses the authority delegated to him by the Board of Directors to manage the operations and performance of the Group. All significant operating decisions regarding the allocation and prioritisation of the Group's resources and assessment of the Group's performance are made by ExCo, and whilst the members have individual responsibility for the implementation of decisions within their respective areas, it is at the ExCo level that these decisions are made. Accordingly, ExCo is considered to be the Group's chief operating decision maker as defined by IFRS 8 *Operating Segments*.

In making decisions about the prioritisation and allocation of the Group's resources, ExCo reviews financial information for the three franchises (Orthopaedics, Sports Medicine & ENT, and Advanced Wound Management) and determines the best allocation of resources to the franchises. This information is prepared substantially on the same basis as the Group's IFRS financial statements aside from the adjustments described in Note 2.2. Financial information for corporate costs is presented on a Group-wide basis. The ExCo is not provided with total assets and liabilities by segment, and therefore these measures are not included in the disclosures below. The results of the segments are shown below.

Notes to the Group accounts continued

2 Business segment information continued

2.1 Revenue by business segment and geography

Accounting policy

Revenue is recognised as the performance obligations to deliver products or services are satisfied and is recorded based on the amount of consideration expected to be received in exchange for satisfying the performance obligations. Revenue is recognised primarily when control is transferred to the customer, which is generally when the goods are shipped or delivered in accordance with the contract terms, with some transfer of services taking place over time. Substantially all performance obligations are fulfilled within one year. There is no significant revenue associated with the provision of services. Payment terms to our customers are based on commercially reasonable terms for the respective markets while also considering a customer's credit rating. Appropriate provisions for returns, trade discounts and rebates are deducted from revenue. Rebates primarily comprise chargebacks and other discounts granted to certain customers. Chargebacks are discounts that occur when a third party purchases product from a wholesaler at its agreed price plus a mark-up. The wholesaler in turn charges the Group for the difference between the price initially paid by the wholesaler and the agreed price. The provision for chargebacks is based on expected sell-through levels by the Group's wholesalers to such customers, as well as estimated wholesaler inventory levels.

Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine & ENT (Ear, Nose & Throat)

Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine & ENT consists of the following businesses: Knee Implants, Hip Implants, Other Reconstruction, Trauma, Sports Medicine Joint Repair, Arthroscopic Enabling Technologies and ENT. Sales of inventory located at customer premises and available for customers' immediate use are recognised when notification is received that the product has been implanted or used. Substantially all other revenue is recognised when control is transferred to the customer, which is generally when the goods are shipped or delivered in accordance with the contract terms. Revenue is recognised for the amount of consideration expected to be received in exchange for transferring the products or services.

In general our business in Established Markets is direct to hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers whereas in the Emerging Markets we generally sell through distributors.

Advanced Wound Management

Advanced Wound Management consists of the following businesses: Advanced Wound Care, Advanced Wound Bioactives and Advanced Wound Devices. Substantially all revenue is recognised when control is transferred to the customer, which is generally when the goods are shipped or delivered in accordance with the contract terms. Revenue is recognised for the amount of consideration expected to be received in exchange for transferring the products or services. Appropriate provisions for returns, trade discounts and rebates are deducted from revenue, as explained above.

The majority of our Advanced Wound Management business, and in particular products used in community and homecare facilities, is through wholesalers and distributors. When control is transferred to a wholesaler or distributor, revenue is recognised accordingly. The proportion of sales direct to hospitals is higher in our Advanced Wound Devices business in Established Markets.

Segment revenue reconciles to statutory revenues from continuing operations as follows:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Reportable segment revenue			
Orthopaedics	1,917	2,222	2,168
Sports Medicine & ENT	1,333	1,536	1,461
Advanced Wound Management	1,310	1,380	1,275
Revenue from external customers	4,560	5,138	4,904

Disaggregation of revenue:

The following table shows the disaggregation of Group revenue by product franchise:

	2020 \$ million	2019 ¹ \$ million	2018 ¹ \$ million
Revenue by product from continuing operations			
Knee Implants	822	1,042	1,017
Hip Implants	567	613	613
Other Reconstruction	68	79	62
Trauma	460	488	476
Orthopaedics	1,917	2,222	2,168
Sports Medicine Joint Repair	710	794	717
Arthroscopic Enabling Technologies	517	591	600
ENT (Ear, Nose and Throat)	106	151	144
Sports Medicine & ENT	1,333	1,536	1,461
Advanced Wound Care	647	701	727
Advanced Wound Bioactives	431	436	333
Advanced Wound Devices	232	243	215
Advanced Wound Management	1,310	1,380	1,275
Consolidated revenue from continuing operations	4,560	5,138	4,904

1 Included within the 2019 and 2018 analysis is a reclassification of \$13m (2018: \$13m) of revenue formerly included in the Advanced Wound Care franchise of which \$12m (2018: \$13m) is now included in the Advanced Wound Bioactives franchise and \$1m (2018: \$nil) in the Advanced Wound Devices franchise in order to present consistent analysis to the 2020 results. There has been no change in total revenue for the year ended 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2018.

The following table shows the disaggregation of Group revenue by geographic market and product category. The disaggregation of revenue into the two product categories below reflects that in general the products in the Advanced Wound Management franchises are sold to wholesalers and intermediaries, while products in the other franchises are sold directly to hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers and distributors. The further disaggregation of revenue by Established Markets and Emerging Markets reflects that in general our products are sold through distributors and intermediaries in the Emerging Markets while in the Established Markets, with the exception of the Advanced Wound Care and Bioactives franchises, products are in general sold direct to hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers. The disaggregation by Established Markets and Emerging Markets also reflects their differing economic factors including volatility in growth and outlook.

	2020			2019			2018		
	Established Markets ¹ \$ million	Emerging Markets \$ million	Total \$ million	Established Markets ¹ \$ million	Emerging Markets \$ million	Total \$ million	Established Markets ¹ \$ million	Emerging Markets \$ million	Total \$ million
Orthopaedics, Sports Medicine & ENT	2,619	631	3,250	2,986	772	3,758	2,944	685	3,629
Advanced Wound Management	1,170	140	1,310	1,195	185	1,380	1,103	172	1,275
Total	3,789	771	4,560	4,181	957	5,138	4,047	857	4,904

1 Established Markets comprises the US, Australia, Canada, Europe, Japan and New Zealand.

US revenue for 2020 was \$2,339m (2019: \$2,551m, 2018: \$2,354m), China revenue for 2020 was \$318m (2019: \$336m, 2018: \$270m) and UK revenue for 2020 was \$166m (2019: \$211m, 2018: \$211m).

Notes to the Group accounts continued

2 Business segment information continued

Contract assets and liabilities

The nature of our products and services do not generally give rise to contract assets as we do not typically incur costs to fulfil a contract before a product or service is provided to the customer. The Group generally satisfies performance obligations within one year from the contract inception date. There was no material revenue recognised in the current reporting period that related to carried-forward contract liabilities (deferred income) or performance obligations satisfied in the previous year. There is no material revenue that is likely to arise in future periods from unsatisfied performance obligations at the balance sheet date. Therefore, there are no associated significant accrued income and deferred income balances at 31 December 2020. As of 31 December 2020, contract assets principally comprised trade receivables and contract liabilities principally comprise rebates (as described in the accounting policy above). The accrual for rebates at 31 December 2020 was \$97m (2019: \$82m) with \$445m being recognised in revenue in 2020.

Major customers

No single customer generates revenue greater than 10% of the consolidated revenue.

2.2 Trading and operating profit by business segment

Trading profit is a trend measure which presents the profitability of the Group excluding the impact of specific transactions that management considers affect the Group's short-term profitability and the comparability of results. The Group presents this measure to assist investors in their understanding of trends. The Group has identified the following items, where material, as those to be excluded from operating profit when arriving at trading profit: acquisition and disposal related items; amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles; significant restructuring programmes; gains and losses arising from legal disputes; and other significant items. Further detail is provided in Notes 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6.

Segment trading profit is reconciled to the statutory measure below:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 ¹ \$ million
Segment profit			
Orthopaedics	389	666	
Sports Medicine & ENT	306	489	
Advanced Wound Management	316	370	
Segment trading profit	1,011	1,525	
Corporate costs	(328)	(356)	
Group trading profit	683	1,169	1,123
Acquisition and disposal related items	(4)	(32)	7
Restructuring and rationalisation expenses	(124)	(134)	(120)
Amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles	(171)	(143)	(113)
Legal and other	(89)	(45)	(34)
Group operating profit	295	815	863

1 Historical financial information is not available on a franchise basis.

2.3 Acquisition and disposal related items

For the year to 31 December 2020 costs primarily relate to the acquisition of Tusker and prior year acquisitions, partially offset by credits relating to remeasurement of contingent consideration for prior year acquisitions.

For the year to 31 December 2019 costs primarily relate to the acquisitions of Ceterix, Osiris, Leaf, Brainlab OJR and Atracsys.

For the year to 31 December 2018 the credit relates to a remeasurement of contingent consideration for a prior year acquisition and adjustments to provisions on disposal of a business, partially offset by costs associated with the acquisition of Rotation Medical, Inc.

2.4 Restructuring and rationalisation costs

For the year ended 31 December 2020 these costs relate to the implementation of the Accelerating Performance and Execution (APEX) programme that was announced in February 2018 and the operations and commercial excellence programme announced in February 2020. For the years ended 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2018 costs relate to the APEX programme.

2.5 Amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles

For the years ended 31 December 2020, 2019 and 2018 these costs relate to the amortisation and impairment of intangible assets acquired in material business combinations.

2.6 Legal and other

For the year ended 31 December 2020 charges primarily relate to legal expenses for ongoing metal-on-metal hip claims and an increase of \$17m in the provision that reflects the present value of the estimated costs to resolve all other known and anticipated metal-on-metal hip claims. The year to 31 December 2020 also includes costs for implementing the requirements of the EU Medical Device Regulations that will apply from May 2021.

For the year ended 31 December 2019 charges primarily relate to legal expenses for ongoing metal-on-metal hip claims and an increase of \$121m in the provision that reflects the present value of the estimated costs to resolve all other known and anticipated metal-on-metal hip claims. The year to 31 December 2019 also includes costs for implementing the requirements of the EU Medical Device Regulations that will apply from May 2021. These charges in the year to 31 December 2019 were partially offset by a credit of \$147m relating to insurance recoveries for ongoing metal-on-metal hip claims.

For the year ended 31 December 2018 charges primarily relate to legal expenses for ongoing metal-on-metal hip claims and an increase of \$72m in the provision that reflects the present value of the estimated costs to resolve all other known and anticipated metal-on-metal hip claims globally. The year to 31 December 2018 also includes costs for implementing the requirements of the EU Medical Device Regulations that will apply from May 2021. These charges in the year to 31 December 2018 were partially offset by a credit of \$84m relating to settlement agreements with insurers related to product liability claims involving macrotextured components withdrawn from the market in 2003.

2.7 Non-current assets by geography

The following table presents the non-current assets of the Group based on their location:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
United Kingdom	403	385	354
United States of America	4,093	4,034	3,186
Other	1,517	1,405	1,224
Total non-current assets of the consolidated Group¹	6,013	5,824	4,764

1 Non-current assets excludes retirement benefit assets and deferred tax assets.

3 Operating profit

Accounting policy

Research and development

Research expenditure is expensed as incurred. Internal development expenditure is only capitalised if the recognition criteria in IAS 38 *Intangible Assets* have been satisfied. The Group considers that the regulatory, technical and market uncertainties inherent in the development of new products mean that in most cases development costs should not be capitalised as intangible assets until products receive approval from the appropriate regulatory body.

Payments to third parties for research and development projects are accounted for based on the substance of the arrangement. If the arrangement represents outsourced research and development activities the payments are generally expensed except in limited circumstances where the respective development expenditure would be capitalised under the principles established in IAS 38. By contrast, the payments are capitalised if the arrangement represents consideration for the acquisition of intellectual property developed at the risk of the third party.

Capitalised development expenditures are amortised on a straight-line basis over their useful economic lives from product launch.

Advertising costs

Advertising costs are expensed as incurred.

Notes to the Group accounts continued

3 Operating profit continued

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Revenue	4,560	5,138	4,904
Cost of goods sold ¹	(1,396)	(1,338)	(1,298)
Gross profit	3,164	3,800	3,606
Research and development expenses ²	(307)	(292)	(246)
Selling, general and administrative expenses:			
Marketing, selling and distribution expenses	(1,773)	(1,911)	(1,820)
Administrative expenses ^{3,4,5,6}	(789)	(782)	(677)
	(2,562)	(2,693)	(2,497)
Operating profit	295	815	863

- 1 2020 includes \$6m charge relating to legal and other items and \$15m charge relating to restructuring and rationalisation expenses (2019: \$5m charge relating to legal and other items and \$7m charge relating to restructuring and rationalisation expenses, 2018: \$4m of legal and other items).
- 2 2020 includes \$28m charge relating to legal and other items (2019: \$24m, 2018: \$9m).
- 3 2020 includes \$63m of amortisation of software and other intangible assets (2019: \$61m, 2018: \$63m).
- 4 2020 includes \$171m of amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles and \$109m of restructuring and rationalisation expenses (2019: \$143m of amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles and \$127m of restructuring and rationalisation expenses, 2018: \$113m of amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles and \$120m of restructuring and rationalisation expenses).
- 5 2020 includes \$55m charge relating to legal and other items (2019: \$16m charge, 2018: \$21m charge).
- 6 2020 includes \$4m charge of acquisition and disposal related items (2019: \$32m charge, 2018: \$7m credit).

Note that items detailed in 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 are excluded from the calculation of trading profit, the segments' profit measure.

Operating profit is stated after charging/(crediting) the following items:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Other operating income	–	(147)	(107)
Amortisation of intangible assets	234	204	176
Impairment of intangible assets	12	2	3
Impairment of property, plant and equipment	5	4	5
Fair value remeasurement of trade investments	–	12	9
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment ¹	311	292	251
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	34	16	19
Operating lease payments for land and buildings	–	–	32
Operating lease payments for other assets	–	–	25
Advertising costs	66	85	88

- 1 The 2020 depreciation charge includes \$51m (2019: \$50m, 2018: \$nil) related to right-of-use assets.

In 2019 other operating income comprises insurance recoveries for ongoing metal-on-metal hip claims (2018: insurance recovery relating to product liability claims involving macrot textured components voluntarily withdrawn from the market in 2003 and a gain relating to patent litigation). In 2019, \$147m (2018: \$84m) of other operating income was included with legal and other items, as explained in Note 2.6, and does not form part of trading profit, the segments' profit measure.

3.1 Staff costs and employee numbers

Staff costs during the year amounted to:

	Notes	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Wages and salaries		1,392	1,435	1,330
Social security costs		190	193	176
Pension costs (including retirement healthcare)	18	78	76	65
Share-based payments	22	26	32	35
		1,686	1,736	1,606

During the year ended 31 December 2020, the average number of employees was 18,581 (2019: 18,030, 2018: 16,681).

3.2 Audit Fees – information about the nature and cost of services provided by the auditor

		2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Audit services:				
Group accounts		5.0	3.8	2.6
Local statutory audit pursuant to legislation		2.0	2.7	3.4
Other services:				
Audit related services		0.4	0.3	–
Total auditor's remuneration		7.4	6.8	6.0
Arising:				
In the UK		3.6	3.0	2.4
Outside the UK		3.8	3.8	3.6
		7.4	6.8	6.0

4 Interest and other finance costs

4.1 Interest income/(expense)

		2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Interest income		6	10	8
Interest expense:				
Bank borrowings		(4)	(7)	(11)
Private placement notes		(42)	(41)	(38)
Lease liabilities		(6)	(6)	–
Corporate bond		(5)	–	–
Other		(5)	(11)	(10)
		(62)	(65)	(59)
Net interest expense		(56)	(55)	(51)

4.2 Other finance costs

	Notes	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Retirement benefit net interest expense	18	(2)	(2)	(3)
Unwinding of discount		(11)	(8)	(9)
Other		6	(8)	(8)
Other finance costs		(7)	(18)	(20)

Notes to the Group accounts continued

5 Taxation

Accounting policy

The charge for current taxation is based on the results for the year as adjusted for items which are non-assessable or non-deductible. It is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted as at the balance sheet date.

The Group operates in numerous tax jurisdictions around the world. At any given time, the Group typically is involved in tax audits and other disputes and will have other tax returns potentially subject to audit. Significant issues may take several years to resolve. In estimating the probability and amount of any tax charge, management takes into account the views of internal and external advisers and updates the amount of tax provision where considered appropriate. The ultimate tax liability may differ from the amount provided depending on factors including interpretations of tax law and settlement negotiations.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes.

Deferred tax is not recognised: for temporary differences related to investments in subsidiaries and associates where the Group is able to control the timing of the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that this will not reverse in the foreseeable future; on the initial recognition of non-deductible goodwill; and on the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and that, at the time of the transaction, does not affect the accounting or taxable profit.

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which they can be used. Deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date taking into account the recoverability of the deferred tax assets, future profitability and any restrictions on use. The Group considers available evidence to assess future profitability over a reasonably foreseeable time period, depending on the circumstances and typically a minimum of five years. Any material unrecognised deferred tax assets are disclosed in Note 5.

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis, and at the tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted as at the balance sheet date that are expected to apply in the periods in which the asset or liability is settled. It is recognised in the income statement except when it relates to items credited or charged directly to other comprehensive income or equity, in which case the deferred tax is also recognised within other comprehensive income or equity respectively.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when they relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority, the Group intends to settle its current tax assets and liabilities on a net basis, offset is permissible according to the relevant jurisdiction's tax laws and that authority permits the Group to make a single net payment.

5.1 Taxation charge attributable to the Group

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Current taxation:			
UK corporation tax	16	27	27
Overseas tax	40	140	131
Current income tax charge	56	167	158
Adjustments in respect of prior periods	(191)	(11)	(33)
Total current taxation	(135)	156	125
Deferred taxation:			
Origination and reversal of temporary differences	(49)	(9)	(3)
Changes in tax rates	(12)	3	1
Adjustments to estimated amounts arising in prior periods	(6)	(7)	(5)
Total deferred taxation	(67)	(13)	(7)
Total taxation as per the income statement	(202)	143	118
Taxation in other comprehensive income	–	(2)	(4)
Taxation in equity	4	(1)	(1)
Taxation (credit)/charge attributable to the Group	(198)	140	113

The 2020 net prior period adjustment of \$197m is explained predominantly by a current tax credit resulting from the successful UK tax litigation outcome (see below), and releases of provisions following the conclusion of tax audits and other settlements. The 2019 and 2018 net prior period adjustments of \$18m and \$38m respectively mainly relate to the expiry of statute of limitations and tax accrual to tax return adjustments, partially offset by an increase in certain other tax provisions.

The total taxation credit as per the income statement of \$202m includes a \$274m net credit (2019: \$68m net credit, 2018: \$51m net credit) as a consequence of the successful outcome of the UK tax litigation, restructuring and rationalisation related costs, acquisitions and disposal related items, amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles, legal and other charges.

Factors affecting future tax charges

The Group operates in numerous tax jurisdictions around the world and is subject to factors that may affect future tax charges including transfer pricing, tax rate changes, tax legislation changes, tax authority interpretation, expiry of statute of limitations, tax litigation, and resolution of tax audits and disputes.

At any given time the Group has unagreed years outstanding in various countries and is involved in tax audits and disputes, some of which may take several years to resolve. Provisions are based on best estimates and management's judgements concerning the likely ultimate outcome of any audit or dispute. Management considers the specific circumstances of each tax position and takes external advice, where appropriate, to assess the range of potential outcomes and estimate additional tax that may be due. Total tax liabilities include \$162m (2019: \$201m) in relation to uncertain tax positions which relate to multiple issues across the jurisdictions in which the Group operates. Other payables includes \$15m (2019: \$17m) of other interest on these provisions. Other receivables includes \$95m (2019: \$21m) of tax receivables relating to payments on account and repayments due in a number of jurisdictions, principally relating to the US.

The Group believes that it has made adequate provision in respect of additional tax liabilities that may arise from unagreed years, tax audits and disputes, the majority of which relate to transfer pricing matters, as would be expected for a Group operating internationally. However, the actual liability for any particular issue may be higher or lower than the amount provided, resulting in a negative or positive effect on the tax charge in any given year. A reduction in the tax charge may also arise for other reasons such as an expiry of the relevant statute of limitations. Depending on the final outcome of certain tax audits which are currently in progress, possible statute of limitations expiry and other factors, an impact on the tax charge could arise. Whilst such an impact can vary from year to year, we believe the possibility of a material impact on the tax charge for 2021 is unlikely.

UK tax litigation

In December 2016, the Group appealed to the First Tier Tribunal against a decision by HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) relating to the UK tax deductibility of historic foreign exchange losses totalling £675m. The decision of the First Tier Tribunal upheld the Group's appeal. HMRC's subsequent appeal was heard by the Upper Tribunal in June 2018 which upheld the decision of the First Tier Tribunal. HMRC was granted leave to appeal in the Court of Appeal, which was heard in October 2019 and (following adjournment) in January 2020. In March 2020, the Court of Appeal published its decision again upholding the Group's position. In June 2020, the Group received confirmation that HMRC had not appealed to the Supreme Court, making the Group's right to the deductions conclusive. As a result, full benefit for these deductions has been recognised in the Group's financial statements (no tax benefit for these losses was recognised in previous periods), within current tax, and within deferred tax to the extent that losses not yet utilised are reasonably expected to be realised in the future. In the second half of 2020 the Group has received a cash tax refund of \$100m (£78m) in addition to accrued interest of \$6m, in respect of tax previously overpaid; and a deferred tax asset of \$42m has been recognised in respect of the losses not yet utilised. There is an unrecognised deferred tax credit of \$47m in relation to losses arising from the decision which are not considered to have a realistically foreseeable potential to be utilised at the current time.

EU state aid

A factor that may have a future effect on our tax charge is the decision by the European Commission (EC), published in April 2019, that the UK CFC financing exemption (FCPE) rules between 2013 and 2018 partially constituted illegal State Aid. The UK government and many potentially affected taxpayers, including us, have applied to the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) for annulment of the EC's decision. At the EC's request, HMRC requested, from potentially affected companies, certain information and facts in order to review whether there may be a potential liability, were the EC's position to be upheld, to which we fully responded within HMRC's specified timeframe. The amount of tax ultimately due, if any, will depend both on generic technical legislative interpretation and company-specific facts and circumstances. HMRC is under a legal obligation to collect potentially underpaid tax ahead of the determination of the appeals by the CJEU, and by virtue of a recent law change, any assessment raised by HMRC could be appealed but the tax charged under it could not be postponed.

As of 12 February 2021, we had received no assessment or other demand, nor any other communication from HMRC following our most recent information submission. If the EC decision were ultimately to be upheld on generic technical legislative grounds, subject to any relief based on company-specific facts and circumstances, we calculate our maximum potential liability as at 31 December 2020 to be approximately \$155m. Based on current information, we do not consider it can reasonably be concluded that it is more likely than not that any liability would arise, and therefore no provision has been recognised.

Notes to the Group accounts continued

5 Taxation continued

In 2016, the UK Government enacted legislation to reduce the main rate of UK statutory corporation tax to 19.0% from 1 April 2017 and 17.0% from 1 April 2020. On 11 March 2020, the UK Government announced that the planned corporation tax reduction to 17.0% would be postponed and the UK corporation tax rate would be maintained at 19.0% for the financial years starting 1 April 2020 and 2021. Therefore UK deferred tax has been calculated for the purposes of the 2020 financial statements based on a 19.0% rate whereas 17.0% was assumed in the 2019 financial statements.

The UK standard rate of corporation tax for 2020 is 19.0% (2019: 19.0%, 2018: 19.0%). Overseas taxation is calculated at the rates prevailing in the respective jurisdictions. The table below reconciles the expected tax charge at the UK statutory rate with the actual tax charge:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Profit before taxation	246	743	781
Expected taxation at UK statutory rate of 19.0% (2019: 19.0%, 2018: 19%)	47	141	148
Differences in overseas taxation rates ¹	(37)	5	(6)
R&D credits	(9)	(8)	(6)
Tax losses and other deferred tax assets not recognised	15	–	4
Recognition of previously unrecognised tax losses ²	(45)	(2)	(1)
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	29	18	15
Change in tax rates	(12)	3	1
Withholding tax on unremitted earnings	7	4	1
Adjustments in respect of prior years ³	(197)	(18)	(38)
Total taxation (credit)/charge as per the income statement	(202)	143	118

1 In 2020 this principally relates to the carry back of losses relating to non-trading items.

2 In 2020 this principally relates to the recognition of previously unrecognised brought forward losses following the successful UK tax litigation outcome.

3 The adjustments in respect of prior years are explained on [page 162](#).

5.2 Deferred taxation

Movements in the main components of deferred tax assets and liabilities were as follows:

	Accelerated tax depreciation \$ million	Intangibles \$ million	Retirement benefit obligations \$ million	Losses \$ million	Inventory, provisions and other differences \$ million	Total \$ million
At 31 December 2018	(52)	(126)	5	28	172	27
Exchange adjustment	–	(1)	–	–	–	(1)
Movement in income statement – current year	19	11	–	(19)	(2)	9
Movement in income statement – prior years	(3)	–	–	–	10	7
Movement in other comprehensive income	–	–	1	–	–	1
Movement in equity	–	–	–	–	1	1
Changes in tax rate	(1)	1	1	–	(4)	(3)
Acquisitions	–	(106)	–	37	11	(58)
At 31 December 2019	(37)	(221)	7	46	188	(17)
Exchange adjustment	–	–	2	–	8	10
Movement in income statement – current year	(23)	20	–	51	1	49
Movement in income statement – prior years	(3)	3	–	3	3	6
Movement in other comprehensive income	–	–	(4)	–	2	(2)
Movement in equity	–	–	–	–	(4)	(4)
Changes in tax rate	2	6	–	–	4	12
Acquisitions	–	(17)	–	23	1	7
At 31 December 2020	(61)	(209)	5	123	203	61

Represented by:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Deferred tax assets	202	150
Deferred tax liabilities	(141)	(167)
Net position at 31 December	61	(17)

The deferred tax asset of \$203m relating to inventory, provisions and other differences includes inventory (\$131m), provisions and other short-term temporary differences (\$61m) and bad debt provisions (\$11m).

The Group has gross unused trading and non-trading tax losses of \$771m (2019: \$219m), the increase being mainly attributable to the successful UK tax litigation case and losses inherited from US acquisitions, and gross unused capital losses of \$109m (2019: \$104m), available for offset against future profits, of which \$3m of trading losses will expire within five years from the balance sheet date if not utilised. A deferred tax asset of \$123m (2019: \$46m) has been recognised in respect of \$451m (2019: \$116m) of the trading and non-trading tax losses. No deferred tax asset has been recognised on the remaining unused tax losses as they are not expected to be realised in the foreseeable future.

6 Earnings per ordinary share

Accounting policy

Earnings per share

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing the profit attributable to equity holders by the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year, excluding shares held by the Company in the Employees' Share Trust or as treasury shares.

Diluted earnings per share

Diluted earnings per share is calculated by adjusting the basic earnings per share for the effect of conversion to ordinary shares associated with dilutive potential ordinary shares, which comprise share options and awards granted to employees.

Adjusted earnings per share

Adjusted earnings per share (or adjusted basic earnings per share) is a trend measure which presents the long-term profitability of the Group excluding the impact of specific transactions that management considers affects the Group's short-term profitability. The Group presents this measure to assist investors in their understanding of trends. Adjusted attributable profit is the numerator used for this measure. The Group has identified the following items as those to be excluded when arriving at adjusted attributable profit: acquisition and disposal related items including amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangible assets; significant restructuring programmes; significant gains and losses arising from legal disputes and other significant items (including UK tax litigation) and taxation thereon. Adjusted diluted earnings per share is calculated by adjusting the adjusted basic earnings per share for the effect of conversion to ordinary shares associated with dilutive potential ordinary shares, which comprise share options and awards granted to employees.

Notes to the Group accounts continued

6 Earnings per ordinary share continued

The calculations of the basic, diluted and adjusted earnings per ordinary share are based on the following attributable profit and numbers of shares:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Earnings			
Attributable profit for the year	448	600	663
Adjusted attributable profit (see below)	564	893	881

Attributable profit is reconciled to adjusted attributable profit as follows:

	Notes	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Attributable profit for the year		448	600	663
Acquisition and disposal related items ¹		4	34	(7)
Restructuring and rationalisation costs	3	124	134	120
Amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles ²	9	171	143	118
Legal and other ³		91	50	38
UK tax litigation	5	(142)	–	–
Taxation on excluded items	5	(132)	(68)	(51)
Adjusted attributable profit		564	893	881

1 Acquisition and disposal related items includes a \$4m charge within operating profit (2019: \$32m charge, 2018: \$7m credit) and a \$nil charge within share of result of associates (2019: \$2m, 2018: \$nil).

2 In 2020 amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles includes a \$171m charge within operating profit (2019: \$143m charge within operating profit, 2018: \$113m charge within operating profit and a \$5m charge within share of result of associates).

3 Legal and other charge in 2020 includes \$89m (2019: \$45m charge, 2018: \$34m charge) within operating profit (refer to Note 2.6) and a \$8m charge (2019: \$5m charge, 2018: \$4m charge) within other finance costs for unwinding of the discount on the provision for known, anticipated and settled metal-on-metal hip claims globally. In 2020, other finance costs includes a credit of \$6m for interest on a tax refund relating to the UK tax litigation case (see Note 5).

The numerators used for basic and diluted earnings per ordinary share are the same. The denominators used for all categories of earnings per ordinary share are as follows:

	2020	2019	2018
Number of shares (millions)			
Basic weighted number of shares	875	874	873
Dilutive impact of share incentive schemes outstanding	2	3	3
Diluted weighted average number of shares	877	877	876

	2020	2019	2018
Earnings per ordinary share			
Basic	51.3¢	68.6¢	76.0¢
Diluted	51.2¢	68.4¢	75.7¢
Adjusted:			
Basic	64.6¢	102.2¢	100.9¢
Diluted	64.4¢	101.9¢	100.6¢

7 Property, plant and equipment

Accounting policy

Property, plant and equipment

Owned assets

Items of property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of items of property, plant and equipment less their estimated residual values using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives, and is ultimately recognised in profit or loss. Leased assets are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives unless it is reasonably certain that the Group will obtain ownership by the end of the lease term. Freehold land is not depreciated. The estimated useful lives of items of property, plant and equipment is 3–20 years and for buildings is 20–50 years.

Assets in course of construction are not depreciated until they are available for use.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted if appropriate.

Finance costs relating to the purchase or construction of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets that take longer than one year to complete are capitalised based on the Group weighted average borrowing costs. All other finance costs are expensed as incurred.

Leased assets

On 1 January 2019, the Group adopted IFRS 16 Leases using the modified retrospective approach and the right-of-use asset on transition equalled the lease liability, adjusted by the amount of any rent-free period accruals. The cumulative effect of initially adopting IFRS 16 is recognised as an adjustment at 1 January 2019 with no restatement of comparative information.

The assessment of whether a contract is or contains a lease takes place at the inception of the contract. The assessment involves whether the Group obtains substantially all the economic benefits from the use of that asset and whether the Group has the right to direct the use of the asset. The Group allocates the consideration in the contract to each lease and non-lease component. The non-lease component, where it is separately identifiable, is not included in the right-of-use asset.

The Group leases many assets including properties, motor vehicles and office equipment. The Group availed itself of the exemptions for short-term leases and leases of low-value items for leases other than those for properties and motor vehicles. The use of these exemptions does not have a material impact. The Group recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the commencement of the lease. The right-of-use asset is initially measured based on the present value of lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date plus initial direct costs less any incentives received. The lease payments are discounted using an incremental borrowing rate which is country-specific and reflective of the lease term. The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset.

Cash flows arising on lease interest payments are included in operating cash flows whereas cash flows arising on the capital repayments of the lease liability are included in financing cash flows. Prior to the adoption of IFRS 16, cash flows associated with lease payments were presented in operating cash flows.

Impairment of assets

The carrying values of property, plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of impairment loss. Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Group estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which it belongs.

An asset's recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's or cash-generating unit's fair value less costs to sell and its value-in-use. In assessing value-in-use, its estimated future cash flow is discounted to its present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects the current market assessment of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset.

Notes to the Group accounts continued

7 Property, plant and equipment continued

	Notes	Land and buildings \$ million	Plant and equipment Instruments \$ million	Other \$ million	Assets in course of construction \$ million	Total \$ million
Cost						
At 31 December 2018		335	1,388	1,032	128	2,883
Recognition of right-of-use asset on initial application of IFRS 16		134	–	25	–	159
Adjusted balance at 1 January 2019		469	1,388	1,057	128	3,042
Exchange adjustment		2	(2)	8	1	9
Acquisitions	21	7	–	2	–	9
Additions		42	198	37	128	405
Disposals		(11)	(72)	(19)	(2)	(104)
Impairment		–	–	–	(4)	(4)
Transfers		24	–	57	(81)	–
At 31 December 2019		533	1,512	1,142	170	3,357
Exchange adjustment		15	45	26	–	86
Acquisitions	21	5	–	1	–	6
Additions		80	203	37	132	452
Disposals		(23)	(74)	(21)	(1)	(119)
Impairment		(8)	–	(5)	–	(13)
Transfers		14	(10)	64	(85)	(17)
At 31 December 2020		616	1,676	1,244	216	3,752
Depreciation and impairment						
At 1 January 2019		109	1,001	711	–	1,821
Exchange adjustment		1	(2)	5	–	4
Charge for the year		51	157	84	–	292
Disposals		(6)	(60)	(17)	–	(83)
Transfers		–	(1)	1	–	–
At 31 December 2019		155	1,095	784	–	2,034
Exchange adjustment		5	34	20	–	59
Charge for the year		57	165	89	–	311
Impairment		(5)	–	(3)	–	(8)
Disposals		(13)	(61)	(19)	–	(93)
At 31 December 2020		199	1,233	871	–	2,303
Net book amounts						
At 31 December 2020		417	443	373	216	1,449
At 31 December 2019		378	417	358	170	1,323

Land and buildings includes land with a cost of \$22m (2019: \$24m) that is not subject to depreciation. Transfers from assets in course of construction includes \$10m (2019: \$nil) of software. Assets under construction reflect that the Group is undergoing investment in its manufacturing facilities including its new facility in Malaysia. Instrument transfers include \$7m (2019: \$nil) to inventory. Group capital expenditure relating to property, plant and equipment contracted but not provided for amounted to \$56m (2019: \$33m). The amount of borrowing costs capitalised in 2020 and 2019 was minimal.

Information about the Group's right-of-use assets is outlined below:

	Land and buildings \$ million	Plant and equipment \$ million
2020		
Additions	70	10
Depreciation charge in the year	38	13
Net book value at 31 December	173	23

8 Goodwill

Accounting policy

Goodwill is not amortised but is reviewed for impairment annually. Goodwill is allocated to the cash-generating unit (CGU) that is expected to benefit from the acquisition. The goodwill is tested annually for impairment by comparing the recoverable amount to the carrying value of the CGUs. The CGUs identified by management are at the aggregated product franchise levels of Orthopaedics, Sports Medicine & ENT and Advanced Wound Management, in the way the core assets are used to generate cash flows.

If the recoverable amount of the CGU is less than its carrying amount then an impairment loss is determined to have occurred. Any impairment losses that arise are recognised immediately in the income statement and are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of goodwill and then to the carrying amounts of the other assets of the CGU.

In carrying out impairment reviews of goodwill a number of significant assumptions have to be made when preparing cash flow projections. These include the future rate of market growth, discount rates, the market demand for the products acquired, the future profitability of acquired businesses or products, levels of reimbursement and success in obtaining regulatory approvals. If actual results should differ, or changes in expectations arise, impairment charges may be required which would adversely impact operating results.

	Notes	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Cost and net book value			
At 1 January		2,789	2,337
Exchange adjustment		43	11
Acquisitions	21	96	441
At 31 December		2,928	2,789

Management has identified four CGUs in applying the provisions of IAS 36 *Impairment of Assets*: Orthopaedics, Sports Medicine & ENT, Advanced Wound Care & Devices and Bioactives.

For the purpose of goodwill impairment testing, the Advanced Wound Care & Devices and Bioactives CGUs have been aggregated (Advanced Wound Management), as this is the level at which goodwill is monitored and level at which the economic benefits relating to the goodwill within these CGUs is realised.

Goodwill is allocated to the Group's CGUs as follows:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Orthopaedics	830	787
Sports Medicine & ENT	1,462	1,364
Advanced Wound Management	636	638
	2,928	2,789

Impairment reviews were performed as of September 2020 and September 2019 by comparing the recoverable amount of each CGU with its carrying amount, including goodwill. These were updated during December, taking into account any significant events that occurred between September and December.

The impact of COVID-19 was considered in the goodwill impairment reviews and recoverable amounts were based on cash flow projections using the Group's base case scenario in its going concern models. Additionally, severe downside sensitivity analyses have been undertaken on the base case scenario. No impairment was identified as a result of the impairment reviews and sensitivity analyses undertaken.

Notes to the Group accounts continued

8 Goodwill continued

For each CGU, the recoverable amounts are based on value-in-use which is calculated from pre-tax cash flow projections for three years using data from the Group's budget and strategic planning process, the results of which are reviewed and approved by the Board. These projections exclude any estimated future cash inflows or outflows expected to arise from future restructurings. The three-year period is in-line with the Group's strategic planning process. In determining the growth rates used in the calculations of the value-in-use, management considered annual revenue growth. Projections are based on anticipated volume and value growth in the markets served by the Group and assumptions as to market share movements. Each year the projections for the previous year are compared to actual results and variances are factored into the assumptions used in the current year.

The discount rates used in the value-in-use calculations reflect management's assessment of risks specific to the assets of each CGU.

8.1 Orthopaedics CGU

The cash flows used in the value-in-use calculation for the Orthopaedics CGU, which includes the Reconstruction and Trauma businesses, reflects management's distinctive orthopaedic reconstruction strategy, which combines cutting-edge innovation, disruptive business models and a strong Emerging Markets platform to drive our performance.

The compound annual revenue growth rate for the three-year period was 11.7% (2019: 6.0%) for the various components of the Orthopaedics CGU. The average growth rate used to extrapolate the cash flows beyond the three-year period in calculating the terminal value is 2.0% (2019: 2.0%). The pre-tax discount rate used in the Orthopaedics CGU value-in-use calculation reflects the geographical mix and is 9.4% (2019: 9.5%).

8.2 Sports Medicine & ENT CGU

The value-in-use calculation for the Sports Medicine & ENT CGU reflects growth rates and cash flows consistent with management's strategy to rebalance Smith+Nephew towards higher growth areas such as Sports Medicine.

The compound annual revenue growth rate for the three-year period was 12.2% (2019: 5.8%) for the various components of the Sports Medicine & ENTs CGU. The weighted average growth rate used to extrapolate the cash flows beyond the three-year period in calculating the terminal value is 2.0% (2019: 2.0%). The pre-tax discount rate used in the Sports Medicine & ENT CGU value-in-use calculation reflects the geographical mix of the revenues and is 9.4% (2019: 9.5%).

8.3 Advanced Wound Management CGU

The aggregated Advanced Wound Management CGU comprises the Advanced Wound Care & Devices and Bioactives CGUs.

In performing the value-in-use calculation for this combined CGU, management considered the Group's focus across the wound product franchises, focusing on widening access to the customer, the higher added value sectors of healing chronic wounds and tissue repair using bioactives, and by continuing to improve efficiency.

The compound annual revenue growth rate for the three-year period was 5.7% (2019: 4.8%) for the various components of the Advanced Wound Management CGU. The weighted average growth rate used to extrapolate the cash flows beyond the three-year period in calculating the terminal value is 2.0% (2019: 2.0%). The pre-tax discount rate used in the Advanced Wound Management CGU value-in-use calculation reflects the geographical mix and industry sector and is 9.4% (2019: 9.5%).

8.4 Sensitivity to changes in assumptions used in value-in-use calculations

The calculations of value-in-use for the identified CGUs are most sensitive to changes in discount and growth rates. Management's consideration of these sensitivities is set out below:

Growth of market and market share – management has considered the impact of a variance in market growth and market share. The value-in-use calculations show that if the assumed long-term growth rates were reduced to nil, the recoverable amount of each CGU would still be greater than its carrying value.

Discount rate – management has considered the impact of an increase in the discount rate applied to the value-in-use calculations. This sensitivity analysis shows that for the recoverable amount of each CGU to be less than its carrying value, the discount rate would have to be increased to 14.98% for the Orthopaedics CGU, 12.43% for the Sports Medicine & ENT CGU and 14.39% for the Advanced Wound Management CGU. Such increases in discount rates are not considered to be reasonably possible.

9 Intangible assets

Accounting policy

Intangible assets

Intangible assets acquired separately from a business combination (including purchased patents, know-how, trademarks, licences and distribution rights) are initially measured at cost. The cost of intangible assets acquired in a material business combination (referred to as acquisition intangibles) is the fair value as at the date of acquisition. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses. All intangible assets are amortised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful economic lives. The estimated useful economic life of software ranges between three and seven years. The estimated useful economic life of technology assets ranges between 6–20 years, product-related assets ranges between 2–20 years, and customer and distribution assets ranges between 2–14 years. Internally-generated intangible assets are expensed in the income statement as incurred. Purchased computer software and certain costs of information technology projects are capitalised as intangible assets. Software that is integral to computer hardware is capitalised as plant and equipment.

Impairment of intangible assets

The carrying values of intangible assets are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of impairment loss. Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Group estimates the recoverable amount of the CGU to which it belongs. An asset's recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's or CGU's fair value less costs to sell and its value-in-use. In assessing value-in-use, its estimated future cash flow is discounted to its present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects the current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset.

In carrying out impairment reviews of intangible assets a number of significant assumptions have to be made when preparing cash flow projections. These include the future rate of market growth, discount rates, the market demand for the products acquired, the future profitability of acquired businesses or products, levels of reimbursement and success in obtaining regulatory approvals. If actual results should differ, or changes in expectations should arise, impairment charges may be required which would adversely impact operating results.

Notes to the Group accounts continued

9 Intangible assets continued

	Notes	Technology \$ million	Product- related \$ million	Customer and distribution related \$ million	Software \$ million	Assets in course of construction \$ million	Total \$ million
Cost							
At 1 January 2019		354	1,836	112	413	13	2,728
Exchange adjustment		(1)	3	–	–	1	3
Acquisitions		75	350	90	–	–	515
Additions		–	1	6	12	30	49
Disposals		–	(1)	–	(3)	–	(4)
Transfers		–	–	–	6	(6)	–
At 31 December 2019		428	2,189	208	428	38	3,291
Exchange adjustment		10	42	(7)	6	–	51
Acquisitions	21	57	4	–	–	–	61
Additions		–	1	25	26	26	78
Disposals		–	–	–	(3)	–	(3)
Transfers		–	–	–	20	(10)	10
At 31 December 2020		495	2,236	226	477	54	3,488
Amortisation and impairment							
At 1 January 2019		74	1,081	95	268	–	1,518
Exchange adjustment		–	4	(1)	–	–	3
Charge for the year		28	118	15	43	–	204
Impairment		–	–	–	2	–	2
Disposals		–	–	–	(3)	–	(3)
At 31 December 2019		102	1,203	109	310	–	1,724
Exchange adjustment		4	36	(8)	2	–	34
Charge for the year		36	129	25	44	–	234
Impairment		–	5	–	7	–	12
Disposals		–	–	–	(2)	–	(2)
At 31 December 2020		142	1,373	126	361	–	2,002
Net book amounts							
At 31 December 2020		353	863	100	116	54	1,486
At 31 December 2019		326	986	99	118	38	1,567

Transfers into software and assets in course of construction includes \$10m (2019: \$nil) of software transferred from property, plant and equipment. Group capital expenditure relating to software contracted but not provided for amounted to \$9m (2019: \$5m).

Additions in 2020 include \$7m of accrued capital spend. Amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles is set out below:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Technology	37	28
Product-related	119	104
Customer and distribution related	15	11
Total	171	143

Management have assessed the acquisition intangible assets held by the Group to identify any indicators of impairment as a result of COVID-19. Where an impairment indicator has arisen, impairment reviews have been undertaken by comparing the expected recoverable value of the asset to the carrying value of the asset. As a result there was an impairment charge of \$4m booked in 2020 (2019: \$nil) in relation to an immaterial product asset in acquisition intangibles.

The table below provides further detail on the largest intangible assets and their remaining amortisation period:

	Carrying value \$ million	Remaining amortisation period
Intangibles acquired as part of the ArthroCare acquisition	427	3–13 years
Intangibles acquired as part of the Osiris acquisition	299	8 years
Intangibles acquired as part of the Healthpoint acquisition	252	2–7 years

10 Investments

Accounting policy

Investments, other than those related to associates, are initially recorded at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs on the trade date. The Group has investments in unquoted entities and an entity that holds mainly unquoted equity securities, which by their nature have no fixed maturity date or coupon rate. These investments are classed as fair value through profit or loss. The fair value of these investments is based on the underlying fair value of the equity securities: marketable securities are valued by reference to closing prices in the market; and non-marketable securities are estimated considering factors including the purchase price; prices of recent significant private placements of securities of the same issuer; and estimates of liquidation value. Changes in fair value based on externally observable valuation events are recognised in profit or loss.

	Notes	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
At 1 January		7	34
Acquisitions	21	–	17
Additions		2	1
Fair value remeasurement		–	12
Distributions received		–	(2)
Disposals		–	(46)
Transfers to cash and cash equivalents		–	(9)
At 31 December		9	7

11 Investments in associates

Accounting policy

Investments in associates, being those entities over which the Group has a significant influence and which is neither a subsidiary nor a joint venture, are accounted for using the equity method, with the Group recording its share of the associates' profit and loss and other comprehensive income. The Group's share of associates' profit or loss is included in one separate income statement line and is calculated after deduction of their respective taxes.

At 31 December 2020, the Group holds 47.6% (2019: 49%) of Bioventus LLC (Bioventus). Bioventus is a limited liability company operating as a partnership. Subsequent to the year end, Bioventus commenced trading on the Nasdaq Global Market (see Note 23 for further details). The company's headquarters is located in Durham, North Carolina, US. Bioventus focuses its medical product development around active healing therapies and the surgical performance of orthobiologics. The active healing therapies product line supports accelerated and more complete healing of bone fractures, and treats the chronic pain associated with osteoarthritis. The Group's ability to recover the value of its investment is dependent upon the ongoing clinical and commercial success of these products. The profit after taxation recognised in the income statement relating to Bioventus was \$14m (2019: \$1m). The balance sheet carrying value relating to Bioventus is \$105m (2019: \$100m).

The carrying amount of this investment was reviewed for impairment as at the balance sheet date. For the purposes of impairment testing the recoverable amount of this investment was based on its fair value less costs to sell, estimated using discounted cash flows. The amounts recognised in the balance sheet and income statement for associates are as follows:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Balance sheet	108	103
Income statement profit	14	1

Notes to the Group accounts continued

11 Investments in associates continued

Summarised financial information for significant associates

Set out below is the summarised financial information for Bioventus, adjusted for differences with Group accounting policies:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Summarised statement of comprehensive income		
Revenue	311	342
Attributable profit for the year	19	8
Group adjustments ¹	11	(6)
Total comprehensive profit	30	2
Group share of profit for the year at 47.6% (2019: 49%)	14	1
Summarised balance sheet		
Non-current assets	283	297
Current assets	210	183
Non-current liabilities	(223)	(241)
Current liabilities	(117)	(87)
Net assets	153	152
Non-controlling interest	(1)	(10)
Net equity attributable to owners	152	142
Group's share of net assets at 47.6% (2019: 49%)	72	70
Group adjustments ¹	33	30
Group's carrying amount of investment at 47.6% (2019: 49%)	105	100

¹ Group adjustments include an adjustment to align the useful life of intangible assets with Group policy.

During the year the Group received a \$9m (2019: \$3m) cash distribution from Bioventus.

At December 2020, the Group held equity investments in two other associates (2019: one) with a carrying value of \$3m (2019: \$3m).

12 Inventories

Accounting policy

Finished goods and work-in-progress are valued at factory cost, including appropriate overheads, on a first-in first-out basis. Raw materials and bought-in finished goods are valued at purchase price. All inventories are reduced to net realisable value where lower than cost. Inventory acquired as part of a business acquisition is valued at selling price less costs to sell and a profit allowance for selling efforts.

Orthopaedic instruments are generally not sold but provided to customers and distributors for use in surgery. They are recorded as inventory until they are deployed at which point they are transferred to plant and equipment and depreciated over their useful economic lives of between three and seven years.

A feature of the orthopaedic business is the high level of product inventory required, some of which is located at customer premises and is available for customers' immediate use (referred to as consignment inventory). Complete sets of product, including large and small sizes, have to be made available in this way. These outer sizes are used less frequently than standard sizes and towards the end of the product life cycle are inevitably in excess of requirements. Adjustments to carrying value are therefore required to be made to orthopaedic inventory to anticipate this situation. These adjustments are calculated in accordance with a formula based on levels of inventory compared with historical or forecast usage. This formula is applied on an individual product line basis and is first applied when a product group has been on the market for two years. This method of calculation is considered appropriate based on experience but it involves management judgements on effectiveness of inventory deployment, length of product lives, phase-out of old products and efficiency of manufacturing planning systems.

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Raw materials and consumables	370	287	219
Work-in-progress	61	100	88
Finished goods and goods for resale	1,260	1,227	1,088
	1,691	1,614	1,395

Management have assessed the impact of COVID-19 on the provision for excess and obsolete inventory, specifically considering the impact of lower sales demand and increased inventory levels. Management have not changed their policy for calculating the provision since 31 December 2019, nor is a change in the key assumptions underlying the methodology expected in the next 12 months. As a result of decreased sales demand and increased inventory levels, of which COVID-19 was a significant contributing factor, the provision has increased from \$308m at 31 December 2019 to \$377m at 31 December 2020. The provision also increased as a result of foreign exchange movements of \$10m. The determination of the estimate of excess and obsolete inventory is a critical accounting estimate and includes assumptions on the future usage of all different items of finished goods. This estimate is not considered to have a range of potential outcomes that is significantly different to the \$377m held at 31 December 2020.

The cost of inventories recognised as an expense and included in cost of goods sold amounted to \$1,129m (2019: \$1,147m, 2018: \$1,126m). Net adverse manufacturing variances of \$85m generated by factory specific shutdowns or reductions in scheduled production due to COVID-19 were directly expensed to the cost of goods sold. In addition, \$144m was recognised as an expense within cost of goods sold resulting from inventory write-offs and provision increases (2019: \$70m, 2018: \$94m).

Notwithstanding inventory acquired within acquisitions, no inventory is carried at fair value less costs to sell in any year.

13 Trade and other receivables

Accounting policy

Trade and other receivables are carried at amortised cost, less any allowances for uncollectible amounts. They are included in current assets, except for maturities greater than 12 months after the balance sheet date when they are classified as non-current assets.

The Group manages credit risk through credit limits which require authorisation commensurate with the size of the limit and which are regularly reviewed. Credit limit decisions are made based on available financial information and the business case. Significant receivables are regularly reviewed and monitored at Group level. The Group has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of customers and geographies. Furthermore, the Group's principal customers are backed by government and public or private medical insurance funding, which historically represent a lower risk of default. The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the fair value of each class of receivable. The Group does not hold any collateral as security. Allowance losses are calculated by reviewing lifetime expected credit losses using historic and forward-looking data on credit risk. The Group performed the calculation of expected credit loss rates separately for customer groups which were segmented based on common risk characteristics such as credit risk grade and type of customer (such as government and non-government).

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Trade and other receivables due within one year			
Trade receivables	982	1,141	1,166
Less: loss allowance	(71)	(59)	(62)
Trade receivables – net	911	1,082	1,104
Derivatives – forward foreign exchange, currency swaps and interest rate contracts	24	26	37
Other receivables	100	124	107
Current tax receivable	95	21	–
Prepayments	81	75	69
	1,211	1,328	1,317
Due after more than one year			
Other non-current assets	33	35	16
	1,244	1,363	1,333

Notes to the Group accounts continued

13 Trade and other receivables continued

Other non-current assets primarily relate to long-term prepayments and contingent consideration. Trade receivables are classified as loans and receivables. Management considers that the carrying amount of trade and other receivables approximates the fair value. Allowance losses are calculated by reviewing lifetime expected credit losses using historic and forward-looking data on credit risk. The loss allowance relating to other receivables is de minimis.

Management have assessed the impact of COVID-19 on the expected credit loss allowance against trade receivables. Current and expected collection of trade receivables since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic has been reflected in country-specific expected credit loss models on a reasonable and supportable basis where possible, taking into account macroeconomic factors such as government support. In some instances, it was not possible to incorporate the specific effects of COVID-19 and macroeconomic factors on a reasonable and supportable basis. Where the effects of COVID-19 could not be reflected in expected credit loss models, further adjustments to the models were considered. These adjustments were based on the most recent information on the expected recoverability of trade receivable balances. The Group's expected credit loss allowance increased from \$59m at 31 December 2019 to \$71m at 31 December 2020. The loss allowance expense for the year was \$25m (2019: \$15m, 2018: \$14m).

The following table provides information about the ageing of and expected credit losses for trade receivables:

	2020 Weighted average loss rate %	2020 Loss allowance \$ million	2020 Gross carrying amount \$ million	2019 Gross carrying amount \$ million	2018 Gross carrying amount \$ million
Not past due	-0.4%	(2)	510	681	647
Past due not more than 3 months	-0.9%	(2)	220	190	271
Past due more than 3 months	-4.5%	(4)	88	85	78
Past due more than 6 months	-38.4%	(63)	164	185	170
		(71)	982	1,141	1,166
Loss allowance			(71)	(59)	(62)
Trade receivables – net			911	1,082	1,104

The Group's expected credit loss accounting policy includes guidance on how the expected credit loss percentages should be determined; it does not include preset limits as the customer groups and risk profiles are not consistent across all of our markets. Each market determines their own percentages based on historic experience and future expectations, and in-line with the general guidance in the Group's policy.

Movements in the loss allowance were as follows:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
At 31 December in prior year	59	62	69
Adjustment on initial application of IFRS 9			14
Adjusted balance at 1 January	59	62	83
Exchange adjustment	1	(1)	(3)
Reclassification ¹	–	–	(8)
Acquisitions	–	9	–
Net receivables provided during the year	25	15	14
Utilisation of provision	(14)	(26)	(24)
At 31 December	71	59	62

1 On transition to IFRS 9, the Group reclassified a credit note provision from the loss allowance to gross trade receivables.

Trade receivables include amounts denominated in the following major currencies:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
US Dollar	380	493	527
Sterling	34	41	45
Euro	198	211	201
Other	299	337	331
Trade receivables – net	911	1,082	1,104

14 Trade and other payables

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Trade and other payables due within one year		
Trade and other payables	891	941
Derivatives – forward foreign exchange, currency swaps and interest rate contracts	59	23
Acquisition consideration	72	82
	1,022	1,046
Other payables due after one year		
Acquisition consideration	93	99
Other payables	1	3
	94	102

The acquisition consideration includes \$128m (2019: \$141m) contingent upon future events.

The acquisition consideration due after more than one year is expected to be payable as follows: \$33m in 2022, \$32m in 2023, \$15m in 2024, \$8m in 2025, and \$5m due in over five years (2019: \$61m in 2021, \$20m in 2022, \$7m in 2023, \$3m in 2024, and \$8m due in over five years).

15 Cash and borrowings

15.1 Net debt

Net debt comprises borrowings and credit balances on currency swaps less cash at bank.

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Bank overdrafts, borrowings and loans due within one year	279	26
Long-term bank borrowings	930	851
Corporate bond	992	–
Private placement notes	1,285	1,000
Borrowings	3,486	1,877
Cash at bank	(1,762)	(277)
Credit balance on derivatives – interest rate swaps	(2)	–
Net debt	1,722	1,600
Non-current lease liabilities	146	124
Current lease liabilities	58	46
Net debt including lease liabilities	1,926	1,770

15 Cash and borrowings continued

Borrowings are repayable as follows:

	Within one year or on demand \$ million	Between one and two years \$ million	Between two and three years \$ million	Between three and four years \$ million	Between four and five years \$ million	After five years \$ million	Total \$ million
At 31 December 2020							
Bank loans	1	604	326	–	–	–	931
Bank overdrafts	11	–	–	–	–	–	11
Corporate bond	–	–	–	–	–	992	992
Private placement notes	267	125	105	430	–	625	1,552
Lease liabilities ¹	58	44	30	21	15	47	215
	337	773	461	451	15	1,664	3,701
At 31 December 2019							
Bank loans	6	553	–	298	–	–	857
Bank overdrafts	20	–	–	–	–	–	20
Private placement notes	–	265	125	105	430	75	1,000
Lease liabilities ¹	46	39	30	20	14	37	186
	72	857	155	423	444	112	2,063

¹ The lease liabilities presented above of \$215m (2019: \$186m) are on an undiscounted basis. The lease liabilities on a discounted basis, as outlined on the [prior page](#), are \$204m (2019: \$170m).

15.2 Liquidity risk exposures

The Board has established a set of policies to manage funding and currency risks. The Group uses derivative financial instruments only to manage the financial risks associated with underlying business activities and their financing. Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group is not able to settle or meet its obligations on time or at a reasonable price. The Group's policy is to ensure that there is sufficient funding and facilities in place to meet foreseeable borrowing requirements. The Group manages and monitors liquidity risk through regular reporting of current cash and borrowing balances and periodic preparation and review of short and medium-term cash forecasts, having regard to the maturities of investments and borrowing facilities. The Group has available committed facilities of \$4.5bn (2019: \$2.9bn). During 2020, the Group issued its first corporate bond, in the form of \$1bn (before expenses and underwriting discounts) of notes bearing an interest rate of 2.032% repayable in 2030. Euro term loans of €492m have been extended from May 2021 to mature in May 2022.

The interest payable on borrowings under committed facilities is either at fixed or floating rates. Floating rates are typically based on the LIBOR (or other reference rate) relevant to the term and currency concerned. The Company is subject to financial covenants under its private placement agreements. The financial covenants are tested at the end of each half year for the 12 months ending on the last day of the testing period. As of 31 December 2020 the Company was in compliance with these covenants. The facilities are also subject to customary events of default, none of which are currently anticipated to occur.

The Group's committed facilities at 31 December 2020 are:

Facility	Date due
\$75 million 3.23% Senior Notes	January 2021
\$190 million 2.97% Senior Notes	November 2021
\$75 million 3.46% Senior Notes	January 2022
€223 million bilateral, term loan facility	May 2022
€269 million bilateral, term loan facility	May 2022
\$50 million 3.15% Senior Notes	November 2022
€265 million bilateral, term loan facility	April 2023
\$105 million 3.26% Senior Notes	November 2023
\$100 million 3.89% Senior Notes	January 2024
\$305 million 3.36% Senior Notes	November 2024
\$25 million Floating Rate Senior Notes	November 2024
\$1.0 billion syndicated revolving credit facility	June 2025
\$75 million 3.99% Senior Notes	January 2026
\$140 million 2.83% Senior Notes	June 2027
\$60 million 2.90% Senior Notes	June 2028
\$100 million 2.97% Senior Notes	June 2029
\$95 million 2.99% Senior Notes	June 2030
\$1.0 billion 2.032% Corporate Bond	October 2030
\$155 million 3.09% Senior Notes	June 2032

15.3 Year end financial liabilities by contractual maturity

The table below analyses the Group's year end financial liabilities by contractual maturity date, including contractual interest payments and excluding the impact of netting arrangements:

	Within one year or on demand \$ million	Between one and two years \$ million	Between two and five years \$ million	After five years \$ million	Total \$ million
At 31 December 2020					
Non-derivative financial liabilities:					
Bank overdrafts and loans	12	604	326	–	942
Corporate bond	20	20	61	1,102	1,203
Trade and other payables	891	1	–	–	892
Private placement notes	311	165	623	691	1,790
Acquisition consideration	72	34	59	5	170
Derivative financial instruments:					
Currency swaps/forward foreign exchange contracts – outflow	2,581	–	–	–	2,581
Currency swaps/forward foreign exchange contracts – inflow	(2,544)	–	–	–	(2,544)
	1,343	824	1,069	1,798	5,034
At 31 December 2019					
Non-derivative financial liabilities:					
Bank overdrafts and loans	26	553	298	–	877
Trade and other payables	941	1	1	1	944
Private placement notes	33	297	721	79	1,130
Acquisition consideration	83	63	32	10	188
Derivative financial instruments:					
Currency swaps/forward foreign exchange contracts – outflow	2,331	–	–	–	2,331
Currency swaps/forward foreign exchange contracts – inflow	(2,331)	–	–	–	(2,331)
	1,083	914	1,052	90	3,139

The amounts in the tables above are undiscounted cash flows, which differ from the amounts included in the balance sheet where the underlying cash flows have been discounted.

15 Cash and borrowings continued

15.4 Liquidity and capital resources

The Group's policy is to ensure that it has sufficient funding and facilities to meet foreseeable borrowing requirements.

At 31 December 2020, the Group held \$1,751m (2019: \$257m, 2018: \$333m) in cash net of bank overdrafts. The Group had committed facilities available of \$4,480m at 31 December 2020 of which \$3,480m was drawn.

The principal variations in the Group's borrowing requirements result from the timing of dividend payments, acquisitions and disposals of businesses, timing of capital expenditure and working capital fluctuations. Smith+Nephew believes that its capital expenditure needs and its working capital funding for 2021, as well as its other known or expected commitments or liabilities, can be met from its existing resources and facilities. The Group's net debt including leases increased from \$1,770m at the beginning of 2020 to \$1,926m at the end of 2020, representing an overall increase of \$156m.

16 Financial instruments and risk management

Accounting policy

Derivative financial instruments

Derivative financial instruments are initially recognised at fair value on the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured at their fair value at subsequent balance sheet dates. Changes in the fair value of derivative financial instruments that are designated and effective as cash flow hedges of forecast third party transactions are recognised in other comprehensive income until the associated asset or liability is recognised. Amounts taken to other comprehensive income are transferred to the income statement in the period in which the hedged transaction affects profit and loss. Where the hedged item is the cost of a non-financial asset, the amounts taken to other comprehensive income are transferred to the initial carrying value of the asset.

On adoption of IFRS 9 on 1 January 2018, the Group elected to continue to apply the hedge accounting guidance in IAS 39 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*. Changes in the fair values of hedging instruments that are designated and effective as net investment hedges are matched in other comprehensive income against changes in value of the related net assets. Interest rate derivatives transacted to fix interest rates on floating rate borrowings are accounted for as cash flow hedges and changes in the fair values resulting from changes in market interest rates are recognised in other comprehensive income. Amounts taken to other comprehensive income are transferred to the income statement when the hedged transaction affects profit and loss. Interest rate derivatives transacted to convert fixed rate borrowings into floating rate borrowings are accounted for as fair value hedges and changes in the fair values resulting from changes in market interest rates are recognised in the income statement. Any ineffectiveness on hedging instruments and changes in the fair value of derivative financial instruments that do not qualify for hedge accounting are recognised in the income statement within other finance costs as they arise.

Hedge accounting is discontinued when the hedging instrument expires or is sold, terminated or exercised, or no longer qualifies for hedge accounting. At that point in time, any cumulative gain or loss on the hedging instrument recognised in other comprehensive income is retained there until the forecast transaction occurs. If a hedged transaction is no longer expected to occur, the net cumulative gain or loss recognised in other comprehensive income is transferred to profit or loss.

16.1 Foreign exchange risk management

The Group operates in many countries and as a consequence has transactional and translational foreign exchange exposure. It is Group policy for operating units not to hold material unhedged monetary assets or liabilities other than in their functional currencies.

Foreign exchange variations affect trading results in two ways. Firstly, on translation of overseas sales and profits into US Dollars and secondly, transactional exposures arising where some, or all of the costs of sale are incurred in a different currency from the sale. The principal transactional exposures arise as the proportion of costs in US Dollars, Sterling and Swiss Francs exceed the proportion of sales in each of these currencies and correspondingly the proportion of sales in Euros exceeds the proportion of costs in Euros.

The impact of currency movements on the cost of purchases is partly mitigated by the use of forward foreign exchange contracts. The Group uses forward foreign exchange contracts, designated as cash flow hedges, to hedge forecast third party trading cash flows up to one year. When a commitment is entered into, forward foreign exchange contracts are normally used to increase the hedge to 100% of the exposure. Cash flows relating to cash flow hedges are expected to occur within 12 months of inception and profits and losses on hedges are expected to enter into the determination of profit (within cost of goods sold) within a further 12-month period. The principal currencies hedged by forward foreign exchange contracts are US Dollars, Euros, Sterling and Singapore Dollars. At 31 December 2020, the Group had contracted to exchange within one year the equivalent of \$2.2bn (2019: \$2.1bn). Based on the Group's net borrowings as at 31 December 2020, if the US Dollar were to weaken against all currencies by 10%, the Group's net borrowings would increase by \$84m (2019: \$78m) principally due to the Euro-denominated term loans.

If the US Dollar were to weaken by 10% against all other currencies, then the fair value of the forward foreign exchange contracts as at 31 December 2020 would have been \$48m lower (2019: \$52m lower). Similarly, if the Euro were to weaken by 10% against all other currencies, then the fair value of the forward foreign exchange contracts as at 31 December 2020 would have been \$30m higher (2019: \$26m higher). Movements in the fair value of forward foreign exchange contracts would be recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the hedging reserve.

A 10% strengthening of the US Dollar or Euro against all other currencies at 31 December 2020 would have had the equal but opposite effect to the amounts shown above, on the basis that all other variables remain constant.

The Group's policy is to hedge all actual foreign exchange exposures and the Group's forward foreign exchange contracts are designated as cash flow hedges. The net impact of transaction related foreign exchange on the income statement from a movement in exchange rates on the value of forward foreign exchange contracts is not significant. In addition, the movements in the fair value of other financial instruments used for hedging such as currency swaps for which hedge accounting is not applied, offset movements in the values of assets and liabilities and are recognised through the income statement. Hedge ineffectiveness is caused by actual cash flows in foreign currencies varying from forecast cash flows.

16.2 Interest rate risk management

The Group is exposed to interest rate risk on cash, borrowings and certain currency and interest rate swaps which are at floating rates. When required the Group uses interest rate derivatives to meet its objective of protecting borrowing costs within parameters set by the Board. These interest rate derivatives are accounted for as cash flow hedges and, as such, changes in fair value resulting from changes in market interest rates are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the hedging reserve, with the fair value of the interest rate derivatives recorded in the balance sheet. Additionally, the Group uses interest rate swaps to reduce the overall level of fixed rate debt, within parameters set by the Board. When used in this way, interest rate derivatives are accounted for as fair value hedges. The fair value movement of the derivative is offset in the income statement against the fair value movement in the underlying fixed rate debt.

The Group applied the interest rate benchmark reform amendments retrospectively to hedging relationships that existed at 1 January 2020 or were designated thereafter and that are directly affected by interest rate benchmark reform. The Group had a number of interest rate swaps outstanding at 31 December 2020 which all mature in 2021 and for which published US Dollar LIBOR rates will still be available. The Group has a revolving credit facility of \$1,000m and private placement notes of \$25m which will be subject to IBOR reform. The Group expects that the interest rates for both will be changed to SOFR in 2021 and that no significant modification gain or loss will arise as a result.

Based on the Group's gross borrowings and cash as at 31 December 2020, if interest rates were to increase by 100 basis points in all currencies then the annual net interest charge would increase by \$5m (2019: \$9m). A decrease in interest rates by 100 basis points in all currencies would have an equal but opposite effect to the amounts shown above.

16.3 Credit risk management

The Group limits exposure to credit risk on counterparties used for financial instruments through a system of internal credit limits. The financial exposure of a counterparty is determined as the total of cash and deposits, plus the risk on derivative instruments, assessed as the fair value of the instrument plus a risk element based on the nominal value and the historic volatility of the market value of the instrument. The Group does not anticipate non-performance of counterparties and believes it is not subject to material concentration of credit risk as the Group operates within a policy of counterparty limits designed to reduce exposure to any single counterparty.

The maximum credit risk exposure on derivatives at 31 December 2020 was \$24m (2019: \$26m), being the total debit fair values on forward foreign exchange contracts and currency swaps. The maximum credit risk exposure on cash at bank at 31 December 2020 was \$1,762m (2019: \$277m). The Group's exposure to credit risk on cash is mitigated as the amounts are held in a wide number of high credit quality financial institutions. Credit risk on trade receivables is detailed in Note 13.

16 Financial instruments and risk management continued

The amounts relating to items designated as hedging instruments were as follows:

	Nominal amount \$ million	Carrying amount assets \$ million	Carrying amount liabilities \$ million	Changes in fair value in OCI \$ million	Hedge ineffectiveness in profit or loss \$ million	Amounts reclassified from hedging reserve to profit or loss \$ million	Line item in profit or loss
At 31 December 2020							
Foreign currency risk							
Forward exchange contracts ¹	2,581	22	(59)	(30)	–	(6)	Cash flow hedges
Interest rate risk							
Interest rate swaps ²	(120)	2	–	–	–	–	N/A
At 31 December 2019							
Foreign currency risk							
Forward exchange contracts ¹	2,331	26	23	(5)	–	(19)	Cash flow hedges
Interest rate risk							
Interest rate swaps ²	(120)	–	–	–	–	–	N/A

1 Presented in Trade and other receivables and Trade and other payables on the Balance Sheet.

2 Presented in Trade and other receivables on the Balance Sheet.

16.4 Net investment hedge

Part of the Group's net investment in its Euro subsidiaries is hedged by €757m (\$930m equivalent) of term loans which mitigate the foreign currency risk arising from the subsidiaries' net assets. The loans are designated as hedging instruments for the changes in the value of the net investment that is attributable to changes in the EUR/USD spot rate.

To assess hedge effectiveness, the Group determines the economic relationship between the hedging instrument and the hedged item by comparing changes in the carrying amount of the debt that is attributable to a change in the spot rate with changes in the investment in the foreign operation due to movements in the spot rate (the offset method). The Group's policy is to hedge the net investment only to the extent of the debt principal. Hedge ineffectiveness occurs if the value of the Euro-denominated bank loan exceeds the value of the Euro subsidiaries.

16.5 Currency and interest rate profile of interest bearing liabilities and assets

Short-term receivables and payables are excluded from the following disclosures.

Currency and interest rate profile of interest bearing liabilities:

	Gross borrowings \$ million	Currency swaps \$ million	Interest rate swaps \$ million	Total liabilities \$ million	Floating rate liabilities \$ million	Fixed rate liabilities \$ million	Fixed rate liabilities	
							Weighted average interest rate %	Weighted average time for which rate is fixed Years
At 31 December 2020								
US Dollar	(2,548)	(240)	–	(2,788)	(391)	(2,397)	2.7	7.1
Other	(938)	(141)	–	(1,079)	(1,079)	–	–	–
Total interest bearing liabilities	(3,486)	(381)	–	(3,867)	(1,470)	(2,397)		
At 31 December 2019								
US Dollar	(1,005)	(118)	–	(1,123)	(268)	(855)	3.4	3.8
Other	(872)	(97)	–	(969)	(969)	–	–	–
Total interest bearing liabilities	(1,877)	(215)	–	(2,092)	(1,237)	(855)		

In 2020, the Group also had liabilities due for deferred and contingent acquisition consideration (denominated in US Dollars, Swiss Francs and Euros) totalling \$165m (2019: \$181m, 2018: \$127m) on which no interest was payable (see Note 14). There were no other significant interest bearing or non-interest bearing financial liabilities. Floating rates on liabilities are typically based on the one, three or six-month LIBOR (or other reference rate) relevant to the currency concerned. The weighted average interest rate on floating rate borrowings as at 31 December 2020 was less than 1% (2019: less than 1%).

Currency and interest rate profile of interest bearing assets:

	Cash at bank \$ million	Currency swaps \$ million	Interest rate swaps \$ million	Total assets \$ million	Floating rate assets \$ million	Fixed rate assets \$ million
At 31 December 2020						
US Dollar	1,648	139	2	1,789	1,787	2
Other	114	242	–	356	356	–
Total interest bearing assets	1,762	381	2	2,145	2,143	2
At 31 December 2019						
US Dollar	181	96	–	277	277	–
Other	96	119	–	215	215	–
Total interest bearing assets	277	215	–	492	492	–

Floating rates on assets are typically based on the short-term deposit rates relevant to the currency concerned.

16.6 Fair value of financial assets and liabilities

Accounting policy

Measurement of fair values

A number of the Group's accounting policies and disclosures require the measurement of fair values, for both financial assets and liabilities and non-financial assets acquired in a business combination (see Note 21).

When measuring the fair value of an asset or liability, the Group uses market observable data as far as possible. Fair values are categorised into different levels in the fair value hierarchy based on the inputs used in the valuation techniques as follows: Level 1: quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities; Level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (ie as prices) or indirectly (ie derived from prices); and Level 3: inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable data (unobservable inputs).

The Group recognises transfers between the levels of the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period during which the change has occurred.

There has been no change in the classification of financial assets and liabilities, the method and assumptions used in determining fair value and the categorisation of financial assets and liabilities within the fair value hierarchy from those disclosed in the Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2019.

The Group enters into derivative financial instruments with financial institutions with investment grade credit ratings. The fair value of forward foreign exchange contracts is calculated by reference to quoted market forward exchange rates for contracts with similar maturity profiles. The fair value of currency swaps is determined by reference to quoted market spot rates. As a result, foreign forward exchange contracts and currency swaps are classified as Level 2 within the fair value hierarchy. The changes in counterparty credit risk had no material effect on the hedge effectiveness for derivatives designated in hedge relationships and other financial instruments recognised at fair value. The fair value of investments is based upon third party pricing models for share issues. As a result, investments are considered Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy. There were no transfers between Levels 1, 2 and 3 during 2020 and 2019. For cash and cash equivalents, short-term loans and receivables, overdrafts and other short-term liabilities which have a maturity of less than three months, the book values approximate the fair values because of their short-term nature.

Long-term borrowings are measured in the balance sheet at amortised cost. The corporate bond issued in October 2020 is publicly listed and a market price is available. The Group's other long term borrowings are not quoted publicly, their fair values are estimated by discounting future contractual cash flows to net present values at the current market interest rates available to the Group for similar financial instruments as at the year end. The fair value of the private placement notes is determined using a discounted cash flow model based on prevailing market rates.

16 Financial instruments and risk management continued

The following table shows the carrying amounts and fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities, including their levels in the fair value hierarchy. It does not include fair value information for financial assets and financial liabilities not measured at fair value.

						Carrying amount	Fair value		
	Fair value – hedging instruments \$ million	Amortised cost \$ million	Fair value through OCI \$ million	Fair value through profit or loss \$ million	Other financial liabilities \$ million	Total \$ million	Level 2 \$ million	Level 3 \$ million	Total \$ million
At 31 December 2020									
Financial assets measured at fair value									
Forward foreign exchange contracts	20	–	–	–	–	20	20	–	20
Investments	–	–	–	9	–	9	–	9	9
Contingent consideration receivable	–	–	–	37	–	37	–	37	37
Interest rate swaps	–	–	2	–	–	2	2	–	2
Currency swaps	–	–	2	–	–	2	2	–	2
	20	–	4	46	–	70			
Financial liabilities measured at fair value									
Acquisition consideration	–	–	–	(128)	–	(128)	–	(128)	(128)
Forward foreign exchange contracts	(57)	–	–	–	–	(57)	(57)	–	(57)
Currency swaps	–	–	(2)	–	–	(2)	(2)	–	(2)
	(57)	–	(2)	(128)	–	(187)			
Financial assets not measured at fair value									
Trade and other receivables	986	–	–	–	–	986			
Cash at bank	–	1,762	–	–	–	1,762			
	986	1,762	–	–	–	2,748			
Financial liabilities not measured at fair value									
Acquisition consideration	–	–	–	–	(37)	(37)			
Bank overdrafts	–	–	–	–	(11)	(11)			
Bank loans	–	–	–	–	(931)	(931)			
Corporate bond	–	–	–	–	(992)	(992)			
Private placement debt in a hedge relationship	–	–	–	–	(122)	(122)			
Private placement debt not in a hedge relationship	–	–	–	–	(1,430)	(1,430)			
Trade and other payables	–	–	–	–	(892)	(892)			
	–	–	–	–	(4,415)	(4,415)			

At 31 December 2020, the market value of the corporate bond (\$992m) was \$1,017m. At 31 December 2020, the fair value of the private placement debt (\$1,552m) was \$1,642m. At 31 December 2019, the fair value of the private placement debt was not materially different to the carrying value.

During the year ended 31 December 2020, acquisition consideration decreased by \$16m due to \$67m of payments for acquisitions made in the current year and prior years, and \$9m of remeasurement and discount unwind which were partially offset by a \$60m increase relating to 2020 acquisitions. The fair value of contingent consideration is estimated using a discounted cash flow model. The valuation model considers the present value of expected payment, discounted using a risk-adjusted discount rate. The expected payment is determined by considering the possible scenarios, which relate to the achievement of established milestones and targets, the amount to be paid under each scenario and the probability of each scenario. As a result, contingent consideration is classified as Level 3 within the fair value hierarchy.

						Carrying amount	Fair value		
	Fair value – hedging instruments \$ million	Amortised cost \$ million	Fair value through OCI \$ million	Fair value through profit or loss \$ million	Other financial liabilities \$ million	Total \$ million	Level 2 \$ million	Level 3 \$ million	Total \$ million
At 31 December 2019									
Financial assets measured at fair value									
Forward foreign exchange contracts	25	–	–	–	–	25	25	–	25
Investments	–	–	–	7	–	7	–	7	7
Contingent consideration receivable	–	–	–	39	–	39	–	39	39
Currency swaps	–	–	1	–	–	1	1	–	1
	25	–	1	46	–	72			
Financial liabilities measured at fair value									
Acquisition consideration	–	–	–	(141)	–	(141)	–	(141)	(141)
Forward foreign exchange contracts	(22)	–	–	–	–	(22)	(22)	–	(22)
Currency swaps	–	–	(1)	–	–	(1)	(1)	–	(1)
	(22)	–	(1)	(141)	–	(164)			
Financial assets not measured at fair value									
Trade and other receivables	1,184	–	–	–	–	1,184			
Cash at bank	–	277	–	–	–	277			
	1,184	277	–	–	–	1,461			
Financial liabilities not measured at fair value									
Acquisition consideration	–	–	–	–	(40)	(40)			
Bank overdrafts	–	–	–	–	(20)	(20)			
Bank loans	–	–	–	–	(857)	(857)			
Private placement debt in a hedge relationship	–	–	–	–	(120)	(120)			
Private placement debt not in a hedge relationship	–	–	–	–	(880)	(880)			
Trade and other payables	–	–	–	–	(944)	(944)			
	–	–	–	–	(2,861)	(2,861)			

The fair value of contingent acquisition consideration is estimated using a discounted cash flow model. The valuation model considers the present value of risk adjusted expected payments, discounted using a risk-free discount rate. The expected payment is determined by considering the possible scenarios, which relate to the achievement of established milestones and targets, the amount to be paid under each scenario and the probability of each scenario. As a result, contingent acquisition consideration is classified as Level 3 within the fair value hierarchy.

16 Financial instruments and risk management continued

The fair value of investments is based upon third party pricing models for share issues. As a result, investments are considered Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy.

The movements in 2020 and 2019 for financial instruments measured using Level 3 valuation methods are presented below:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Investments		
At 1 January	7	34
Acquisitions	–	17
Additions	2	1
Fair value remeasurement	–	12
Distributions received	–	(2)
Disposals	–	(46)
Transfers	–	(9)
At 31 December	9	7
Contingent consideration receivable		
At 1 January	39	–
Arising on acquisitions	–	22
Arising on disposals	–	17
Receipts	(2)	–
At 31 December	37	39
Acquisition consideration liability		
At 1 January	(141)	(99)
Arising on acquisitions	(49)	(103)
Payments	51	51
Transfers	–	13
Remeasurements	12	–
Discount unwind	(1)	(3)
At 31 December	(128)	(141)

17 Provisions and contingencies

Accounting policy

In the normal course of business the Group is involved in various legal disputes. Provisions are made for loss contingencies when it is deemed probable that an adverse outcome will occur and the amount of the losses can be reasonably estimated. Where the Group is the plaintiff in pursuing claims against third parties, legal and associated expenses are charged to the income statement as incurred. The recognition of provisions for legal disputes is subject to a significant degree of estimation. In making its estimates management takes into account the advice of internal and external legal counsel. Provisions are reviewed regularly and amounts updated where necessary to reflect developments in the disputes. The ultimate liability may differ from the amount provided depending on the outcome of court proceedings or settlement negotiations or as new facts emerge. Insurance recoveries are recognised when the inflow of benefits is virtually certain, and are presented within other receivables.

A provision for onerous contracts is recognised when the expected benefits to be derived by the Group from a contract are lower than the unavoidable cost of meeting its obligations under the contract.

A provision for rationalisation is recognised when the Group has approved a detailed and formal restructuring plan, and the restructuring either has commenced or has been announced publicly. Future operating losses are not provided for.

17.1 Provisions

	Notes	Rationalisation provisions \$ million	Metal-on-metal \$ million	Legal and other provisions \$ million	Total \$ million
At 1 January 2019		35	192	47	274
Net charge to income statement		134	121	5	260
Unwinding of discount		–	5	–	5
Utilised		(130)	(3)	(7)	(140)
Acquisitions		–	–	17	17
Exchange adjustment		1	–	–	1
At 31 December 2019		40	315	62	417
Charge to income statement		124	17	10	151
Unwinding of discount		–	8	–	8
Utilised		(136)	(4)	(17)	(157)
Acquisitions	21	–	–	(3)	(3)
Exchange adjustment		1	–	–	1
At 31 December 2020		29	336	52	417
Provisions – due within one year		29	53	41	123
Provisions – due after one year		–	283	11	294
At 31 December 2020		29	336	52	417
Provisions – due within one year		40	112	51	203
Provisions – due after one year		–	203	11	214
At 31 December 2019		40	315	62	417

The principal elements within rationalisation provisions relate to the implementation of the Accelerating Performance and Execution (APEX) programme that was announced in February 2018, and the operations and commercial excellence programme announced in February 2020.

17 Provisions and contingencies continued

The Group has estimated a provision of \$336m (2019: \$315m) relating to the present value at 31 December 2020 of the estimated costs to resolve all other known and anticipated metal-on-metal hip claims globally. The estimated value of the provision has been determined using an actuarial model. Given the inherent uncertainty in assumptions including sensitivity to factors such as the number, outcome and value of claims the actual costs may differ significantly from this estimate. A range of expected outcomes between the 10th and 90th percentile generated by the actuarial model would not give rise to a material adjustment. The potential for more adverse outcomes exists and for example at the 95th percentile a charge similar to that incurred in 2019 would be required, in 2021 or thereafter. The provision does not include any possible further insurance recoveries on these claims or legal fees associated with defending claims. The Group carries considerable product liability insurance, and will continue to defend claims vigorously. The Group had a receivable of \$nil related to insurance recoveries at 31 December 2020 (2019: \$nil).

Management considered whether there had been any changes to the number and value of claims due to COVID-19 and to date have not identified any changes in trends. If the experience changes in the future the value of provisions may require adjustment.

The legal and other provisions mainly relate to various other product liability and intellectual property litigation matters.

All provisions are expected to be substantially utilised within five years of 31 December 2020 and none are treated as financial instruments.

17.2 Contingencies

The Company and its subsidiaries are party to various legal proceedings, some of which include claims for substantial damages. The outcome of these proceedings cannot readily be foreseen, but except as described herein management believes none of them is likely to result in a material adverse effect on the financial position of the Group. The Group provides for outcomes that are deemed to be probable and can be reliably estimated. There is no assurance that losses will not exceed provisions or will not have a significant impact on the Group's results of operations in the period in which they are realised.

17.3 Legal proceedings

Product liability claims

The Group faces claims from time to time for alleged defects in its products and has on occasion recalled or withdrawn products from the market. Such claims are endemic to the medical device industry. The Group maintains product liability insurance subject to limits and deductibles that management believes are reasonable. All policies contain exclusions and limitations, however, and there can be no assurance that insurance will be available or adequate to cover all claims.

There has been heightened concern about possible adverse effects of hip implant products with metal-on-metal bearing surfaces, and the Group has incurred, and will continue to incur expenses to defend claims in this area. As of December 2020, approximately 1,400 such claims were pending with the Group around the world. Most claims relate to the Group's Birmingham Hip Resurfacing (BHR) product and its two modular metal-on-metal components: the Birmingham Hip Modular Head (BHMH) and the optional metal liner component of the R3 Acetabular System (R3ML). The BHMH and R3ML are no longer on the market: the R3ML was withdrawn in 2012 and the BHMH was phased out in 2014. In 2015, the Group ceased offering smaller sizes of the BHR and restricted instructions for BHR use in female patients. These actions were taken to ensure that the BHR is used only in those patient groups where it continues to demonstrate strong performance.

In 2015 and 2016, the Group's US subsidiary entered into two group settlements in the US without admitting liability. Insurance receipts covered most of the amounts paid, with the net cash cost being \$25m. In November 2017, the Group's US subsidiary entered into a memorandum of understanding to settle a third group of claims, without admitting liability. The third settlement was finalised in 2018. These cases principally related to the Group's modular metal-on-metal hip components, which are no longer on the market. On 5 April 2017, the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation (MDL) ordered Smith & Nephew BHR cases pending or later filed in US federal court to be consolidated for pre-trial proceedings and transferred to the federal court in Baltimore, Maryland. As of December 2020, there were approximately 868 cases pending in the MDL in the United States. In England and Wales, the Group's UK subsidiary entered into a group settlement in 2017 to settle 150 claims principally related to the Group's modular metal-on-metal hip component, which are no longer on the market. Metal-on-metal hip implant claims against various companies in England and Wales were consolidated for trials under group litigation orders in the High Court in London. As of December 2019, all of the BHR lawsuits pending against the Group in England and Wales had been discontinued.

The Group requested indemnity from its product liability insurers for most of these metal-on-metal hip implant settlements. Each insurer makes its own decision as to coverage issues, and the liability of some insurers depends on exhaustion of lower levels of coverage. Insurers of the lower layers of the Group's insurances indemnified the Group in respect of these claims up to the limits of those insurances. The Group commenced arbitration proceedings against another insurer in respect of that insurer's share of the claims and associated defence costs in the amount of \$50m. That dispute was resolved in September 2019 for the full amount of the policy limits. Subsequently, other insurers indemnified the Group to the limits of their respective applicable policies, resulting in collection of \$147m in insurance recoveries in 2019.

Litigation outcomes are difficult to predict and defence costs can be significant. The Group takes care to monitor the clinical evidence relating to its metal hip implant products and ensure that its product offerings are designed to serve patients' interests.

Intellectual property disputes

The Group engages, as both plaintiff and defendant, in litigation with various competitors and others over claims of patent infringement and other intellectual property matters. These disputes are being heard in courts in the US and other jurisdictions and also before agencies that examine patents. Outcomes are rarely certain and costs are often significant.

Arthrex asserted suture anchor patents against Smith+Nephew in 2014 and 2015 in the US District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. In December 2016, the jury in that case decided that two of the Group's US subsidiaries infringed two asserted Arthrex patents and awarded Arthrex \$17m. In February 2017, the parties reached a settlement resulting in the dismissal of all patent litigation. Smith+Nephew agreed to pay Arthrex \$8m, and each party agreed to additional payments contingent on the outcome of patent validity proceedings currently pending at the US Patent & Trademark Office relating to the asserted patents. In August 2019, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit affirmed an earlier US Patent & Trademark Office ruling invalidating one of the asserted Arthrex patents. In 2020, the United States Supreme Court denied Arthrex's request for certiorari. In October 2019, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit vacated an earlier US Patent & Trademark Office ruling invalidating the other asserted Arthrex patent, and remanded the proceeding (on constitutional grounds) back to the US Patent & Trademark Office. In 2020, the United States Supreme Court granted certiorari, and the Group's appeal is scheduled to be heard on 1 March, 2021. The Group has adequately provided for any possible additional payment relating to its historical sales.

17.4 Tax matters

At any given time the Group has unagreed years outstanding in various countries and is involved in tax audits and disputes, some of which may take several years to resolve. Provisions are based on best estimates and management's judgements concerning the likely ultimate outcome of any audit or dispute. Management considers the specific circumstances of each tax position and takes external advice, where appropriate, to assess the range of potential outcomes and estimate additional tax that may be due. The Group believes that it has made adequate provision in respect of additional tax liabilities that may arise. See Note 5 for further details.

18 Retirement benefit obligations

Accounting policy

The Group sponsors defined benefit plans in a number of countries. A defined benefit pension plan defines an amount of pension benefit that an employee will receive on retirement or a minimum guaranteed return on contributions, which is dependent on various factors such as age, years of service and final salary. The Group's obligation is calculated separately for each plan by discounting the estimated future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods. The fair value of any plan assets is deducted to arrive at the net liability.

The calculation of the defined benefit obligation is performed annually by external actuaries using the projected unit credit method. Remeasurements arising from defined benefit plans comprise actuarial gains and losses and the return on the plan assets in excess of the discount rate net of the costs of managing the plan assets. The Group recognises these immediately in other comprehensive income (OCI) and all other expenses, such as service cost, net interest cost, administration costs and taxes, are recognised in the income statement.

A number of key assumptions are made when calculating the fair value of the Group's defined benefit pension plans. These assumptions impact the balance sheet asset and liabilities, operating profit, finance income/costs and other comprehensive income. The most critical assumptions are the discount rate, the rate of inflation and mortality assumptions to be applied to future pension plan liabilities. The discount rate is based on the yield at the reporting date on bonds that have a credit rating of AA, denominated in the currency in which the benefits are expected to be paid and have a maturity profile approximately the same as the Group's obligations. In determining these assumptions management takes into account the advice of professional external actuaries and benchmarks its assumptions against external data.

The Group determines the net interest expense/income on the net defined benefit liability/asset for the period by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the annual period to the net defined benefit liability/asset.

The Group also operates a number of defined contribution plans. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Group and employees pay fixed contributions to a third party financial provider. The Group has no further payment obligations once the contributions have been paid. Contributions are recognised as an employee benefit expense when they are due.

18 Retirement benefit obligations continued

18.1 Retirement benefit net assets/(obligations)

The Group's retirement benefit assets/(obligations) comprise:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Funded plans:		
UK Plan	82	75
US Plan	47	27
Other plans	(50)	(37)
	79	65
Unfunded plans:		
Other plans	(94)	(79)
Retirement healthcare	(15)	(16)
	(30)	(30)
Amount recognised on the balance sheet – liability	(163)	(136)
Amount recognised on the balance sheet – asset	133	106

The Group sponsors defined benefit pension plans for its employees or former employees in 14 countries and these are established under the laws of the relevant country. Funded plans are funded by the payment of contributions and the assets are held by separate trust funds or insurance companies. The provision of retirement and related benefits across the Group is kept under regular review. Employees' retirement benefits are the subject of regular management review. The Group's defined benefit plans provide employees with an entitlement to retirement benefits varying between 1.3% and 66.7% of final salary on attainment of retirement age. The level of entitlement is dependent on the years of service of the employee.

The Group's two major defined benefit pension plans are in the UK and US. Both these plans were closed to new employees in 2003 and defined contribution plans are offered to new joiners. The US and UK Plans were closed to future accrual in March 2014 and December 2016 respectively.

The UK Plan operates under trust law and responsibility for its governance lies with a Board of Trustees. This Board is composed of representatives of the Group, plan participants and an independent trustee, who act on behalf of members in accordance with the terms of the Trust Deed and Rules and relevant legislation. The UK Plan's assets are held by the trust. Annual increases on benefits in payment are dependent on inflation.

The 2018 and 2020 court cases in relation to Guaranteed Minimum Pensions do not impact the UK Plan as members were not contracted out of the State Earnings Related Pension (Serps) between 1990 and 1997.

The US Plan is governed by a US Pension Committee which is comprised of representatives of the Group. In the US, the Pension Protection Act (2006) established both a minimum required contribution and a maximum deductible contribution. Failure to contribute at least the minimum required amount will subject the Company to significant penalties, and contributions in excess of the maximum deductible have negative tax consequences. The minimum funding requirement is intended to fully fund the present value of accrued benefits over seven years.

There is no legislative minimum funding requirement in the UK. The Trust Deed of the UK Plan and the Plan Document of the US Plan provide the Group with a right to a refund of surplus assets assuming the full settlement of plan liabilities in the event of a plan wind-up. Furthermore, in the ordinary course of business the UK Board of Trustees and US Pension Committee have no rights to unilaterally wind up, or otherwise augment the benefits due to members of the plans. Based on these rights, any net surplus in the UK and US Plans is recognised in full.

18.2 Reconciliation of retirement benefit obligations and pension assets

The movement in the Group's pension benefit obligation and pension assets is as follows:

	2020			2019		
	Obligation \$ million	Asset \$ million	Total \$ million	Obligation \$ million	Asset \$ million	Total \$ million
Amounts recognised on the balance sheet at beginning of the period	(1,572)	1,542	(30)	(1,410)	1,388	(22)
Income statement expense:						
Current service cost	(12)	–	(12)	(11)	–	(11)
Past service credit	5	–	5	3	–	3
Settlements	7	(7)	–	–	–	–
Interest (expense)/income	(33)	33	–	(41)	41	–
Administration costs and taxes	(2)	–	(2)	(2)	–	(2)
Costs recognised in income statement	(35)	26	(9)	(51)	41	(10)
Remeasurements:						
Actuarial gain due to liability experience	6	–	6	5	–	5
Actuarial loss due to financial assumptions change	(130)	–	(130)	(192)	–	(192)
Actuarial gain due to demographic assumptions	7	–	7	35	–	35
Return on plan assets greater than discount rate	–	127	127	–	138	138
Remeasurements recognised in OCI	(117)	127	10	(152)	138	(14)
Cash:						
Employer contributions	–	8	8	–	13	13
Employee contributions	(3)	3	–	(3)	3	–
Benefits paid directly by the Group	2	–	2	2	(2)	–
Benefits paid, taxes and administration costs paid from scheme assets	68	(68)	–	69	(69)	–
Net cash	67	(57)	10	68	(55)	13
Exchange movements	(57)	46	(11)	(27)	30	3
Amount recognised on the balance sheet	(1,714)	1,684	(30)	(1,572)	1,542	(30)
Amount recognised on the balance sheet – liability	(312)	149	(163)	(282)	146	(136)
Amount recognised on the balance sheet – asset	(1,402)	1,535	133	(1,290)	1,396	106
Represented by:						
	2020			2019		
	Obligation \$ million	Asset \$ million	Total \$ million	Obligation \$ million	Asset \$ million	Total \$ million
UK Plan	(881)	963	82	(794)	869	75
US Plan	(494)	541	47	(471)	498	27
Other Plans	(339)	180	(159)	(307)	175	(132)
Total	(1,714)	1,684	(30)	(1,572)	1,542	(30)

All benefits are vested at the end of each reporting period. The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period is 19 years and 11 years for the UK and US Plans respectively.

18 Retirement benefit obligations continued

18.3 Plan assets

The market value of the US, UK and Other Plans assets are as follows:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
UK Plan:			
Assets with a quoted market price:			
Cash and cash equivalents	10	3	2
Equity securities	91	103	127
Other bonds	49	44	41
Short dated credit fund	127	119	–
Liability driven investments	347	264	246
Diversified growth funds	89	97	138
	713	630	554
Other assets:			
Insurance contract	250	239	241
Market value of assets	963	869	795
US Plan:			
Assets with a quoted market price:			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	–	–
Equity securities	60	50	79
Government bonds – fixed interest	163	152	91
Corporate bonds	316	296	267
Market value of assets	541	498	437
Other Plans:			
Assets with a quoted market price:			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	4	2
Equity securities	51	47	42
Government bonds – fixed interest	9	6	3
Government bonds – index linked	4	4	3
Corporate and other bonds	10	10	13
Insurance contracts	37	41	34
Property	23	25	20
Other quoted securities	5	5	4
	144	142	121
Other assets:			
Insurance contracts	36	33	35
Market value of assets	180	175	156
Total market value of assets	1,684	1,542	1,388

No plans invest directly in property occupied by the Group or in financial securities issued by the Group.

Both the UK and US Plans hold a mixture of growth assets and matching assets. The growth assets of the UK and US Plans are invested in a diversified range of industries across a broad range of geographies. The UK Plan matching assets include liability matching assets and annuity policies purchased by the trustees, which aim to match the benefits to be paid to certain members from the plan and therefore remove the investment, inflation and demographic risks in relation to those liabilities. The terms of the policy define that the contract value exactly matches the amount and timing of the pensioner obligations covered by the contract. In accordance with IAS 19R *Employee Benefits*, the fair value of the insurance contract is deemed to be the present value of the related obligations which is discounted at the AA corporate bond rate.

18.4 Expenses recognised in the income statement

The total expense relating to retirement benefits recognised for the year is \$78m (2019: \$76m, 2018: \$65m). Of this cost recognised for the year, \$69m (2019: \$66m, 2018: \$57m) relates to defined contribution plans and \$9m (2019: \$10m, 2018: \$8m) relates to defined benefit plans.

The cost charged in respect of the Group's defined contribution plans represents contributions payable to these plans by the Group at rates specified in the rules of the plans. These were charged to operating profit in costs of goods sold, selling, general and administrative expenses, and research and development expenses. There were \$nil outstanding payments as at 31 December 2020 due to be paid over to the plans (2019: \$nil, 2018: \$nil).

Defined benefit plan costs comprise service cost which is charged to operating profit in selling, general and administrative expenses and net interest cost and administration costs and taxes which are reported as other finance costs.

The defined benefit pension costs charged for the UK and US Plans are:

	2020		2019		2018	
	UK Plan \$ million	US Plan \$ million	UK Plan \$ million	US Plan \$ million	UK Plan \$ million	US Plan \$ million
Service cost	-	-	-	-	-	-
Past service cost	-	-	-	-	-	-
Settlement loss	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net interest expense, administration and taxes	-	-	(1)	-	-	-
	-	-	(1)	-	-	-

18.5 Principal actuarial assumptions

The following are the principal financial actuarial assumptions used at the reporting date to determine the UK and US defined benefit obligations and expense.

	2020 % per annum	2019 % per annum	2018 % per annum
UK Plan:			
Discount rate	1.3	1.9	2.7
Future salary increases	n/a	n/a	n/a
Future pension increases	2.9	3.0	3.2
Inflation (RPI)	2.9	3.0	3.2
Inflation (CPI)	2.1	2.2	2.2
US Plan:			
Discount rate	2.4	3.2	4.2
Future salary increases	n/a	n/a	n/a
Inflation	n/a	n/a	n/a

18 Retirement benefit obligations continued

Actuarial assumptions regarding future mortality are based on mortality tables. The UK uses the S3NA with projections in-line with the CMI 2018 table and the US uses the PRI-2012 table with MP-2020 scale. The current longevities underlying the values of the obligations in the defined benefit plans are as follows:

	2020 years	2019 years	2018 years
Life expectancy at age 60			
UK Plan:			
Males	27.6	27.5	28.9
Females	30.1	30.0	30.4
US Plan:			
Males	24.7	25.0	24.9
Females	26.8	27.2	27.1
Life expectancy at age 60 in 20 years' time			
UK Plan:			
Males	29.1	29.0	31.1
Females	31.5	31.4	31.9
US Plan:			
Males	24.6	25.2	25.1
Females	27.3	27.8	27.7

18.6 Sensitivity analysis

The calculation of the defined benefit obligation is sensitive to the assumptions used. The following table summarises the increase/decrease on the UK and US defined benefit obligation and pension costs as a result of reasonably possible changes in some of the assumptions while holding all other assumptions consistent. The sensitivity to the inflation assumption change includes corresponding changes to the future pension increase assumptions. The analysis does not take into account the full distribution of cash flows expected under the plan.

Changes to the inflation assumption will not have any effect on the US Pension Plan as it was closed to future accrual in 2014 and it has no other inflation-linked assumptions.

\$ million	Increase in pension obligation		Increase in pension cost	
	+50bps/+1yr	-50bps/-1yr	+50bps/+1 yr	-50bps/-1yr
UK Plan:				
Discount rate	-78.0	88.0	-2.0	1.0
Inflation	80.0	-73.0	1.0	-1.0
Mortality	42.0	-41.0	-	-1.0
US Plan:				
Discount rate	-25.0	28.0	-1.0	1.0
Mortality	14.0	-14.0	-	-

18.7 Risk

The pension plans expose the Group to the following risks:

Interest rate risk

Volatility in financial markets can change the calculations of the obligation significantly as the calculation of the obligation is linked to yields on AA-rated corporate bonds. A decrease in the bond yield will increase the measure of plan liabilities, although this will be partially offset by increases in the value of matching plan assets such as bonds and insurance contracts.

In the UK, the liability matching portfolio held in conventional and index-linked gilts was transferred into liability driven investments in order to reduce interest rate risk.

Inflation risk

The UK Plan is linked to inflation. A high rate of inflation will lead to a higher liability. This risk is managed by holding inflation-linked bonds and an inflation-linked insurance contract in respect of some of the obligation. In the UK, the liability matching portfolio held in conventional and index-linked gilts was transferred into liability driven investments in order to reduce inflation risk.

The UK Plan is closed to future accrual which reduces the exposure to this risk. The US Plan is also closed to future accrual and has no other inflation-linkage thus eliminating the exposure to this risk.

Investment risk

If the return on plan assets is below the discount rate, all else being equal, there will be an increase in the plan deficit.

In the UK, this risk is partially managed by a portfolio of liability matching assets and a bulk annuity, together with a dynamic de-risking policy to switch growth assets into liability matching assets over time.

The US Plan has a dynamic de-risking policy to shift plan assets from return-seeking (growth) assets to liability matching assets over time. The US Pension Plan has an established glide path that is designed to stabilise funding status by reducing the plan's exposure to return-seeking assets.

Longevity risk

The present value of the plan's defined benefit liability is calculated by reference to the best estimate of the mortality of the plan participants both during and after their employment. An increase in the life expectancy of plan participants above that assumed will increase the benefit obligation.

The UK Plan, in order to minimise longevity risk, has entered into an insurance contract which covers a portion of pensioner obligations.

18.8 Funding

A full valuation is performed by actuaries for the Trustees of each plan to determine the level of funding required. Employer contribution rates, based on these full valuations, are agreed between the Trustees of each plan and the Group. The assumptions used in the actuarial valuations used for funding purposes may differ from the accounting assumptions set out above.

UK Plan

The most recent full actuarial valuation of the UK Plan was undertaken as at 30 September 2018. The next full actuarial valuation as at 30 September 2020 has commenced. Future accruals to the UK Plan ceased as at 31 December 2016. Contributions to the UK Plan in 2020 were \$nil (2019: \$6m, 2018: \$25m). This included supplementary payments of \$nil (2019: \$6m, 2018: \$25m).

Following the completion of the 30 September 2018 valuation, it was determined that the Group is not required to make any future supplemental payments to the UK Plan unless, following a future valuation, the Group and Trustees determine that supplemental payments are required.

US Plan

The most recent full actuarial valuation of the US Plan was undertaken as at 1 January 2020. The next full actuarial valuation will take place as at 1 January 2021. Future accruals to the US Plan ceased as at 31 March 2014. Contributions to the US Plan were \$nil (2019: \$nil, 2018: \$10m) which represented supplementary payments of \$nil (2019: \$nil, 2018: \$10m).

There are no planned supplementary contributions to the US Plan for 2021.

19 Equity

Accounting policy

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

When shares recognised as equity are repurchased, the amount of the consideration paid, which includes directly attributable costs, net of any tax effects, is recognised as a deduction from equity. Repurchased shares are classified as treasury shares and are presented in the treasury share reserve. When treasury shares are sold or reissued subsequently, the amount received is recognised as an increase in equity and the resulting surplus or deficit on the transaction is presented within share premium.

19.1 Share capital

	Ordinary shares (20¢)		Deferred shares (£1.00)		Total \$ million
	Thousand	\$ million	Thousand	\$ million	
Authorised					
At 31 December 2018	1,223,591	245	50	–	245
At 31 December 2019	1,223,591	245	50	–	245
At 31 December 2020	1,223,591	245	50	–	245
Allotted, issued and fully paid					
At 1 January 2018	890,855	178	50	–	178
Share options	418	–	–	–	–
Shares cancelled	(3,321)	(1)	–	–	(1)
At 31 December 2018	887,952	177	50	–	177
Share options	350	–	–	–	–
Shares cancelled	(3,095)	–	–	–	–
At 31 December 2019	885,207	177	50	–	177
Share options	327	–	–	–	–
Shares cancelled	(649)	–	–	–	–
At 31 December 2020	884,885	177	50	–	177

The deferred shares were issued in 2006 in order to comply with English Company law. They are not listed on any stock exchange and have extremely limited rights and effectively have no value. These rights are summarised as follows:

- The holder shall not be entitled to participate in the profits of the Company;
- The holder shall not have any right to participate in any distribution of the Company's assets on a winding up or other distribution except that after the return of the nominal amount paid up on each share in the capital of the Company of any class other than the deferred shares and the distribution of a further \$1,000 in respect of each such share there shall be distributed to a holder of a deferred share (for each deferred share held) an amount equal to the nominal value of the deferred share;
- The holder shall not be entitled to receive notice, attend, speak or vote at any general meeting of the Company; and
- The Company may create, allot and issue further shares or reduce or repay the whole or any part of its share capital or other capital reserves without obtaining the consent of the holders of the deferred shares.

The Group's objectives when managing capital are to ensure the Group has adequate funds to continue as a going concern and sufficient flexibility within the capital structure to fund the ongoing growth of the business and to take advantage of business development opportunities including acquisitions.

The Group determines the amount of capital taking into account changes in business risks and future cash requirements. The Group reviews its capital structure on an ongoing basis and uses share buy-backs, dividends and the issue of new shares to adjust the retained capital.

The Group considers the capital that it manages to be as follows:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Share capital	177	177	177
Share premium	612	610	608
Capital redemption reserve	18	18	18
Treasury shares	(157)	(189)	(214)
Retained earnings and other reserves	4,629	4,525	4,285
	5,279	5,141	4,874

19.2 Treasury shares

Treasury shares represent the holding of the Company's own shares in respect of the Smith & Nephew Employees' Share Trust and shares bought back as part of the share buy-back programme. In 2020 the Group purchased a total of 0.6m shares for a cost of \$16m. In 2019 the Group purchased a total of 3.1m shares for a cost of \$63m as part of the same programme.

The Smith & Nephew 2004 Employees' Share Trust (Trust) was established to hold shares relating to the long-term incentive plans referred to in the 'Directors' Remuneration Report'. The Trust is administered by an independent professional trust company resident in Jersey and is funded by a loan from the Company. The cost of the Trust is charged to the income statement as it accrues. A dividend waiver is in place in respect of those shares held under the long-term incentive plans. The Trust only accepts dividends in respect of nil-cost options and deferred bonus plan shares. The waiver represents less than 1% of the total dividends paid.

The movements in Treasury shares and the Employees' Share Trust are as follows:

	Treasury \$ million	Employees' Share Trust \$ million	Total \$ million
At 1 January 2019	189	25	214
Shares purchased	63	–	63
Shares transferred from treasury	(21)	21	–
Shares transferred to Group beneficiaries	(12)	(26)	(38)
Shares cancelled	(50)	–	(50)
At 31 December 2019	169	20	189
Shares purchased	16	–	16
Shares transferred from treasury	(26)	26	–
Shares transferred to Group beneficiaries	(12)	(25)	(37)
Shares cancelled	(11)	–	(11)
At 31 December 2020	136	21	157

19 Equity continued

	Treasury	Employees' Share Trust	Total
	Number of shares million	Number of shares million	Number of shares million
At 1 January 2019	12.2	1.7	13.9
Shares purchased	3.1	–	3.1
Shares transferred from treasury	(1.3)	1.3	–
Shares transferred to Group beneficiaries	(0.7)	(1.7)	(2.4)
Shares cancelled	(3.1)	–	(3.1)
At 31 December 2019	10.2	1.3	11.5
Shares purchased	0.6	–	0.6
Shares transferred from treasury	(1.5)	1.5	–
Shares transferred to Group beneficiaries	(0.8)	(1.6)	(2.4)
Shares cancelled	(0.6)	–	(0.6)
At 31 December 2020	7.9	1.2	9.1

19.3 Dividends

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
The following dividends were declared and paid in the year:			
Ordinary final of 23.1¢ for 2019 (2018: 22.0¢, 2017: 22.7¢) paid 6 May 2020	202	192	198
Ordinary interim of 14.4¢ for 2020 (2019: 14.4¢, 2018: 14.0¢) paid 28 October 2020	126	126	123
	328	318	321

A final dividend for 2020 of 23.1 US cents per ordinary share was proposed by the Board on 18 February 2021 and will be paid, subject to shareholder approval, on 12 May 2021 to shareholders on the Register of Members on 6 April 2021. The estimated amount of this dividend is \$202m. The Group pursues a progressive dividend policy, with the aim of increasing the US Dollar value of ordinary dividends over time broadly based on the Group's underlying growth in earnings, while taking into account capital requirements and cash flows. Future dividends will be dependent upon future earnings, the future financial condition of the Group and the Board's dividend policy. The Board reviews the appropriate level of total annual dividend each year at the time of the full year results. In 2020, given the earnings decline, the Board chose to keep the interim dividend flat on the prior year. Smith & Nephew plc, the Parent Company of the Group, is a non-trading investment holding company which derives its distributable reserves from dividends paid by subsidiary companies. The distributable reserves of the Parent Company approximate to the balance on the profit and loss account reserve, less treasury shares and exchange reserves, which at 31 December 2020 amounted to \$2,205m.

20 Cash flow statement

Accounting policy

In the Group cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents includes cash at bank, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the Group balance sheet, bank overdrafts are shown within bank overdrafts, borrowings, loans and lease liabilities under current liabilities.

Analysis of net debt including lease liabilities

	Cash \$ million	Overdrafts \$ million	Due within one year \$ million	Due after one year \$ million	Borrowings		Total \$ million
					Net currency swaps \$ million	Net interest swaps \$ million	
At 1 January 2018	169	(14)	(13)	(1,423)	2	(2)	(1,281)
Net cash flow/debt movement	200	(18)	(118)	126	8	(1)	197
Exchange adjustment	(4)	–	(1)	(4)	(11)	–	(20)
At 31 December 2018	365	(32)	(132)	(1,301)	(1)	(3)	(1,104)
Net cash flow/debt movement	(88)	12	125	(550)	2	–	(499)
Exchange adjustment	–	–	1	–	(1)	3	3
At 31 December 2019	277	(20)	(6)	(1,851)	–	–	(1,600)
IFRS 16 lease liabilities	–	–	(46)	(124)	–	–	(170)
Net debt including lease liabilities at 31 December 2019	277	(20)	(52)	(1,975)	–	–	(1,770)
Net cash flow/debt movement	1,484	9	(260)	(1,285)	(7)	–	(59)
Exchange adjustment	1	–	(2)	(79)	7	2	(71)
Corporate bond issuance expense	–	–	–	8	–	–	8
IFRS 16 lease liabilities movement	–	–	(12)	(22)	–	–	(34)
Net debt including lease liabilities at 31 December 2020	1,762	(11)	(326)	(3,353)	–	2	(1,926)

20 Cash flow statement continued

Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt including lease liabilities

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Net cash flow from cash net of overdrafts	1,493	(76)	182
Settlement of currency swaps	(7)	2	8
Net cash flow from borrowings	(1,545)	(425)	7
Change in net debt from net cash flow	(59)	(499)	197
IFRS 16 lease liabilities	(34)	(170)	–
Exchange adjustment	(71)	3	(20)
Corporate bond issuance expense	8	–	–
Change in net debt in the year	(156)	(666)	177
Opening net debt ¹	(1,770)	(1,104)	(1,281)
Closing net debt¹	(1,926)	(1,770)	(1,104)

1 Includes IFRS 16 lease liabilities from 1 January 2019.

Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the Group cash flow statement cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2020 comprise cash at bank net of bank overdrafts.

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Cash at bank	1,762	277	365
Bank overdrafts	(11)	(20)	(32)
Cash and cash equivalents	1,751	257	333

The Group operates in over 100 countries around the world, some of which impose restrictions over cash movement. These restrictions have only a minimal impact of the management on the Group's cash.

Cash outflows/(inflows) arising from financing activities

	Repayment of bank loans ¹ \$ million	Borrowing of bank loans ¹ \$ million	Proceeds from Corporate Bond issue \$ million	Repayment of lease liabilities \$ million	Cash outflow from other \$ million	Dividends \$ million	Purchase of own shares \$ million	Proceeds from own shares/issue of ordinary shares \$ million	Total \$ million
2020									
Debt	405	(950)	(1,000)	55	(7)	–	–	–	(1,497)
Equity	–	–	–	–	–	328	16	(11)	333
Total	405	(950)	(1,000)	55	(7)	328	16	(11)	(1,164)

2019

Debt	865	(1,290)	–	46	2	–	–	–	(377)
Equity	–	–	–	–	–	318	63	(11)	370
Total	865	(1,290)	–	46	2	318	63	(11)	(7)

2018

Debt	401	(394)	–	–	8	–	–	–	15
Equity	–	–	–	–	–	321	48	(13)	356
Total	401	(394)	–	–	8	321	48	(13)	371

1 This includes drawdown and repayment of the syndicated revolving credit facility.

21 Acquisitions

Accounting policy

The Group accounts for business combinations using the acquisition method when control is transferred to the Group. The consideration transferred in the acquisition is measured at fair value, as are the identifiable net assets acquired. Any goodwill that arises is tested annually for impairment. Any gain on a bargain purchase is recognised in profit or loss immediately. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred, except if related to the issue of debt or equity securities.

Any contingent consideration payable is measured at fair value at the acquisition date. If the contingent consideration is classified as equity, then it is not remeasured and settlement is accounted for within equity. Otherwise, subsequent changes in the fair value of the contingent consideration are recognised in profit or loss.

Year ended 31 December 2020

On 23 January 2020, the Group completed the acquisition of 100% of the share capital of Tusker Medical, Inc. ('Tusker'), a developer of an innovative in-office solution for tympanostomy (ear tubes) called Tula. The acquisition was deemed to be a business combination within the scope of IFRS 3 *Business Combinations*. The acquisition supports the Group's strategy to invest in innovative technologies that address unmet clinical needs. The maximum consideration is \$140m and the provisional fair value of consideration is \$139m and includes \$6m of deferred consideration and \$35m of contingent consideration. The goodwill represents the control premium, the acquired workforce and the synergies expected from integrating Tusker into the Group's existing business, and is not expected to be deductible for tax purposes.

For the year ended 31 December 2020, the contribution to revenue and profit from Tusker was immaterial. If the business combination had occurred at the beginning of the year the contribution to revenue and profit would also have been immaterial.

The provisional fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed are set out below:

	Tusker \$ million
Intangible assets – Product-related	53
Property, plant & equipment	6
Other receivables	1
Trade and other payables	(6)
Non-current liabilities	(3)
Net deferred tax asset	5
Net assets	56
Goodwill	83
Consideration (net of \$nil cash acquired)	139

During the year ended 31 December 2020, the Group also completed two other smaller acquisitions in the spheres of remote physical therapy and arthroscopic enabling technology. The maximum aggregated consideration is \$41m and the provisional fair value of consideration is \$26m and includes \$3m of deferred consideration and \$17m of contingent consideration. The fair value of aggregate assets acquired is: intangible assets of \$8m, property and other net assets of \$2m. The goodwill arising on these acquisitions is \$16m, which is not expected to be deductible for tax purposes, and is attributable to future iterations of the technologies and the synergies that can be expected from integrating these acquisitions into the Group's existing business.

For the year ended 31 December 2020, the contribution to revenue and profit from the business combinations was immaterial. If the business combinations had occurred at the beginning of the year, the contribution to revenue and profit would have been immaterial.

The cash outflow from acquisitions of \$170m (2019: \$869m) comprises payments of consideration relating to acquisitions completed in the current year of \$117m (2019: \$796m) and payments of deferred and contingent consideration of \$53m (2019: \$73m) relating to acquisitions completed in prior years.

The carrying value of goodwill increased from \$2,789m to \$2,928m as a result of acquisitions (\$99m) and foreign exchange movements (\$43m) which were partially offset by an IFRS 3 measurement period adjustment (\$3m) in relation to the Osiris Therapeutics, Inc. acquisition as outlined on the [next page](#).

21 Acquisitions continued

Year ended 31 December 2019

The Group acquired five medical technology businesses deemed to be business combinations within the scope of IFRS 3 *Business Combinations* during the year ended 31 December 2019. The acquisition accounting for these business combinations was completed in 2020 with no adjustments to the provisional fair value disclosed in the Group's 2019 Annual Report other than in relation to the Osiris Therapeutics, Inc. acquisition as outlined below.

On 22 January 2019, the Group completed the acquisition of 100% of the share capital of Ceterix Orthopaedics, Inc. ('Ceterix'), a developer of a meniscus repair system. The acquisition supports the Company's strategy to invest in innovative technologies that meet unmet clinical needs. The maximum consideration payable of \$105m has a fair value of \$96m, which includes deferred consideration of \$5m and contingent consideration of \$47m. The fair value of the contingent consideration is determined from the acquisition agreement, the risk adjusted cash flows from the Board-approved acquisition model and a risk-free discount rate of 3.3%. The maximum contingent consideration is \$55m. The goodwill is attributable to the control premium, the acquired workforce and the synergies expected from integrating Ceterix into the Group's existing business.

On 17 April 2019, the Group completed the acquisition of 100% of the share capital of Osiris Therapeutics, Inc. ('Osiris'), a fast growing company delivering regenerative medicine products including skin, bone graft and articular cartilage substitutes that will further expand and differentiate the Group's Advanced Wound Management portfolio. This acquisition provides the Group with a fast growing portfolio with strong clinical evidence addressing critical needs in the skin substitute marketplace. It is one of the highest growth and high potential markets in wound management, filling an important need not previously adequately addressed in our portfolio. Cash consideration was \$660m with no deferred or contingent consideration payable. The goodwill is attributable to the control premium, the acquired workforce and the synergies that can be expected from integrating Osiris into the Group's existing business. During the year ended 31 December 2020, adjustments were made to the fair value of the provisions, net deferred tax liability and trade and other payables. These adjustments were made during the one year measurement period in accordance with the requirements of IFRS 3. The net impact of these adjustments was \$3m and has been reflected in the fair value of goodwill, reducing it from \$301m to \$298m.

Also on 17 April 2019, the Group completed the acquisition of 85.5% of the share capital of Leaf Healthcare, Inc. ('Leaf'), a developer of the unique Leaf Patient Monitoring System for pressure injury prevention and patient mobility monitoring, which is highly complementary to the Group's existing wound portfolio. This acquisition brings the Group's total shareholding in Leaf to 100%. The Group's existing holding of 14.5% of the share capital, with a carrying value of \$6m, was remeasured to fair value resulting in a \$1m gain which is included in selling, general and administrative expenses in the income statement. The maximum consideration payable of \$75m for 100% of the share capital has a fair value of \$52m, which includes deferred consideration of \$4m and contingent consideration of \$12m. The fair value of the contingent consideration is determined from the acquisition agreement, the risk adjusted cash flows from the Board-approved acquisition model and a risk-free discount rate of 3.0%. The maximum contingent consideration is \$35m. The goodwill is attributable to the control premium, the acquired workforce, future iterations of the technology and the synergies that can be expected from integrating Leaf into the Group's existing business.

On 31 May 2019, the Group completed the acquisition of the Brainlab Orthopaedic Joint Reconstruction business ('Brainlab OJR'). The acquisition supports the Group's strategy to invest in best-in-class technologies that further its multi-asset digital surgery and robotic ecosystem. The maximum consideration payable of \$108m has a fair value of \$107m, which includes contingent consideration of \$57m. The fair value of the contingent consideration is determined from the acquisition agreement, the risk adjusted cash flows from the Board-approved acquisition model and a risk-free discount rate of 2.3%. The maximum contingent consideration is \$58m. The goodwill is attributable to the control premium, the acquired workforce, future iterations of the technology and the synergies that can be expected from integrating the orthopaedic joint reconstruction business into the Group's existing business.

On 1 July 2019, the Group completed the acquisition of 100% of the share capital of Atracsys Sàrl ('Atracsys'), a Switzerland-based provider of optical tracking technology used in computer-assisted surgery. The acquisition supports the Group's long-term commitment to develop its multi-asset digital surgery and robotics ecosystem to empower surgeons and improve clinical outcomes. The fair value of consideration is \$42m which includes \$14m of deferred consideration and \$5m of contingent consideration. The fair value of contingent consideration is determined from the acquisition agreement, the risk-adjusted cash flows from the Board approved acquisition model and a risk-free discount rate of 2.3%. The maximum contingent consideration is \$6m. The goodwill represents the control premium, the acquired workforce and the synergies expected from integrating Atracsys into the Group's existing business.

Amounts allocated to goodwill arising on acquisitions during the year ended 31 December 2019 in the table below are not deductible for tax purposes, except in the case of the Brainlab OJR acquisition.

For the year ended 31 December 2019, the contribution to revenue from the Ceterix, Leaf, Brainlab OJR and Atracsys business combinations was immaterial and the contribution from the Osiris business combination was \$114m. For the year ended 31 December 2019, the contribution to profit from the Ceterix, Leaf, Brainlab OJR, Osiris and Atracsys business combinations was immaterial.

If the business combinations had occurred at the beginning of the year, the contribution to revenue from the Ceterix, Leaf, Brainlab OJR and Atracsys business combinations would have been immaterial and the contribution from the Osiris business combination would have been \$160m. If the business combinations had occurred at the beginning of the year, the contribution to profit from the Ceterix, Leaf, Brainlab OJR, Osiris and Atracsys business combinations would have been immaterial.

The fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed are set out below:

	Ceterix \$ million	Osiris \$ million	Leaf \$ million	Brainlab OJR \$ million	Atracsys \$ million
Intangible assets – Product-related	43	284	14	–	9
Intangible assets – Technology	–	–	–	75	–
Intangible assets – Customer-related	–	80	–	9	1
Property, plant & equipment	2	6	–	–	1
Investments	–	17	–	–	–
Other non-current assets	–	4	–	–	–
Inventory	2	9	1	–	1
Trade and other receivables	1	49	1	–	1
Trade and other payables	(4)	(34)	(1)	–	(1)
Provisions	–	(14)	–	–	–
Non-current liabilities	–	(7)	–	–	–
Net deferred tax asset/(liability)	1	(56)	1	–	(1)
Net assets	45	338	16	84	11
Goodwill	49	298	37	23	31
Consideration (net of cash acquired¹)	94	636	53	107	42

1 Cash acquired is as follows: Ceterix: \$2m; Osiris: \$24m; Leaf: \$1m; Brainlab OJR: \$nil; and Atracsys: \$nil.

Year ended 31 December 2018

The Group made no acquisitions deemed to be business combinations within the scope of IFRS 3 in the year ended 31 December 2018. The cash outflow of \$29m relates to acquisitions completed in prior years.

22 Other notes to the accounts

22.1 Share-based payments

Accounting policy

The Group operates a number of equity-settled executive and employee share plans. For all grants of share options and awards, the fair value at the grant date is calculated using appropriate option pricing models. The grant date fair value is recognised over the vesting period as an expense, with a corresponding increase in retained earnings.

The Group operates the following equity-settled executive and employee share plans: Smith & Nephew Global Share Plan 2010, Smith & Nephew Global Share Plan 2020, Smith & Nephew ShareSave plan (2012) and Smith & Nephew International ShareSave Plan (2012). At 31 December 2020, 4,582,000 options (2019: 4,519,000, 2018: 4,911,000) were outstanding with a range of exercise prices from 599 to 1,541 pence.

At 31 December 2020, the maximum number of shares that could be awarded under the Group's long-term incentive plans was 4,704,000 (2019: 4,947,000, 2018: 5,678,000). These include conditional share awards granted to senior employees and equity and performance share awards granted to senior executives under the Global Share Plan 2010 and Global Share Plan 2020.

The expense charged to the income statement for share-based payments for the year is \$26m (2019: \$32m, 2018: \$35m).

22 Other notes to the accounts continued

22.2 Related party transactions

Trading transactions

In the course of normal operations, the Group traded with its associates detailed in Note 11. The aggregated transactions, which have not been disclosed elsewhere in the financial statements are \$nil (2019: \$nil, 2018: \$nil).

Key management personnel

The remuneration of executive officers (including Non-Executive Directors) during the year is summarised below:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Short-term employee benefits	12	18	18
Share-based payments expense	5	5	10
Pension and post-employment benefit entitlements	2	2	2
Compensation for loss of office	–	6	–
	19	31	30

Directors' remuneration disclosures are included on [pages 106–127](#).

23 Post balance sheet events

On 4 January 2021 the Group completed the acquisition of the Extremity Orthopaedics business of Integra LifeSciences Holdings Corporation ('Integra Extremities'). The acquisition significantly strengthens the Group's extremities business by adding a combination of a focused sales channel, complementary shoulder replacement and upper and lower extremities portfolio, and a new product pipeline. This acquisition will be treated as a business combination under IFRS 3. The maximum consideration is \$240m with no deferred or contingent consideration payable. The provisional value of acquired net tangible assets is \$91m and is not expected to have material fair value adjustments. The remaining consideration will be allocated between identifiable intangible assets and goodwill. Intangible assets will primarily comprise product-related and customer and distribution related assets. Goodwill will represent the control premium, the acquired workforce and the synergies expected from integrating Integra Extremities into the Group's existing business, and is expected to be largely deductible for tax purposes.

On 11 February 2021 Bioventus LLC ('Bioventus'), an associate undertaking of the Group, commenced trading on the Nasdaq Global Select Market via its holding company, Bioventus Inc., under the symbol 'BVS'. As a consequence of this public offering and the raising of approximately \$96.7m before expenses through issuing new common stock, the equity holding of the Smith+Nephew Group has decreased from approximately 47.6% at 31 December 2020 to approximately 38% at 11 February 2021. The carrying value of the investment in Bioventus at 31 December 2020 was \$105m and the fair value of the approximately 38% at the market value on 12 February 2021 was approximately \$380m. Smith+Nephew continues to have the ability to appoint two Board members of Bioventus Inc. and is subject to customary post-IPO selling restrictions that restrict the sale of Bioventus Inc. stock by Smith+Nephew for 180 days after the listing.

Company balance sheet

	Notes	At 31 December 2020 \$ million	At 31 December 2019 \$ million
Fixed assets			
Investments	2	7,092	7,092
Current assets			
Debtors	3	2,918	2,265
Cash at bank	5	1,629	163
		4,547	2,428
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Borrowings	5	(270)	(5)
Other creditors	4	(2,884)	(2,543)
		(3,154)	(2,548)
Net current assets/(liabilities)			
		1,393	(120)
Total assets less current liabilities			
		8,485	6,972
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year			
Borrowings	5	(3,207)	(1,851)
Total assets less total liabilities			
		5,278	5,121
Equity shareholders' funds			
Share capital		177	177
Share premium		612	610
Capital redemption reserve		18	18
Capital reserve		2,266	2,266
Treasury shares		(157)	(189)
Exchange reserve		(52)	(52)
Profit and loss account		2,414	2,291
Shareholders' funds			
		5,278	5,121

The accounts were approved by the Board and authorised for issue on 18 February 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Roberto Quarta
Chair

Roland Diggelmann
Chief Executive Officer

Anne-Françoise Nesmes
Chief Financial Officer

Excluding Note 8 'Group Companies', the Parent Company financial statements of Smith & Nephew plc on pages 205–213 do not form part of the Smith & Nephew plc Annual Report on Form 20-F as filed with the SEC.

Statement of changes in equity

	Share capital \$ million	Share premium \$ million	Capital redemption reserve \$ million	Capital reserve \$ million	Treasury shares \$ million	Exchange reserve \$ million	Profit and loss account \$ million	Total shareholders' funds \$ million
At 1 January 2019	177	608	18	2,266	(214)	(52)	2,540	5,343
Attributable profit for the year	–	–	–	–	–	–	115	115
Net gain on cash flow hedges	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
Equity dividends paid in the year	–	–	–	–	–	–	(318)	(318)
Share-based payments recognised ¹	–	–	–	–	–	–	32	32
Cost of shares transferred to beneficiaries	–	–	–	–	38	–	(29)	9
New shares issued on exercise of share options	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	2
Cancellation of treasury shares	–	–	–	–	50	–	(50)	–
Treasury shares purchased	–	–	–	–	(63)	–	–	(63)
At 31 December 2019	177	610	18	2,266	(189)	(52)	2,291	5,121
Attributable profit for the year	–	–	–	–	–	–	464	464
Equity dividends paid in the year	–	–	–	–	–	–	(328)	(328)
Share-based payments recognised ¹	–	–	–	–	–	–	26	26
Cost of shares transferred to beneficiaries	–	–	–	–	37	–	(28)	9
New shares issued on exercise of share options	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	2
Cancellation of treasury shares	–	–	–	–	11	–	(11)	–
Treasury shares purchased	–	–	–	–	(16)	–	–	(16)
At 31 December 2020	177	612	18	2,266	(157)	(52)	2,414	5,278

1 The Company operates a number of equity-settled executive and employee share plans. For all grants of share options and awards, the fair value as at the date of grant is calculated using an appropriate option pricing model and the corresponding expense is recognised over the vesting period. Subsidiary companies are recharged for the fair value of share options that relate to their employees. The disclosure relating to the Company is detailed in Note 22.1 of the Notes to the Group accounts.

Further information on the share capital of the Company can be found in Note 19.1 of the Notes to the Group accounts.

The total distributable reserves of the Company are \$2,205m (2019: \$2,050m). In accordance with the exemption permitted by Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006, the Company has not presented its own profit and loss account. The attributable profit for the year dealt with in the accounts of the Company is \$464m (2019: \$115m).

Fees paid to KPMG LLP for audit and non-audit services to the Company itself are not disclosed in the individual accounts because Group financial statements are prepared which are required to disclose such fees on a consolidated basis. The fees for the consolidated Group are disclosed in Note 3.2 of the Notes to the Group accounts.

Excluding Note 8 'Group Companies', the Parent Company financial statements of Smith & Nephew plc on pages 205–213 do not form part of the Smith & Nephew plc Annual Report on Form 20-F as filed with the SEC.

Notes to the Company accounts

1 Basis of preparation

Smith & Nephew plc (the Company) is a public limited company incorporated in England and Wales.

The separate accounts of the Company are presented as required by the Companies Act 2006. These financial statements and accompanying notes have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 101 *Reduced Disclosure Framework* ('Reduced Disclosure Framework') for all periods presented. The financial information for the Company has been prepared on the same basis as the consolidated financial statements, applying identical accounting policies as outlined throughout the Notes to the Group accounts. The Directors have determined that the preparation of the Company financial statements on a going concern basis is appropriate as the Company receives dividend cash receipts from its subsidiary undertakings which enable it to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

In applying these policies, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the accounts and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Although these estimates are based on management's best knowledge of current events and actions, actual results ultimately may differ from those estimates.

In these financial statements, the Company has applied the exemptions available under FRS 101 in respect of the following disclosures:

- A cash flow statement and related notes;
- Comparative period reconciliations for share capital and tangible fixed assets;
- Disclosures in respect of transactions with wholly-owned subsidiaries;
- Disclosures in respect of capital management;
- The effects of new but not yet effective IFRSs; and
- Disclosures in respect of the compensation of key management personnel.

As the consolidated financial statements include the equivalent disclosures, the Company has also taken the exemptions under FRS 101 available in respect of the following disclosures:

- IFRS 2 *Share Based Payments* in respect of Group-settled share-based payments; and
- Certain disclosures required by IFRS 13 *Fair Value Measurement* and the disclosures required by IFRS 7 *Financial Instrument Disclosures*.

The Company proposes to continue to adopt the reduced disclosure framework of FRS 101 in its next financial statements.

2 Investments

Accounting policy

Investments in subsidiaries are stated at cost less provision for impairment.

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
At 1 January and 31 December	7,092	7,092

Investments represent holdings in subsidiary undertakings. In accordance with Section 409 of the Companies Act 2006, a listing of all entities invested in by the consolidated Group is provided in Note 8.

3 Debtors

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Amounts owed by subsidiary undertakings	2,836	2,217
Prepayments and accrued income	1	–
Current asset derivatives – forward foreign exchange contracts	20	25
Current asset derivatives – forward foreign exchange contracts – subsidiary undertakings	57	22
Current asset derivatives – currency swaps	2	1
Current asset derivatives – interest rate swaps	2	–
	2,918	2,265

Allowance losses on amounts owed by subsidiary undertakings are calculated by reviewing 12-month expected credit losses using historic and forward-looking data on credit risk. The loss allowance expense for the year was de minimis (2019: de minimis).

Excluding Note 8 'Group Companies', the Parent Company financial statements of Smith & Nephew plc on pages 205–213 do not form part of the Smith & Nephew plc Annual Report on Form 20-F as filed with the SEC.

Notes to the Company accounts continued

4 Other creditors

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Amounts owed to subsidiary undertakings	2,790	2,487
Other creditors	15	8
Current liability derivatives – forward foreign exchange contracts	57	22
Current liability derivatives – forward foreign exchange contracts – subsidiary undertakings	20	25
Current liability derivatives – currency swaps	2	1
	2,884	2,543

5 Cash and borrowings

Accounting policy

Financial instruments

Currency swaps are used to match foreign currency assets with foreign currency liabilities. They are initially recorded at fair value and then for reporting purposes remeasured to fair value at exchange rates and interest rates at subsequent balance sheet dates.

Changes in the fair value of derivative financial instruments are recognised in the profit and loss account as they arise.

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Bank loans, borrowing and overdrafts due within one year or on demand	270	5
Borrowings due after one year	3,207	1,851
Borrowings	3,477	1,856
Cash at bank	(1,629)	(163)
Credit balance on derivatives – interest rate swaps	(2)	–
Net debt	1,846	1,693

All currency swaps are stated at fair value. Gross US Dollar equivalents of \$381m (2019: \$215m) receivable and \$381m (2019: \$215m) payable have been netted. Currency swaps comprise foreign exchange swaps and were used in 2020 and 2019 to hedge intra-group loans.

6 Contingencies

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Guarantees in respect of subsidiary undertakings	–	–

The Company gives guarantees to banks to support liabilities and cross guarantees to support overdrafts.

The Company operated defined benefit pension plans in 2004 but at the end of 2005 its pension plan obligations were transferred to Smith & Nephew UK Limited. The Company has provided guarantees to the trustees of the pension plans to support future amounts due from participating employers (see Note 18 of the Notes to the Group accounts).

7 Deferred taxation

The Company has gross unused capital losses of \$85m (2019: \$81m) available for offset against future chargeable gains. No deferred tax asset has been recognised on these unused losses as they are not expected to be realised in the foreseeable future.

Excluding Note 8 'Group Companies', the Parent Company financial statements of Smith & Nephew plc on pages 205–213 do not form part of the Smith & Nephew plc Annual Report on Form 20-F as filed with the SEC.

8 Group companies

In accordance with Section 409 of the Companies Act 2006, a full list of subsidiaries, associates, joint arrangements, joint ventures and partnerships are listed below as at 31 December 2020, including their country of incorporation. All companies are 100% owned, unless otherwise indicated. The share capital disclosed comprises ordinary shares which are indirectly held by Smith & Nephew plc, unless otherwise stated.

Company name	Country of operation and incorporation	Registered Office
UK		
Blue Belt Technologies UK Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
Michelson Diagnostic Limited ³ (7.5%)	England & Wales	Kent
Neotherix Limited ³ (24.9%)	England & Wales	York
Plus Orthopedics (UK) Limited ⁷	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew (Overseas) Limited ^{1,5}	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew ARTC Limited ⁴	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Beta Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew China Holdings UK Limited ¹	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Employees Trustees Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew ESN Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Extruded Films Limited	England & Wales	Hull
Smith & Nephew Finance ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Finance Oratec ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Healthcare Limited ²	England & Wales	Hull
Smith & Nephew Investment Holdings Limited ¹	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Lilia Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Medical Fabrics Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Medical Limited	England & Wales	Hull
Smith & Nephew Nominee Company Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Nominee Services Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Orthopaedics Limited	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Pensions Nominees Limited ⁷	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Pharmaceuticals Limited ²	England & Wales	Hull
Smith & Nephew Raisegrade Limited ^{1,2}	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Rareletter Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew Trading Group Limited ¹	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew UK Executive Pension Scheme Trustee Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew UK Limited ^{1,5}	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew UK Pension Fund Trustee Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew USD Limited ¹	England & Wales	Watford
Smith & Nephew USD One Limited ¹	England & Wales	Watford
T.J.Smith and Nephew, Limited	England & Wales	Hull
The Albion Soap Company Limited ²	England & Wales	Watford
TP Limited ¹	Scotland	Edinburgh

Company name	Country of operation and incorporation	Registered Office
Rest of Europe		
Smith & Nephew GmbH	Austria	Vienna
ArthroCare Belgium SPRL ²	Belgium	Zaventem
Smith & Nephew S.A.-N.V	Belgium	Zaventem
Smith & Nephew A/S	Denmark	Hoersholm
Smith & Nephew Oy	Finland	Helsinki
Smith & Nephew France SAS ¹	France	Neuilly-sur-Seine
Smith & Nephew S.A.S.	France	Neuilly-sur-Seine
Smith & Nephew Business Services GmbH & Co. KG ¹	Germany	Hamburg
Smith & Nephew Business Services Verwaltungs GmbH	Germany	Hamburg
Smith & Nephew Deutschland (Holding) GmbH ¹	Germany	Hamburg
Smith & Nephew GmbH	Germany	Hamburg
Smith & Nephew Orthopaedics GmbH	Germany	Tuttlingen
Smith & Nephew (Ireland) Trading Limited	Ireland	Dublin 2
Smith & Nephew Finance Ireland Limited ⁴	Ireland	Dublin 1
Smith & Nephew S.r.l.	Italy	Milan
ArthroCare Luxembourg S.a.r.l. ²	Luxembourg	Luxembourg, 8030
Smith & Nephew International S.A. ¹	Luxembourg	Luxembourg, 2350
Smith & Nephew (Europe) B.V. ¹	Netherlands	Amsterdam, 2132NP
Smith & Nephew B.V.	Netherlands	Amsterdam, 2132NP
Smith & Nephew Nederland CV	Netherlands	Amsterdam, 2132NP
Smith & Nephew Operations B.V.	Netherlands	Amsterdam, 2132NP
Serda B.V. ³ (49.0%)	Netherlands	Amsterdam, 1105BP
Smith & Nephew A/S	Norway	Oslo
Smith & Nephew sp. z.o.o.	Poland	Warsaw
Smith & Nephew Lda	Portugal	Lisbon
S&N Orion Prime, S.A.	Portugal	Coimbra
DC LLC	Russian Federation	Puschino
Smith & Nephew LLC	Russian Federation	Moscow
Smith & Nephew S.A.U	Spain	Barcelona
Smith & Nephew Aktiebolag	Sweden	Molndal

Excluding Note 8 'Group Companies', the Parent Company financial statements of Smith & Nephew plc on pages 205–213 do not form part of the Smith & Nephew plc Annual Report on Form 20-F as filed with the SEC.

Notes to the Company accounts continued

8 Group companies continued

Company name	Country of operation and incorporation	Registered Office
Lumina Adhesives AB ³ (3.04%)	Sweden	Gothenburg
Atracsys Sàrl	Switzerland	Puidoux
Plus Orthopedics Holding AG ¹	Switzerland	Zug
Smith & Nephew Manufacturing AG	Switzerland	Aarau
Smith & Nephew Orthopaedics AG ¹	Switzerland	Zug
Smith & Nephew Schweiz AG	Switzerland	Zug
Smith & Nephew AG	Switzerland	Zug
Smith & Nephew Orthopaedics AG Aarau Branch ⁶	Switzerland	Aarau
US		
Arthrocare Corporation ¹	United States	Wilmington
Austin Miller Trauma LLC	United States	Wilmington
Bioventus LLC ³ (47.62%)	United States	Wilmington
Blue Belt Holdings, Inc. ¹	United States	Wilmington
Blue Belt Technologies, Inc. ¹	United States	Philadelphia
Ceterix Orthopaedics, Inc.	United States	Wilmington
CRES Holdings, Inc. ³ (0.99%)	United States	Dover NBR
Healicoil, Inc.	United States	Wilmington
Hipco, Inc.	United States	Wilmington
Leaf Healthcare Inc.	United States	Wilmington
Memphis Biomed Ventures I, LP ³ (4.6%)	United States	Dover GD
MiJourney, LLC	United States	Pennsylvania
Miach Orthopaedics, Inc. ³ (10.3%)	United States	Sherborn
Oratec Interventions, Inc.	United States	Wilmington
Orthopaedic Biosystems Ltd., Inc.	United States	Phoenix
Osiris Therapeutics, Inc.	United States	Columbia
OsteoBiologics, Inc.	United States	Wilmington
Plus Orthopedics LLC	United States	Wilmington
Rotation Medical, Inc.	United States	Wilmington
Sinopsys Surgical, Inc. ³ (1.44%)	United States	Wilmington
Smith & Nephew AG US Branch ^{2,6}	United States	Boston
Smith & Nephew Consolidated, Inc. ¹	United States	Wilmington
Smith & Nephew OUS, Inc.	United States	Wilmington
Smith & Nephew, Inc. ¹	United States	Wilmington
Surgical Frontiers Series I, LLC ³ (33.46%)	United States	Dover GD
Trice Medical Inc. ³ (4.5%)	United States	Wilmington 19808
Tusker Medical, Inc.	United States	Wilmington 19808

Company name	Country of operation and incorporation	Registered Office
Africa, Asia, Australasia and Other Americas		
Smith & Nephew Argentina S.R.L. ²	Argentina	Buenos Aires
Smith & Nephew Pty Limited	Australia	North Ryde
Smith & Nephew Surgical Holdings Pty Limited ^{1,2}	Australia	North Ryde
Smith & Nephew Surgical Pty Limited ²	Australia	North Ryde
Smith & Nephew Comercio de Produtos Medicos LTDA	Brazil	São Paulo
Smith & Nephew (Alberta) Inc. ²	Canada	Calgary
Smith & Nephew Inc. ¹	Canada	Toronto
Tenet Medical Engineering, Inc.	Canada	Calgary
Smith & Nephew Finance Holdings Limited ⁵	Cayman Islands	George Town 1104
TEAMfund, LP ³ (6.765%)	Cayman Islands	George Town 9008
ArthroCare Medical Devices (Beijing) Co. Limited ⁴	China	Chao Yang District, Beijing
Plus Orthopedics (Beijing) Co. Limited ²	China	Shunyi District, Beijing
Smith & Nephew Medical (Shanghai) Limited	China	Shanghai Free Trade Test Zone
Smith & Nephew Medical (Shanghai) Limited Beijing Branch ⁶	China	Dong Cheng
Smith & Nephew Medical (Shanghai) Limited Chengdu Branch ⁶	China	Wu Hou
Smith & Nephew Medical (Shanghai) Limited Guangzhou Branch ⁶	China	Yue Xiu
Smith & Nephew Medical (Shanghai) Limited Shanghai Branch ⁶	China	Jing'an
Smith & Nephew Medical (Shanghai) Limited Shanghai Second Branch ⁶	China	Shanghai Pilot Free Trade Zone
Smith & Nephew Medical (Suzhou) Limited	China	Suzhou City
Smith & Nephew Orthopaedics (Beijing) Co., Ltd	China	Beijing Economic and Technical Development Area
S&N Holdings SAS ¹	Colombia	Bogota
Smith & Nephew Colombia S.A.S	Colombia	Bogota
ArthroCare Costa Rica Srl	Costa Rica	Alajuela
Smith & Nephew Curaçao N.V.	Curaçao	Willemstad

Excluding Note 8 'Group Companies', the Parent Company financial statements of Smith & Nephew plc on pages 205–213 do not form part of the Smith & Nephew plc Annual Report on Form 20-F as filed with the SEC.

Company name	Country of operation and incorporation	Registered Office
Smith & Nephew Beijing Holdings Limited ¹	Hong Kong	Hong Kong
Smith & Nephew Limited	Hong Kong	Hong Kong
Smith & Nephew Suzhou Holdings Limited ¹	Hong Kong	Hong Kong
Adler Mediequip Private Limited	India	Pune
ArthoCare India Medical Device Private Limited ⁴	India	Mumbai
Smith & Nephew Healthcare Private Limited	India	Mumbai
Smith & Nephew KK	Japan	Tokyo
Smith & Nephew Chusik Hoesia	Korea, Republic of	Seoul
Smith & Nephew Healthcare Sdn. Bhd	Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur
Smith & Nephew Operations Sdn. Bhd	Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur
Smith & Nephew Services Sdn. Bhd	Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur
Smith & Nephew S.A. de C.V.	Mexico	Mexico City
Smith & Nephew Limited ¹	New Zealand	Auckland
Smith & Nephew Superannuation Scheme Limited	New Zealand	Auckland
Smith & Nephew (Overseas) Limited Philippines Branch ^{2,6}	Philippines	Manila
Smith & Nephew, Inc.	Puerto Rico	San Juan
Smith & Nephew Asia Pacific Pte. Limited ¹	Singapore	Singapore 138565
Smith & Nephew Pte Limited	Singapore	Singapore 048623
Smith & Nephew (Pty) Limited ¹	South Africa	Westville
Smith & Nephew Pharmaceuticals (Proprietary) Limited ²	South Africa	Westville
Smith & Nephew (Overseas) Limited Taiwan Branch ⁶	Taiwan	Taipei
Smith & Nephew Limited	Thailand	Huai Khwang District, Bangkok
Sri Siam Medical Limited	Thailand	Lumpini Phatumwan, Bangkok
Smith ve Nephew Medikal Cihazlar Ticaret Limited Sirketi	Turkey	Sariyer, Istanbul
Smith & Nephew FZE	United Arab Emirates	Jebel Ali, Dubai
Smith & Nephew FZE (DHCC Branch) ⁶	United Arab Emirates	HealthCare City, Dubai 1
Smith & Nephew USD Limited DHCC Branch ^{6,8}	United Arab Emirates	HealthCare City, Dubai 2

1 Holding company.

2 Dormant company.

3 Not 100% owned by Smith & Nephew Group.

4 In liquidation.

5 Directly owned by Smith & Nephew plc.

6 Branch of a company in Smith & Nephew Group.

7 Application to strike off approved by company directors on 18 December 2020.

8 Application to strike off approved by company directors on 23 December 2020.

Registered Office addresses

UK	
Watford	Building 5, Croxley Park, Hatters Lane, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD18 8YE
Kent	Ground Floor, Eclipse House, Eclipse Park, Sittingbourne Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3EN
York	25, Carr Lane, York, YO26 5HT
Hull	101 Hessle Road, Hull, HU3 2BN
Edinburgh	4th Floor, 115 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4JN
Rest of Europe	
Vienna	Concorde Business Park, 1/C/3 2320, Schwechat, Austria
Zaventem	Hector Heenneaulaan 366, 1930 Zaventem, Belgium
Hoersholm	Slotsmarken 14, Hoersholm, DK-2970, Denmark
Helsinki	Ayritie 12 C, 01510, Vantaa, Finland
Neuilly-sur-Seine	40, Boulevard du Parc, 92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France
Hamburg	Friesenweg 4, Haus 21, 22763, Hamburg, Germany
Tuttlingen	Alemannenstrasse 14, 78532, Tuttlingen, Germany
Dublin 1	3rd Floor, Kilmore House, Park Lane, Spencer Dock, Dublin 1, Ireland
Dublin 2	13-18 City Quay, Dublin 2, D02 ED70, Ireland
Milan	Via de Capitani 2A, 20864, Agrate Brianza, MI, Italy
Luxembourg 8030	163, Rue de Kiem, L-8030 Strassen, Luxembourg
Luxembourg 2350	1A, Rue Jean Piret, L-2350, Luxembourg, Luxembourg
Amsterdam 2132NP	Bloemlaan 2, 2132NP, Hoofddorp, The Netherlands
Amsterdam 1105BP	Paasheuvelweg 25, 1105BP, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Oslo	Nye Vakas vei 64, 1395, Hvalsted, Norway
Warsaw	Ul Osmanska 12, 02-823, Warsaw, Poland
Lisbon	Estrada Nacional no 10 ao Km. 131, Parque Tejo – Bloco C, 2625-445 Forte de Casa, Vila Franca de Xira, Portugal
Coimbra	Rua Pedro Nunes, Instituto Pedro Nunes, Edifício IPN-C, 3030-199, Coimbra, Portugal
Moscow	2nd Syromyatnichesky Lane, Moscow, 105120, Russian Federation
Puschino	8/1 Stroiteley Street, 142290, City of Puschino, Moscow Region, Russian Federation
Barcelona	Edificio Conata I, c/Fructuos Gelabert 2 y 4, San Joan Despi – 08970, Barcelona, Spain
Molndal	PO Box 143, S-431 22 Molndal, Sweden
Gothenburg	Varbergsgatan 2A/412 65 Göteborg, Sweden
Puidoux	Route du Verney 20, 1070, Puidoux, Switzerland
Zug	Theilerstrasse 1A, 6300, Zug, Switzerland
Aarau	Schachenallee 29, 5000, Aarau, Switzerland

Excluding Note 8 'Group Companies', the Parent Company financial statements of Smith & Nephew plc on pages 205–213 do not form part of the Smith & Nephew plc Annual Report on Form 20-F as filed with the SEC.

Notes to the Company accounts continued

8 Group companies continued

Registered Office addresses

US	
Wilmington	CT Corporation, 1209 Orange Street, Wilmington DE 19801, USA
Philadelphia	CT Corporation 1515 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102, USA
Dover NBR	850 New Burton Road, Suite 201, City of Dover, County of Kent DE 19904, USA
Dover GD	160 Greentree Drive, Suite 101, Dover, DE, 19904, USA
Sherborn	c/o Martha Murray 19 Saddlebrook Road Sherborn, MA 01770, USA
Phoenix	CT Corporation System, 3800 North Central Avenue, Phoenix AZ 85012, USA
Columbia	7015 Albert Einstein Dr., Columbia, Howard County MD 21046 USA
Boston	CT Corporation, 155 Federal Street Suite 700, Boston MA 02210, United States
Wilmington 19808	251 Little Falls Drive, Wilmington DE 19808, USA
Africa, Asia, Australasia and Other Americas	
Buenos Aires	Maipu 1300, 13th Floor, Buenos Aires, Argentina
North Ryde	85 Waterloo Road, North Ryde, NSW 2113, Australia
São Paulo	Av. das Nações Unidas, 14171- 23º andar – Torre C-Crystal, Vila Gertrudes, São Paulo, CEP 043794-000, Brazil
Calgary	3500-855-2 Street SW, Calgary AB T2P 4J8, Canada
Toronto	199, Bay Street, 4000, Toronto, Ontario M5L 1A9, Canada
Georgetown 1104	c/o Maples Corporate Services Limited, P.O. Box 309, Ugland House, Grand Cayman, KY1-1104, Cayman Islands
Georgetown 9008	Walkers Corporate Limited, Cayman Corporate Centre, 27 Hospital Road, George Town, Grand Cayman, KY1-9008, Cayman Islands
Chao Yang District, Beijing	Room 17-021, Internal B17 floor, B3-24th floor, No 3 Xin Yuan South Rd, Chao Yang District, Beijing, China
Shunyi District, Beijing	22 Linhe Avenue, Linhe Economic Development Zone, Shunyi District, Beijing, 101300, China
Shanghai Free Trade Test Zone	Part B, 4th Floor, Tong Yong Building, No 188 Ao Na Rd, Shanghai Free Trade Test Zone, Shanghai, China
Dong Cheng District	Unit B1, 2/F, Tower A, East Gate Plaza No.9, Dongshong Street Dong Cheng District, Beijing, China
Wu Hou District	No 5. 15th Floor, Unit 1, Building, 1 Li Bao Building, No 62 North Ke Hua Rd, Wu Hou District, Chengdu, China

Registered Office addresses

Yue Xiu District	Room 2503, No 33, 6th Jian She Rd, Yue Xiu District, Guang Zhou, China
Jing'an District	Unit 09, Nominal Level 12 (Actual Level 11), Central Section of Bohua Square Office Tower, No. 669 Xinzha Road, Jing'an District, Shanghai, China
Shanghai Pilot Free Trade Zone	Room 102, Floor 1, Building 3 (B1), No. 1599, Xin Jin Qiao Road China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone, Shanghai, China
Suzhou City	12, Wuxiang Road, West Area of Comprehensive Bonded Zone, Suzhou Industrial Park, Suzhou City, SIP, Jiangsu Province, China
Beijing Economic and Technical Development Area	No. 98 Kechuang Dongliujie, Beijing Economic and Technical Development Area, Beijing, China
Bogota	Calle 100 No. 7 – 33 to 1 P3, Bogota D.C., Colombia
Alajuela	Building B32, 50 meters South of Revisión Técnica Vehicular, Province de Alajuela, Canton Alajuela, Coyo Free Zone, District San José, Costa Rica
Willemstad	Pietermaai 15, PO Box 4905, Curaçao
Hong Kong	Unit 813 – 816, 8/F, Delta House, 3 On Yiu Street, Shatin, New Territories, Hong Kong
Pune	Podium Floor Tower 4, World Trade Center S No1 Kharadi, Pune, Maharashtra-MH, 411014, India
Mumbai	501-B – 509-B Dynasty Business Park, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-59, Maharashtra, India
Tokyo	2-4-1, Shiba-Koen, Minato-Ku, Tokyo 105 0011, Japan
Seoul	13th Floor, ASEM Tower, Gangnam-gu 13th Floor, ASEM Tower, 159-1 Samsung-dong, Seoul, Korea
Kuala Lumpur	Level 25, Menara Hong Leong, NO. 6 Jalan Damanlela Bukit Damansara Kuala Lumpur W.P. 50490 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Mexico City	Av. Insurgentes Sur, numero 1602, Piso No.7, Oficina 702, Colonia Credito, Constructor, Delegacion Benito Juarez, C.P. 03940, Mexico
Auckland	36a Hillside Road, Wairau Valley, Auckland, 0627 NZ, New Zealand
Manila	6/F Alfaro St, Salcedo Village, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines
San Juan	Edificio Cesar Castillo, Calle Angel Buonomo #361, Hato Rey, 00917, Puerto Rico
Singapore 048623	50 Raffles Place, #32-01 Singapore Land Tower, 048623, Singapore
Singapore 138565	29 Media Circle, #06-05, Alice@Mediapolis, Singapore, 138565, Singapore

Excluding Note 8 'Group Companies', the Parent Company financial statements of Smith & Nephew plc on pages 205–213 do not form part of the Smith & Nephew plc Annual Report on Form 20-F as filed with the SEC.

Registered Office addresses

Westville	30 The Boulevard, Westway Office Park, Westville, 3629, South Africa
Taipei	9F-2, No. 50, Sec. 1, Xincheng South Road, Zhongzheng District Taipei City 10059, Taiwan
Huai Khwang District, Bangkok	16th Floor Building A, 9th Tower Grand Rama 9, 33/4 Rama 9 Road, Huai Khwang District, Bangkok, 10310, Thailand
Lumpini Phatumwan, Bangkok	16th Floor, GPF Witthayu Tower A, 93/1 Wireless Road, Lumpini, Phatumwan, Bangkok, 10330, Thailand

Registered Office addresses

Sariyer, Istanbul	Bahcekoy Merkez Mah. Ergene Nehri SK No:8/4 Bahcekoy Sariyer Istanbul, Turkey
Jebel Ali, Dubai	PO Box 16993 LB02016, Jebel Ali, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
HealthCare City, Dubai 1	401-404 & 406-407, Floor 4, Building 47, Dubai Healthcare City, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
HealthCare City, Dubai 2	101-104, 1st Floor, Building 47, Dubai HealthCare City, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

9 Subsidiary undertakings exempt from audit

The following UK subsidiaries will take advantage of the audit exemption set out within Section 479A of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2020:

- Smith & Nephew China Holdings UK Limited (*Registration number: 9152387*)
- Smith & Nephew Investment Holdings Limited (*Registration number: 384546*)
- Smith & Nephew Trading Group Limited (*Registration number: 681256*)
- Smith & Nephew USD One Limited (*Registration number: 10428326*)
- TP Limited (*Registration number: SC005366*)

Excluding Note 8 'Group Companies', the Parent Company financial statements of Smith & Nephew plc on [pages 205–213](#) do not form part of the Smith & Nephew plc Annual Report on Form 20-F as filed with the SEC.

Group information

Business overview and Group history

Since 2019, Smith+Nephew's operations have been organised into three global franchises (Orthopaedics, Sports Medicine & ENT, and Advanced Wound Management) within the medical technology industry.

The Group has a history dating back more than 160 years to the family enterprise of Thomas James Smith who opened a small pharmacy in Hull, UK in 1856. Following his death in 1896, his nephew Horatio Nelson Smith took over the management of the business.

By the late 1990s, Smith+Nephew had expanded into being a diverse healthcare company with operations across the globe, producing various medical devices, personal care products and traditional and advanced wound care treatments. In 1998, Smith+Nephew announced a major restructuring to focus management attention and investment on three global business units – Advanced Wound Management, Endoscopy and Orthopaedics – which offered high growth and margin opportunities. In 2011, the Endoscopy and Orthopaedics businesses were brought together to create an Advanced Surgical Devices division. In 2015, the Advanced Wound Management and Advanced Surgical Devices divisions were brought together to form a global business across nine product franchises.

Smith+Nephew was incorporated and listed on the London Stock Exchange in 1937 and in 1999 the Group was also listed on the New York Stock Exchange. In 2001, Smith+Nephew became a constituent member of the FTSE 100 index in the UK. This means that Smith+Nephew is included in the top 100 companies traded on the London Stock Exchange measured in terms of market capitalisation.

Today, Smith+Nephew is a public limited company incorporated and headquartered in the UK and carries out business around the world.

Related party transactions

Except for transactions with associates (see Note 22.2 of Notes to the Group accounts), no other related party had material transactions or loans with Smith+Nephew over the last three financial years.

Properties

The table below summarises the main properties which the Group uses and their approximate areas.

	Approximate area (square feet 000's)
Group head office and surgical training facility in Watford, UK	60
Manufacturing and office facilities in Memphis, Tennessee, US	968
Wound management manufacturing, research and office facility in Hull, UK	473
Surgical training and office facilities in Memphis, Tennessee, US	292
Manufacturing facility in Suzhou, China	288
Manufacturing facility in Alajuela, Costa Rica	270
Distribution facility in Memphis, Tennessee, US	248
Manufacturing facility in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, US	155
Office facilities and laboratory space in Fort Worth, Texas, US	139
Manufacturing facility in Aarau, Switzerland	116
Office facilities in Andover, Massachusetts, US	112
Manufacturing facility in Beijing, China	109
Manufacturing facility in Mansfield, Massachusetts, US	98
Business services centre in Pune, India	74
Research & development and office facility in Austin, Texas, US	68
Research & development facility in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, US	65
Manufacturing facility in Columbia, Maryland, US	61
Business services centre in Wroclaw, Poland	52
Manufacturing facility in Tuttlingen, Germany	50

The Group Global Operations strategy includes ongoing assessment of the optimal facility footprint. The Orthopaedics manufacturing facilities in Memphis, Tennessee are largely freehold, a portion of Tuttlingen and the Advanced Wound Management facilities in Hull are freehold while other principal locations are leasehold. The Group has freehold and leasehold interests in real estate in other countries throughout the world, but no other is individually significant to the Group. Where required, the appropriate governmental authorities have approved the facilities.

Off-balance sheet arrangements

Management believes that the Group does not have any off-balance sheet arrangements, as defined by the SEC in item 5E of Form 20-F, that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future effect on the Group's financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources that is material to investors.

Risk factors

There are known and unknown risks and uncertainties relating to Smith+Nephew's business. The factors listed on pages 215–219 could cause the Group's business, financial position and results of operations to differ materially and adversely from expected and historical levels. In addition, other factors not listed here that Smith+Nephew cannot presently identify or does not believe to be equally significant could also materially adversely affect Smith+Nephew's business, financial position or results of operations.

Business continuity and business change

The COVID-19 pandemic

Widespread outbreaks of infectious diseases, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, create uncertainty and challenges for the Group. The challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic include, but are not limited to, declines in and cancellations of elective procedures at medical facilities and the resulting increase in commercial execution risk, disruptions at manufacturing facilities and disruptions in supply and other commercial activities due to travel restrictions and government restrictions on exports. The length, severity and geographical variation of the outbreak and pace of recovery are not clear and there could be an increased impact on us depending on these factors. By franchise, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been most pronounced on our Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine & ENT businesses. The negative impact on these businesses was principally driven by lower levels of elective surgery (including a significant reduction in knee and hip implant procedures in Orthopaedics and nose and throat procedures in ENT). Our Advanced Wound Management franchise was also

significantly negatively affected, with the negative impact principally due to deferrals of elective surgery, temporary closures of wound clinics and falling numbers in long-term care facilities, many of which were closed to new residents as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our businesses worldwide has been strongly correlated with lockdown restrictions and the easing thereof. Despite rebounds in some markets, including China, sales volumes have continued to lag in others, such as the United Kingdom. Any additional restrictions placed on elective procedures would have an adverse impact on the Group's revenue growth and operating and trading profit margins. The extent of the impact would depend on the length, severity and geographical variation of restrictions on elective procedures. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and related response measures worldwide, including those described above, have had and may continue to have an adverse effect on global economic conditions, as well as on our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition and the COVID-19 pandemic may also have the effect of heightening many of the other risk factors described below.

Commercial execution

Highly competitive markets

The Group competes across a diverse range of geographic and product markets. Each market in which the Group operates contains a number of different competitors, including specialised and international corporations. Significant product innovations, technical advances or the intensification of price competition by competitors could adversely affect the Group's operating results. Some of these competitors may have greater financial, marketing and other resources than Smith+Nephew. These competitors may be able to initiate technological advances in the field, deliver products on more attractive terms, more aggressively market their products or invest larger amounts of capital and research and development (R&D) into their businesses. There is a possibility of further consolidation of competitors, which could adversely affect the Group's ability to compete with larger companies

due to insufficient financial resources. If any of the Group's businesses were to lose market share or achieve lower than expected revenue growth, there could be a disproportionate adverse impact on the Group's share price and its strategic options. Competition exists among healthcare providers to gain patients on the basis of quality, service and price. There has been some consolidation in the Group's customer base and this trend is expected to continue. Some customers have joined group purchasing organisations or introduced other cost containment measures that could lead to downward pressure on prices or limit the number of suppliers in certain business areas, which could adversely affect Smith+Nephew's results of operations and hinder its growth potential.

Additional commercial execution risks include medical facilities stopping or severely restricting sales rep access due to ongoing COVID-19 precautions and the COVID-19 pandemic driving a shift from clinic to home care.

Relationships with healthcare professionals

The Group seeks to maintain effective and ethical working relationships with physicians and medical personnel who assist in the development of new products or improvements to our existing product range or in product training and medical education. If we are unable to maintain these relationships our ability to meet the demands of our customers could be diminished and our revenue and profit could be materially adversely affected.

Pricing and reimbursement

Dependence on government and other funding

In most markets throughout the world, expenditure on medical devices is ultimately controlled to a large extent by governments. Funds may be made available or withdrawn from healthcare budgets depending on government policy. The Group is therefore largely dependent on future governments providing increased funds commensurate with the increased demand arising from demographic trends. Pricing of the Group's products is largely governed in most markets by governmental reimbursement authorities. Initiatives sponsored by government agencies, legislative bodies and the private sector to limit the growth of

Group information continued

Risk factors continued

healthcare costs, including price regulation, excise taxes and competitive pricing, are ongoing in markets where the Group has operations. This control may be exercised by determining prices for an individual product or for an entire procedure. The Group is exposed to government policies favouring locally sourced products.

The Group is also exposed to changes in reimbursement policy, tax policy and pricing, including as a result of financial pressure on governments and hospitals caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which may have an adverse impact on revenue and operating profit. During 2020, reimbursement codes were more widely interpreted to provide for remote delivery of healthcare services. Provisions in United States healthcare legislation which previously imposed significant taxes on medical device manufacturers were permanently repealed effective 1 January 2020. There may also be an increased risk of adverse changes to government funding policies arising from deterioration in macroeconomic conditions from time to time in the Group's markets.

The Group must adhere to the rules laid down by government agencies that fund or regulate healthcare, including extensive and complex rules in the United States. Failure to do so could result in fines or loss of future funding.

New product innovation, design & development, including intellectual property

Continual development and introduction of new products

The medical devices industry has a rapid rate of new product introduction. In order to remain competitive, the Group must continue to develop innovative products that satisfy customer needs and preferences or provide cost or other advantages. Developing new products is a costly, lengthy and uncertain process. The Group may fail to innovate due to low R&D investment, a R&D skills gap or poor product development. A potential product may not be brought to market or not succeed in the market for any number of reasons, including failure to work optimally, failure to receive regulatory

approval, failure to be cost-competitive, infringement of patents or other intellectual property rights and changes in consumer demand. COVID-19 has resulted in limitations on ability to conduct live product trials. Furthermore, there has been an adverse impact on relationships with healthcare professionals involved in R&D, marketing and sale of products and services, due to limited access to such professionals as a result of restricted hospital access, shutdowns and travel restrictions imposed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Group's products and technologies are also subject to marketing attack by competitors. Furthermore, new products that are developed and marketed by the Group's competitors may affect price levels in the various markets in which the Group operates. If the Group's new products do not remain competitive with those of competitors, the Group's revenue could decline. The Group maintains reserves for excess and obsolete inventory resulting from the potential inability to sell its products at prices in excess of current carrying costs. Marketplace changes resulting from the introduction of new products or surgical procedures may cause some of the Group's products to become obsolete. The Group makes estimates regarding the future recoverability of the costs of these products and records a provision for excess and obsolete inventories based on historical experience, expiration of sterilisation dates and expected future trends. If actual product life cycles, product demand or acceptance of new product introductions are less favourable than projected by management, additional inventory write-downs may be required.

Proprietary rights and patents

Due to the technological nature of medical devices and the Group's emphasis on serving its customers with innovative products, the Group has been subject to patent infringement claims and is subject to the potential for additional claims. Claims asserted by third parties regarding infringement of their intellectual property rights, if successful, could require the Group to expend time and significant resources to pay damages, develop non-infringing products or obtain licences to the products which are the subject of such litigation, thereby affecting the Group's growth and profitability. Smith+Nephew attempts to protect its intellectual property and regularly opposes third party patents and trademarks where appropriate in those

areas that might conflict with the Group's business interests. If Smith+Nephew fails to protect and enforce its intellectual property rights successfully, its competitive position could suffer, which could harm its results of operations. In addition, intellectual property rights may not be protectable to the same extent in all countries in which the Group operates.

Cybersecurity

Reliance on sophisticated information technology and cybersecurity

The Group uses a wide variety of information systems, programmes and technology to manage our business. The Group also develops and sells certain products that are or will be digitally enabled including connection to networks and/or the internet. Our systems and the systems of the entities we acquire are vulnerable to a cyber-attack, theft of intellectual property, malicious intrusion, loss of data privacy or other significant disruption. Our systems have been and will continue to be the target of such threats, including as a result of increased levels of remote working due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There is increasing government focus on cybersecurity including changes in the regulatory environment.

Cybersecurity is a multifaceted discipline covering people, process and technology. It is also an area where more can always be done; it is a continually evolving practice. We have a layered security approach in place to prevent, detect and respond, in order to minimise the risk and disruption of these intrusions and to monitor our systems on an ongoing basis for current or potential threats. There can be no assurance that these measures will prove effective in protecting Smith+Nephew from future interruptions and as a result the performance of the Group could be materially adversely affected.

Legal and compliance risks including international regulation, product liability claims and loss of reputation

International regulation

The Group operates across the world and is subject to extensive legislation, including anti-bribery and corruption and data protection, in each country in which the Group operates. Our international operations are governed by the United Kingdom Bribery Act and the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act which prohibit us or our representatives from making or offering improper payments to government

officials and other persons or accepting payments for the purpose of obtaining or maintaining business. Our international operations in the Emerging Markets which operate through distributors increase our Group exposure to these risks. In this regard, the Group is investigating allegations of possible violations of anti-corruption laws in India and responding to related requests for information from the SEC. It is not possible to predict the nature, scope or outcome of the investigations, including the extent to which, if at all, this could result in any liability to the Group.

The Group is also required to comply with the requirements of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which imposes additional obligations on companies regarding the handling of personal data and provides certain individual privacy rights to persons whose data is stored and became effective on 25 May 2018. As privacy and data protection have become more sensitive issues for regulators and consumers, new privacy and data protection laws, such as GDPR, US state privacy laws including California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), and the recent invalidation of the EU-U.S. Privacy Shield by the Court of Justice of the European Union, continue to develop in ways we cannot predict. Ensuring compliance with evolving privacy and data protection laws and regulations on a global basis may require us to change or develop our current business models and practices and may increase our cost of doing business. Despite those efforts, there is a risk that we may be subject to fines and penalties, litigation, and reputational harm in connection with our European activities as enforcement of such legislation has increased in recent years on companies and individuals where breaches are found to have occurred. Failure to comply with the requirements of privacy and data protection laws, including GDPR, could adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Operating in multiple jurisdictions also subjects the Group to local laws and regulations related to tax, pricing, reimbursement, regulatory requirements, trade policy and varying levels of protection of intellectual property. This exposes the Group to additional risks and potential costs.

Product liability claims and loss of reputation

The development, manufacture and sale of medical devices entail risk of product liability claims or recalls. Design and manufacturing defects with respect to products sold by

the Group or by companies it has acquired could damage, or impair the repair of, body functions. The Group may become subject to liability, which could be substantial, because of actual or alleged defects in its products. In addition, product defects could lead to the need to recall from the market existing products, which may be costly and harmful to the Group's reputation. There can be no assurance that customers, particularly in the United States, the Group's largest geographical market, will not bring product liability or related claims that would have a material adverse effect on the Group's financial position or results of operations in the future, or that the Group will be able to resolve such claims within insurance limits. As at 31 December 2020, a provision of \$336m is recognised relating to the present value of the estimated costs to resolve all unsettled known and unknown anticipated metal-on-metal hip implant claims globally. See Note 17 to the Group accounts for further details.

Financial reporting, compliance and control

Our financial results depend on our ability to comply with financial reporting and disclosure requirements, comply with tax laws, appropriately manage treasury activities and avoid significant transactional errors and customer defaults (the risk of which has been heightened due to the COVID-19 pandemic). Failure to comply with our financial reporting requirements or relevant tax laws can lead to litigation and regulatory activity and ultimately to material loss to the Group. Potential risks include failure to report accurate financial information in compliance with accounting standards and applicable legislation, failure to comply with current tax laws, failure to manage treasury risk effectively and failure to operate adequate financial controls over business operations.

Political and economic

World economic conditions

Demand for the Group's products is driven by demographic trends, including the ageing population and the incidence of osteoporosis and obesity. Supply of, use of and payment for the Group's products are also influenced by world economic conditions which could place increased pressure on demand and pricing, adversely impacting the Group's ability to deliver revenue and margin growth. The conditions could favour larger, better capitalised groups, with higher market shares and margins. As a consequence, the Group's prosperity is linked to general economic

conditions and there is a risk of deterioration of the Group's performance and finances during adverse macroeconomic conditions. The impact of COVID-19 on global and regional economic conditions affects our global business. The ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on global economies and financial markets could trigger a recession or slowdown which would significantly reduce customer capital spending and customer financial strength. Economic conditions worldwide continue to create several challenges for the Group, including the United States Administration's approach to trade policy, heightened pricing pressure, significant declines in capital equipment expenditures at hospitals and increased uncertainty over the collectability of government debt, particularly in the Emerging Markets. These factors could have an increased impact on growth in the future.

Political uncertainties, including Brexit

The Group operates on a worldwide basis and has distribution channels, purchasing agents and buying entities in over 100 countries. Political upheaval in some of those countries or in surrounding regions may impact the Group's results of operations. Political changes in a country could prevent the Group from receiving remittances of profit from a member of the Group located in that country or from selling its products or investments in that country. Furthermore, changes in government policy regarding preference for local suppliers, import quotas, taxation or other matters could adversely affect the Group's revenue and operating profit. War, economic sanctions, terrorist activities or other conflict could also adversely impact the Group. These risks may be greater in emerging markets, which account for an increasing portion of the Group's business.

There remains a level of political and regulatory uncertainty in the United Kingdom following the exit from the European Union and new trade agreement between the UK and Europe. Remaining risks relate to the appointment of the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) as the UK's standalone medicines and medical devices regulator (responsible for designating Review Bodies), effective 1 January 2021, and the related introduction of new legislation in the UK, the provisions of which remain to be clarified. Further MHRA guidance is anticipated in the coming months. Also, supply chain risks, specifically border delays, continue into 2021. Smith+Nephew needs to prepare for new regulations within the United Kingdom,

Group information continued

Risk factors continued

which accounts for approximately 4% of global Group revenue. There is also uncertainty around United States-China trade relations, which has resulted in tariffs on some medical devices being exported between the two countries.

Currency fluctuations

Smith+Nephew's results of operations are affected by transactional exchange rate movements in that they are subject to exposures arising from revenue in a currency different from the related costs and expenses. The Group's manufacturing cost base is situated principally in the United States, the United Kingdom, China, Costa Rica and Switzerland, from which finished products are exported to the Group's selling operations worldwide. Thus, the Group is exposed to fluctuations in exchange rates between the United States Dollar, Sterling and Swiss Franc and the currency of the Group's selling operations, particularly the Euro, Chinese Yuan, Australian Dollar and Japanese Yen.

If the United States Dollar, Sterling or Swiss Franc should strengthen against the Euro, Australian Dollar and the Japanese Yen, the Group's trading margin could be adversely affected. The Group manages the impact of exchange rate movements on operating profit by a policy of transacting forward foreign currency contracts when firm commitments exist. In addition, the Group's policy is for forecast transactions to be covered between 50% and 90% for up to one year. However, the Group is still exposed to medium to long-term adverse movements in the strength of currencies compared to the United States Dollar. The Group uses the United States Dollar as its reporting currency. The United States Dollar is the functional currency of Smith & Nephew plc. The Group's revenues, profits and earnings are also affected by exchange rate movements on the translation of results of operations in foreign subsidiaries for financial reporting purposes. See 'Liquidity and capital resources' on [page 180](#).

Global supply chain

The Group's manufacturing production is concentrated at main facilities in Memphis, Mansfield, Columbia and Oklahoma City in the United States, Hull and Warwick in the United Kingdom, Aarau in Switzerland, Tuttlingen in Germany, Suzhou and Beijing in China and Alajuela in Costa Rica. If major physical disruption took place at any of these sites, it could adversely affect the results of operations. Further, disruptions which have taken place at these sites as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic (including government restrictions on imports and exports and decreased access to supply channels due to travel restrictions) have had and may continue to have an adverse effect on the results of operations. Physical loss and consequential loss insurance is carried to cover major physical disruption to these sites but is subject to limits and deductibles, generally does not cover COVID-19 pandemic related disruptions, and may not be sufficient to cover catastrophic loss. Management of orthopaedic inventory is complex, particularly forecasting and production planning. There is a risk that failures in operational execution could lead to excess inventory or individual product shortages.

The Group is reliant on certain key suppliers of raw materials, components, finished products and packaging materials or in some cases on a single supplier. Disruptions in the supply chains and operations of our suppliers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic could result in an increase in our costs of production and distribution. These suppliers must provide the materials in compliance with legal requirements and perform the activities to the Group's standard of quality requirements. A supplier's failure to comply with legal requirements or otherwise meet expected quality standards could create liability for the Group and adversely affect sales of the Group's related products. The Group may be forced to pay higher prices to obtain raw materials, which it may not be able to pass on to its customers in the form of increased prices for its finished products. In addition, some of the raw materials used may become unavailable, and there can be no assurance that the Group will be able to obtain suitable and cost effective substitutes. Interruption of supply caused by these or other factors has had and may continue to have a negative impact on Smith+Nephew's revenue and operating profit.

The Group will, from time to time, including as part of the Accelerating Performance and Execution (APEX) programme or operations and commercial excellence programme, outsource or insource the manufacture of components and finished products to or from third parties and will periodically relocate the manufacture of product and/or processes between existing and/or new facilities. While these are planned activities, with these transfers there is a risk of disruption to supply.

Natural disasters can also lead to manufacturing and supply delays, product shortages, excess inventory, unanticipated costs, lost revenues and damage to reputation. In addition, new environmental regulation or more aggressive enforcement of existing regulations can impact the Group's ability to manufacture, sterilise and supply product. In addition, our physical assets and supply chains are vulnerable to weather and climate change (eg sea level rise, increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events, and stress on water resources).

Requirements of global regulatory agencies have become more stringent in recent years and we expect them to continue to do so. The Group's Quality and Regulatory Affairs team is leading a major Group-wide programme to prepare for implementation of the EU Medical Devices Regulation (MDR), which came into force in May 2017, with an initial expected three-year transition period until May 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the European Commission published a formal proposal in April 2020, announcing the delay to the implementation by 12 months to 26 May 2021. The regulation includes new requirements for the manufacture, supply and sale of all CE marked products sold in Europe (ie those products that conform with health, safety and environmental protection standards within the European Economic Area) and requires the re-registration of all medical devices, regardless of where they are manufactured. Smith+Nephew expects there will be significant capacity constraints under the new European system, given the small number of notified bodies certified under MDR to date. This could cause delays for medical device approvals for the industry more broadly and may result in delays for patients. Other critical features of the system are also far from completion and many of the major implementing acts remain to be completed. The European Commission has taken some important

steps to aid implementation, including delaying the EU database (EUDAMED) and passing a Corrigendum to give a longer implementation timeline for certain Class 1R devices (ie reusable surgical instruments), which helps address certain of the capacity constraint concerns. The Group operates with a global remit and the speed of technological change in an already complex manufacturing process leads to greater potential for disruption. Additional risks to supply include inadequate sales and operational planning and inadequate supply chain capacity to support customer demand and growth.

Quality and regulatory

Regulatory standards and compliance in the healthcare industry

Business practices in the healthcare industry are subject to regulation and review by various government authorities. In general, the trend in many countries in which the Group does business is towards higher expectations and increased enforcement activity by governmental authorities. While the Group is committed to doing business with integrity and welcomes the trend to higher standards in the healthcare industry, the Group and other companies in the industry have been subject to investigations and other enforcement activity that have incurred and may continue to incur significant expense. Under certain circumstances, if the Group were found to have violated the law, its ability to sell its products to certain customers could be restricted.

Regulatory approval

The international medical device industry is highly regulated. Regulatory requirements are a major factor in determining whether substances and materials can be developed into marketable products and the amount of time and expense that should be allotted to such development. National regulatory authorities administer and enforce a complex series of laws and regulations that govern the design, development, approval, manufacture, labelling, marketing and sale of healthcare products. They also review data supporting the safety and efficacy of such products. Of particular importance is the requirement in many countries that products be authorised or registered prior to manufacture, marketing or sale and that such authorisation or registration be subsequently maintained. The major regulatory agencies for Smith+Nephew's products include the Food and Drug

Administration (FDA) in the United States, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency in the United Kingdom, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare in Japan, the National Medical Products Administration in China and the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration. At any time, the Group is awaiting a number of regulatory approvals which, if not received, could adversely affect results of operations. In 2017, the EU reached agreement on a new set of Medical Device Regulations which entered into force on 25 May 2017 with an initial expected three-year transition period until May 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the European Commission published a formal proposal in early April 2020, announcing the delay to the implementation by 12 months, to 26 May 2021. The increase in the time required by Notified Bodies to review product submissions and site quality systems' certification time has had and may continue to have an adverse impact on our ability to meet customer demand.

The trend is towards more stringent regulation and higher standards of technical appraisal. Specifically, there are more stringent local requirements for clinical data across APAC markets. Such controls have become increasingly demanding to comply with and management believes that this trend will continue. Privacy laws (including Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) in the United States and GDPR in the United Kingdom) and environmental regulations have also become more stringent. Regulatory requirements may also entail inspections for compliance with appropriate standards, including those relating to Quality Management Systems or Good Manufacturing Practices regulations. All manufacturing and other significant facilities within the Group are subject to regular internal and external audit for compliance with national medical device regulation and Group policies. Payment for medical devices may be governed by reimbursement tariff agencies in a number of countries. Reimbursement rates may be set in response to perceived economic value of the devices, based on clinical and other data relating to cost, patient outcomes and comparative effectiveness. They may also be affected by overall government budgetary considerations. The Group believes that its emphasis on innovative products and services should contribute to success in this environment. Failure to

comply with these regulatory requirements could have a number of adverse consequences, including withdrawal of approval to sell a product in a country, temporary closure of a manufacturing facility, fines and potential damage to Company reputation.

Mergers and acquisitions

Failure to make successful acquisitions

A key element of the Group's strategy for continued growth is to make acquisitions or alliances to complement its existing business. Failure to identify appropriate acquisition targets or failure to conduct adequate due diligence or to integrate them successfully would have an adverse impact on the Group's competitive position and profitability. This could result from the diversion of management resources from the acquisition or integration process, challenges of integrating organisations of different geographic, cultural and ethical backgrounds, as well as the prospect of taking on unexpected or unknown liabilities. In addition, the availability of global capital may make financing less attainable or more expensive and could result in the Group failing in its strategic aim of growth by acquisition or alliance. The COVID-19 pandemic and measures imposed in response to it have introduced additional risks. Conducting due diligence processes remotely presents potential risks that some information is not fully assessed. Similarly, integrations become more complex without physical on-site presence.

Talent management

Attracting and retaining key personnel

The Group's continued development depends on its ability to hire and retain highly-skilled personnel with particular expertise. This is critical, particularly in general management, research, new product development and in the sales forces. During 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the risk to the health and wellbeing of our personnel. Uncertainty, threat of illness and restricted travel, work and personal activities have affected people globally. We have seen increased absenteeism due to COVID-19. If Smith+Nephew is unable to retain key personnel in general management, research and new product development or if its largest sales forces suffer disruption or upheaval, its revenue and operating profit would be adversely affected. Additionally, if the Group is unable to recruit, hire, develop and retain a talented, competitive workforce, it may not be able to meet its strategic business objectives.

Factors affecting Smith+Nephew's results of operations

Government economic, fiscal, monetary and political policies are all factors that materially affect the Group's operation or investments of shareholders. Other factors include sales trends, currency fluctuations and innovation. Each of these factors is discussed further in the 'Our global markets' on pages 14–15, the 'Financial review' on pages 20–23 and 'Taxation information for shareholders' on pages 230–231.

Selected financial data

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million	2017 \$ million	2016 \$ million
Income statement					
Revenue	4,560	5,138	4,904	4,765	4,669
Cost of goods sold	(1,396)	(1,338)	(1,298)	(1,248)	(1,272)
Gross profit	3,164	3,800	3,606	3,517	3,397
Selling, general and administrative expenses	(2,562)	(2,693)	(2,497)	(2,360)	(2,366)
Research and development expenses	(307)	(292)	(246)	(223)	(230)
Operating profit ¹	295	815	863	934	801
Net interest payable	(56)	(55)	(51)	(51)	(46)
Other finance costs	(7)	(18)	(20)	(10)	(16)
Share of results of associates	14	1	(11)	6	(3)
Profit on disposal of business	–	–	–	–	326
Profit before taxation	246	743	781	879	1,062
Taxation	202	(143)	(118)	(112)	(278)
Attributable profit for the year	448	600	663	767	784
Earnings per ordinary share					
Basic earnings per share	51.3¢	68.6¢	76.0¢	87.8¢	88.1¢
Diluted earnings per share	51.2¢	68.4¢	75.7¢	87.7¢	87.8¢
Average number of shares used in basic earnings per share (millions)	875	874	873	874	890
Average number of shares used in diluted earnings per share (millions)	877	877	876	875	893
Adjusted attributable profit²					
Attributable profit for the year	448	600	663	767	784
Acquisition and disposal related items	4	34	(7)	(10)	9
Restructuring and rationalisation costs	124	134	120	–	62
Legal and other	91	50	38	(13)	(20)
Amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles	171	143	118	140	178
Profit on disposal of business	–	–	–	–	(326)
UK tax litigation	(142)	–	–	–	–
US tax reform	–	–	–	(32)	–
Taxation on excluded items	(132)	(68)	(51)	(26)	48
Adjusted attributable profit	564	893	881	826	735
Adjusted earnings per ordinary share (EPSA) ³	64.4¢	101.9¢	100.6¢	94.5¢	82.6¢

1 Reconciliation of operating to trading profit is presented below.

2 Non-IFRS financial measures are explained and reconciled to the most directly comparable financial measure prepared in accordance with IFRS on pages 222–226.

3 Adjusted earnings per ordinary share is calculated by dividing adjusted attributable profit by the basic weighted number of ordinary shares.

Reconciliation of operating profit to trading profit

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million	2017 \$ million	2016 \$ million
Operating profit	295	815	863	934	801
Acquisition and disposal related items	4	32	(7)	(10)	9
Restructuring and rationalisation costs	124	134	120	–	62
Amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles	171	143	113	140	178
Legal and other	89	45	34	(16)	(30)
Trading profit	683	1,169	1,123	1,048	1,020

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million	2017 \$ million	2016 \$ million
Group balance sheet data					
Non-current assets	6,348	6,080	4,982	5,135	4,815
Current assets	4,664	3,219	3,077	2,731	2,529
Total assets	11,012	9,299	8,059	7,866	7,344
Share capital	177	177	177	178	180
Share premium	612	610	608	605	600
Capital redemption reserve	18	18	18	17	15
Treasury shares	(157)	(189)	(214)	(257)	(432)
Retained earnings and other reserves	4,629	4,525	4,285	4,101	3,595
Total equity	5,279	5,141	4,874	4,644	3,958
Non-current liabilities	4,045	2,594	1,720	1,876	2,038
Current liabilities	1,688	1,564	1,465	1,346	1,348
Total liabilities	5,733	4,158	3,185	3,222	3,386
Total equity and liabilities	11,012	9,299	8,059	7,866	7,344

Group cash flow data and net debt					
Cash generated from operations	972	1,370	1,108	1,273	1,035
Net interest paid	(59)	(52)	(52)	(48)	(45)
Income taxes refunded/(paid)	22	(150)	(125)	(135)	(141)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	935	1,168	931	1,090	849
Capital expenditure (including net trade investments and net of disposals of property, plant and equipment)	(445)	(385)	(351)	(384)	(394)
Acquisitions and disposals	(170)	(869)	(29)	(159)	(214)
Proceeds on disposal of business (net of tax)	–	–	–	–	225
Distribution from associate	9	3	2	–	–
Payment of capital element of lease liabilities	(55)	(46)	–	–	–
Proceeds from own shares	9	9	10	5	6
Equity dividends paid	(328)	(318)	(321)	(269)	(279)
Issue of ordinary capital and treasury shares purchased	(14)	(61)	(45)	(47)	(358)
Net cash flow from operating, investing and financing activities	(59)	(499)	197	236	(165)
Termination of finance lease	–	–	–	5	–
Exchange adjustments	(71)	3	(20)	28	(24)
Corporate bond issuance expense	8	–	–	–	–
Lease liabilities	(34)	(170)	–	–	–
Opening net debt	(1,770)	(1,104)	(1,281)	(1,550)	(1,361)
Closing net debt (including lease liabilities from 1 January 2019)	(1,926)	(1,770)	(1,104)	(1,281)	(1,550)

Selected financial ratios					
Gearing (closing net debt as a percentage of total equity)	36.5%	34.4%	22.7%	27.6%	39.2%
Dividends per ordinary share	37.5¢ ¹	37.5¢	36.0¢	35.0¢	30.8¢
Research and development costs to revenue	6.7%	5.7%	5.0%	4.7%	4.9%
Capital expenditure (including intangibles but excluding trade investments and assets acquired in a business combination) to revenue	9.7%	7.9%	7.1%	7.9%	8.4%

The Group has adopted IFRS 16 Leases from 1 January 2019 using the modified retrospective approach. Under this approach comparative information is not restated.

1 The Board has proposed a final dividend of 23.1 US cents per share which together with the interim dividend of 14.4 US cents makes a total for 2020 of 37.5 US cents.

Non-IFRS financial information – Adjusted measures

These financial statements include financial measures that are not prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). These measures, which include trading profit, trading profit margin, tax rate on trading results, EPSA, ROIC, trading cash flow, free cash flow, trading profit to trading cash conversion ratio, leverage ratio, and underlying revenue growth, exclude the effect of certain cash and non-cash items that Group management believes are not related to the underlying performance of the Group. These non-IFRS financial measures are also used by management to make operating decisions because they facilitate internal comparisons of performance to historical results.

Non-IFRS financial measures are presented in these financial statements as the Group's management believe that they provide investors with a means of evaluating performance of the business segments and the consolidated Group on a consistent basis, similar to the way in which the Group's management evaluates performance, that is not otherwise apparent on an IFRS basis, given that certain non-recurring, infrequent, non-cash and other items that management does not otherwise believe are indicative of the underlying performance of the consolidated Group may not be excluded when preparing financial measures under IFRS. These non-IFRS measures should not be considered in isolation from, as substitutes for, or superior to financial measures prepared in accordance with IFRS.

The Group adopted IFRS 16 *Leases* from 1 January 2019 using the modified retrospective approach. Under this approach comparative information is not restated therefore impacting the comparability of the non-financial information presented below. Payments of lease liabilities are included in trading cash flow. From 2019, IFRS 16 right-of-use assets and IFRS 16 lease liabilities are included in net operating assets in arriving at ROIC.

Underlying revenue growth

'Underlying revenue growth' is used to compare the revenue in a given year to the previous year on a like-for-like basis. This is achieved by adjusting for the impact of sales of products acquired in material business combinations or disposed of and for movements in exchange rates.

Underlying revenue growth is considered by the Group to be an important measure of performance as it excludes those items considered to be outside the influence of local management. The Group's management uses this non-IFRS measure in its internal financial reporting, budgeting and planning to assess performance on both a business and a consolidated Group basis. Revenue growth at constant currency is important in measuring business performance compared to competitors and compared to the growth of the market itself.

The Group considers that revenue from sales of products acquired in material business combinations results in a step-up in growth in revenue in the year of acquisition that cannot be wholly attributed to local management's efforts with respect to the business in the year of acquisition. Depending on the timing of the acquisition, there will usually be a further step change in the following year. A measure of growth excluding the effects of business combinations also allows senior management to evaluate the performance and relative impact of growth from the existing business and growth from acquisitions. The process of making business acquisitions is directed, approved and funded from the Group corporate centre in-line with strategic objectives.

The material limitation of the underlying revenue growth measure is that it excludes certain factors, described above, which ultimately have a significant impact on total revenues. The Group compensates for this limitation by taking into account relative movements in exchange rates in its investment, strategic planning and resource allocation. In addition, as the evaluation and assessment of business acquisitions is not within the control of local management, performance of acquisitions is monitored centrally until the business is integrated.

The Group's management considers that the non-IFRS measure of underlying revenue growth and the IFRS measure of growth in revenue are complementary measures, neither of which management uses exclusively.

Underlying revenue growth reconciles to reported revenue growth, the most directly comparable financial measure calculated in accordance with IFRS, by making two adjustments, the 'constant currency exchange effect' and the 'acquisitions and disposals effect', described below.

The 'constant currency exchange effect' is a measure of the increase/decrease in revenue resulting from currency movements on non-US Dollar sales and is measured as the difference between: 1) the increase/decrease in the current year revenue translated into US Dollars at the current year average exchange rate and the prior revenue translated at the prior year rate; and 2) the increase/decrease being measured by translating current and prior year revenues into US Dollars using the prior year closing rate.

The 'acquisitions and disposals effect' is the measure of the impact on revenue from newly acquired material business combinations and recent material business disposals. This is calculated by comparing the current year, constant currency actual revenue (which includes acquisitions and excludes disposals from the relevant date of completion) with prior year, constant currency actual revenue, adjusted to include the results of acquisitions and exclude disposals for the commensurate period in the prior year. These sales are separately tracked in the Group's internal reporting systems and are readily identifiable.

Reported revenue growth, the most directly comparable financial measure calculated in accordance with IFRS, reconciles to underlying revenue growth as follows:

2020	Reported growth %	Underlying growth %	Reconciling items	
			Acquisitions/disposals %	Currency impact %
Consolidated revenue by franchise				
Knee Implants	(21.1)	(21.0)	–	(0.1)
Hip Implants	(7.5)	(7.4)	–	(0.1)
Other Reconstruction	(12.9)	(26.1)	13.1	0.1
Trauma	(5.7)	(5.1)	–	(0.6)
Orthopaedics	(13.7)	(14.0)	0.6	(0.3)
Sports Medicine Joint Repair	(10.5)	(10.2)	–	(0.3)
Arthroscopic Enabling Technologies	(12.6)	(12.4)	–	(0.2)
ENT (Ear, Nose and Throat)	(29.9)	(29.7)	–	(0.2)
Sports Medicine & ENT	(13.2)	(13.0)	–	(0.2)
Advanced Wound Care	(7.7)	(7.5)	–	(0.2)
Advanced Wound Bioactives	(1.1)	(10.5)	9.5	(0.1)
Advanced Wound Devices	(4.8)	(4.8)	0.2	(0.2)
Advanced Wound Management	(5.1)	(8.1)	3.1	(0.1)
Total	(11.2)	(12.1)	1.1	(0.2)

2019	Reported growth %	Underlying growth %	Reconciling items	
			Acquisitions/disposals %	Currency impact %
Consolidated revenue by franchise				
Knee Implants	2.5	4.4	–	(1.9)
Hip Implants	–	2.1	–	(2.1)
Other Reconstruction	27.9	12.6	17.5	(2.2)
Trauma	2.4	4.3	–	(1.9)
Orthopaedics	2.5	4.0	0.5	(2.0)
Sports Medicine Joint Repair	10.8	12.3	0.9	(2.4)
Arthroscopic Enabling Technologies	(1.5)	0.8	–	(2.3)
ENT (Ear, Nose and Throat)	4.9	6.7	–	(1.8)
Sports Medicine & ENT	5.2	7.0	0.5	(2.3)
Advanced Wound Care ¹	(3.5)	(0.2)	–	(3.3)
Advanced Wound Bioactives ¹	30.9	(0.4)	31.7	(0.4)
Advanced Wound Devices ¹	13.0	15.9	0.6	(3.5)
Advanced Wound Management	8.3	2.2	8.7	(2.6)
Total	4.8	4.4	2.6	(2.2)

1 The growth rates included within the 2019 analysis reflect a reclassification of \$13m (2018: \$13m) of revenue formerly included in the Advanced Wound Care franchise of which \$12m (2018: \$13m) is now included in the Advanced Wound Bioactives franchise and \$1m (2018: \$nil) in the Advanced Wound Devices franchise in order to present consistent analysis to the 2020 results. There has been no change in total revenue or growth rates for the year ended 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2018.

Trading profit, trading profit margin, trading cash flow and trading profit to cash conversion ratio

Trading profit, trading profit margin (trading profit expressed as a percentage of revenue), trading cash flow and trading profit to cash conversion ratio (trading cash flow expressed as a percentage of trading profit) are trend measures, which present the profitability of the Group. The adjustments made exclude the impact of specific transactions that management considers affect the Group's short-term profitability and cash flows, and the comparability of results. The Group has identified the following items, where material, as those to be excluded from operating profit and cash generated from operations when arriving at trading profit and trading cash flow, respectively: acquisition and disposal related items arising in connection with business combinations, including amortisation of acquisition intangible assets, impairments and integration costs; restructuring events; and gains and losses resulting from legal disputes and uninsured losses. In addition to these items, gains and losses that materially impact the Group's profitability or cash flows on a short-term or one-off basis are excluded from operating profit and cash generated from operations when arriving at trading profit and trading cash flow. The cash contributions to fund defined benefit pension schemes that are closed to future accrual are excluded from cash generated from operations when arriving at trading cash flow. Payment of lease liabilities is included within trading cash flow.

Non-IFRS financial information – Adjusted measures continued

Adjusted earnings per ordinary share (EPSA)

EPSA is a trend measure, which presents the profitability of the Group excluding the post-tax impact of specific transactions that management considers affect the Group's short-term profitability and comparability of results. The Group presents this measure to assist investors in their understanding of trends. Adjusted attributable profit is the numerator used for this measure and is determined by adjusting attributable profit for the items that are excluded from operating profit when arriving at trading profit and items that are recognised below operating profit that affect the Group's short-term profitability. The most directly comparable financial measure calculated in accordance with IFRS is basic earnings per ordinary share (EPS).

	Revenue \$ million	Operating profit ¹ \$ million	Profit before tax ² \$ million	Taxation ³ \$ million	Attributable profit ⁴ \$ million	Cash generated from operations ⁵ \$ million	Earnings per share ⁶ ¢
2020 Reported	4,560	295	246	202	448	972	51.3
Acquisition and disposal related items	–	4	4	(5)	(1)	24	(0.1)
Restructuring and rationalisation costs	–	124	124	(40)	84	117	9.6
Amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles	–	171	171	(46)	125	–	14.3
Legal and other ⁷	–	89	91	(41)	50	75	5.7
UK tax litigation	–	–	–	(142)	(142)	–	(16.2)
Lease liability payments	–	–	–	–	–	(55)	–
Capital expenditure	–	–	–	–	–	(443)	–
2020 Adjusted	4,560	683	636	(72)	564	690	64.6

Acquisition and disposal related items: For the year to 31 December 2020 costs primarily relate to the acquisition of Tusker and prior year acquisitions, partially offset by credits relating to remeasurement of contingent consideration for prior year acquisitions.

Restructuring and rationalisation costs: For the year to 31 December 2020 these costs relate to the implementation of the Accelerating Performance and Execution (APEX) programme that was announced in February 2018 and the operations and commercial excellence programme announced in February 2020.

Amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles: For the year to 31 December 2020 charges relate to the amortisation and impairment of intangible assets acquired in material business combinations.

Legal and other: For the year ended 31 December 2020 charges primarily relate to legal expenses for ongoing metal-on-metal hip claims and an increase of \$17m in the provision that reflects the present value of the estimated costs to resolve all other known and anticipated metal-on-metal hip claims. The year to 31 December 2020 also includes costs for implementing the requirements of the EU Medical Device Regulations that will apply from May 2021.

UK tax litigation: For the year ended 31 December 2020 the \$142m tax credit in the table above relates to the UK tax litigation matter.

	Revenue \$ million	Operating profit ¹ \$ million	Profit before tax ² \$ million	Taxation ³ \$ million	Attributable profit ⁴ \$ million	Cash generated from operations ⁵ \$ million	Earnings per share ⁶ ¢
2019 Reported	5,138	815	743	(143)	600	1,370	68.6
Acquisition and disposal related items	–	32	34	(6)	28	36	3.4
Restructuring and rationalisation costs	–	134	134	(25)	109	123	12.5
Amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles	–	143	143	(32)	111	–	12.6
Legal and other ⁷	–	45	50	(5)	45	(105)	5.1
Lease liability payments	–	–	–	–	–	(46)	–
Capital expenditure	–	–	–	–	–	(408)	–
2019 Adjusted	5,138	1,169	1,104	(211)	893	970	102.2

Acquisition and disposal related items: For the year to 31 December 2019 costs primarily relate to the acquisitions of Ceterix, Osiris, Leaf, Brainlab OJR and Atracsys.

Restructuring and rationalisation costs: For the year to 31 December 2019 these costs relate to the implementation of the Accelerating Performance and Execution (APEX) programme that was announced in February 2018.

Amortisation and impairment of acquisition intangibles: For the year to 31 December 2019 charges relate to the amortisation and impairment of intangible assets acquired in material business combinations.

Legal and other: For the year ended 31 December 2019 charges primarily relate to legal expenses for ongoing metal-on-metal hip claims and an increase of \$121m in the provision that reflects the present value of the estimated costs to resolve all other known and anticipated metal-on-metal hip claims. The year to 31 December 2019 also includes costs for implementing the requirements of the EU Medical Device Regulations that will apply from May 2021. These charges in the year to 31 December 2019 were partially offset by a credit of \$147m relating to insurance recoveries for ongoing metal-on-metal hip claims. Trading cash flow additionally excludes \$6m of cash funding to closed defined benefit pension schemes and a \$35m receipt (held as a receivable as at 31 December 2018) relating to settlements with insurers related to product liability claims involving macrotextured components withdrawn from the market in 2003.

- 1 Represents a reconciliation of operating profit to trading profit.
- 2 Represents a reconciliation of reported profit before tax to trading profit before tax.
- 3 Represents a reconciliation of reported tax to trading tax.
- 4 Represents a reconciliation of reported attributable profit to adjusted attributable profit.
- 5 Represents a reconciliation of cash generated from operations to trading cash flow.
- 6 Represents a reconciliation of basic earnings per ordinary share to adjusted earnings per ordinary share (EPSA).
- 7 The ongoing funding of defined benefit pension schemes is not included in management's definition of trading cash flow as there is no defined benefit service cost for these schemes.

Free cash flow

Free cash flow is a measure of the cash generated for the Group to use after capital expenditure according to its Capital Allocation Framework, it is defined as the cash generated from operations less: capital expenditure and cash flows from interest and income taxes. A reconciliation from cash generated from operations, the most comparable IFRS measure, to free cash flow is set out below:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Cash generated from operations ¹	972	1,370	1,108
Capital expenditure	(443)	(408)	(347)
Interest received	2	4	2
Interest paid	(61)	(56)	(54)
Payment of lease liabilities	(55)	(46)	–
Income taxes refunded/(paid)	22	(150)	(125)
Free cash flow	437	714	584

1 See Group Cash Flow Statement on [page 150](#).

Leverage ratio

The leverage ratio is net debt including lease liabilities to adjusted EBITDA. Net debt is reconciled in Note 15 to the Group accounts. Adjusted EBITDA is defined as trading profit before depreciation of property, plant and equipment and amortisation of other intangible assets.

The calculation of the leverage ratio is set out below:

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million
Net debt including lease liabilities	1,926	1,770
Trading profit	683	1,169
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	311	292
Amortisation of other intangible assets	63	61
Adjustment for items already excluded from trading profit	(7)	–
Adjusted EBITDA	1,050	1,522
Leverage ratio (x)	1.8	1.2

Non-IFRS financial information – Adjusted measures continued

Return on invested capital (ROIC)

Return on invested capital (ROIC) is a measure of the return generated on capital invested by the Group. It provides a metric for long-term value creation and encourages compounding reinvestment within the business and discipline around acquisitions with low returns and long payback.

ROIC is defined as: Operating Profit less Adjusted Taxes/((Opening Net Operating Assets + Closing Net Operating Assets)/2).

	2020 \$ million	2019 \$ million	2018 \$ million
Operating profit	295	815	863
Taxation	202	(143)	(118)
Taxation adjustment ¹	(12)	(14)	(14)
Operating profit less adjusted taxes	485	658	731
Total equity	5,279	5,141	4,874
Retirement benefit assets	(133)	(106)	(92)
Investments	(9)	(7)	(34)
Investments in associates	(108)	(103)	(105)
Right-of-use assets	(196)	(156)	–
Cash at bank	(1,762)	(277)	(365)
Long-term borrowings and lease liabilities	3,353	1,975	1,301
Retirement benefit obligations	163	136	114
Bank overdrafts, borrowings, loans and lease liabilities	337	72	164
Net operating assets	6,924	6,675	5,857
Average net operating assets	6,800	6,266	5,856
Return on invested capital	7.1%	10.5%	12.5%

1 Being the taxation on interest income, interest expense, other finance costs and share of results of associates.

Contractual obligations

Contractual obligations at 31 December 2020 were as follows:

	Payments due by period			
	Less than one year \$ million	One to three years \$ million	Three to five years \$ million	More than five years \$ million
Debt obligations	12	930	–	–
Private placement notes	311	307	481	691
Purchase obligations	204	10	4	–
Corporate bonds	20	41	41	1,102
Lease liabilities	58	74	36	47
Capital expenditure	65	–	–	–
Other	131	65	23	5
	801	1,427	585	1,845

Other contractual obligations represent \$59m of derivative contracts and \$165m of acquisition consideration. Provisions that do not relate to contractual obligations are not included in the above table.

There are a number of agreements that take effect, alter or terminate upon a change in control of the Company or the Group following a takeover, such as bank loan agreements and Company share plans. None of these are deemed to be significant in terms of their potential impact on the business of the Group as a whole. In addition, there are service contracts between the Company and its Executive Directors which provide for the automatic payment of a bonus following loss of office or employment under the circumstances outlined on [page 135](#).

The Company does not have contracts or other arrangements which individually are essential to the business.

Shareholder information

Ordinary shareholders

Registrar

All general enquiries concerning shareholdings, dividends, changes to shareholders' personal details and the Annual General Meeting (the 'AGM') should be addressed to:

Computershare Investor Services plc,
The Pavilions, Bridgwater Road,
Bristol, BS99 6ZZ.

Tel: 0370 703 0047

Tel: +44 (0) 117 378 5450

from outside the UK

www.investorcentre.co.uk

* Lines are open from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays in England and Wales.

Shareholder communications

We make quarterly financial announcements, which are made available through Stock Exchange announcements and on the Group's website (www.smith-nephew.com). Copies of recent Annual Reports, press releases, institutional presentations and audio webcasts are also available on the website.

We send paper copies of the Notice of Annual General Meeting and Annual Report only to those shareholders and ADS holders who have elected to receive shareholder documentation by post. Electronic copies of the Annual Report and Notice of Annual General Meeting are available on the Group's website at www.smith-nephew.com. Both ordinary shareholders and ADS holders can request paper copies of the Annual Report, which the Company provides free of charge. The Company will continue to send to ordinary shareholders by post the Form of Proxy notifying them of the availability of the Annual Report and Notice of Annual General Meeting on the Group's website. If you elect to receive the Annual Report and Notice of Annual General Meeting electronically you are informed by email of the documents' availability on the Group's website. ADS holders receive the Form of Proxy by post, but will not receive a paper copy of the Notice of Annual General Meeting.

Investor communications

The Company maintains regular dialogue with individual institutional shareholders, together with results presentations. To ensure that all members of the Board develop an understanding of the views of major investors, the Executive Directors review significant issues raised by investors with the Board. Non-Executive Directors are sent copies of analysts' and brokers' briefings. There is an opportunity for individual shareholders to put their questions to the Directors at the Annual General Meeting. The Company regularly responds to letters from shareholders on a range of issues.

UK capital gains tax

For the purposes of UK capital gains tax, the price of the Company's ordinary shares on 31 March 1982 was 35.04p.

Smith & Nephew plc share price

The Company's ordinary shares are quoted on the London Stock Exchange under the symbol SN. The Company's share price is available on the Group's website (www.smith-nephew.com) and at www.londonstockexchange.com where the live financial data is updated with a 15-minute delay.

American Depositary Shares ('ADSs') and American Depositary Receipts ('ADRs')

In the US, the Company's ordinary shares are traded in the form of ADSs, evidenced by ADRs, on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SNN. Each American Depositary Share represents two ordinary shares. J.P. Morgan Chase Bank N.A. is the authorised depositary bank for the Company's ADR programme.

ADS enquiries

All enquiries regarding ADS holder accounts and payment of dividends should be addressed to:

EQ Shareowner Services
P.O. Box 64504
St Paul, MN 55164-0504

US toll free phone: +1-800-990-1135
Online: Visit www.shareowneronline.com and select 'Contact Us'.
www.adr.com

Smith & Nephew plc ADS price

The Company's ADS price can be obtained from the official New York Stock Exchange website at www.nyse.com and the Group's website (www.smith-nephew.com) where the live financial data is updated with a 15-minute delay, and is quoted daily in the Wall Street Journal.

ADS payment information

The Company hereby discloses ADS payment information for the year ended 31 December 2020 in accordance with the Securities and Exchange Commission rules 12.D.3 and 12.D.4 relating to Form 20-F filings by foreign private issuers. The depositary collects its fees for delivery and surrender of ADSs directly from investors depositing shares or surrendering ADSs for the purpose of withdrawal or from intermediaries acting for them.

The depositary collects fees for making distributions to investors, including payment of dividends by the Company by deducting those fees from the amounts distributed or by selling a portion of distributable property to pay the fees. The depositary may collect its annual fee for depositary services by deductions from cash distributions or by directly billing investors or by charging the book-entry system accounts of participants acting for them. The depositary may generally refuse to provide fee-attracting services until its fee for those services are paid.

Shareholder information continued

Persons depositing or withdrawing shares must pay	For
\$5.00 (or less) per 100 ADSs (or portion of 100 ADSs) \$0.05 (or less) per ADS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Issuance of ADSs, including issuances resulting from a distribution of shares or rights or other property – Cancellation of ADSs for the purpose of withdrawal, including if the deposit agreement terminates – Any cash distribution to ADS registered holders, including payment of dividend
\$0.05 (or less) per ADS per calendar year Registration or transfer fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Depositary services – Transfer and registration of shares on our share register to or from the name of the depositary or its agent when shares are deposited or withdrawn
Taxes and other governmental charges the depositary or the custodian have to pay on any ADS or share underlying an ADS, for example, stock transfer taxes, stamp duty or withholding taxes	– As necessary
Any charges incurred by the depositary or its agents for servicing the deposited securities	– As necessary

During 2020, a fee of 1 US cent per ADS was collected by J.P. Morgan Chase Bank N.A. on the 2019 final dividend paid in May 2020 and a fee of 1 US cent per ADS was collected on the 2020 interim dividend paid in October. In the period 1 January 2020 to 12 February 2021, the total programme payments made by J.P. Morgan Chase Bank N.A. was \$890,644.47.

Dividend history

Smith & Nephew plc has paid dividends on its ordinary shares in every year since 1937. Following the capital restructuring and dividend reduction in 2000, the Group adopted a policy of increasing its dividend cover (the ratio of EPSA, as set out in the 'Selected financial data', to ordinary dividends declared for the year). This was intended to increase the financing capability of the Group for acquisitions and other investments. From 2000 to 2004, the dividend increased in-line with inflation and, in 2004, dividend cover stood at 4.1 times. Having achieved this level of dividend cover the Board changed its policy, from that of increasing dividends in-line with inflation, to that of increasing dividends for 2005 and after by 10%. Following the redenomination of the Company's share capital into US Dollars, the Board reaffirmed its policy of increasing the dividend by 10% a year in US Dollar terms.

On 2 August 2012, the Board announced its intention to pursue a progressive dividend policy, with the aim of increasing the US Dollar value of ordinary dividends over time broadly based on the Group's underlying growth in earnings, while taking into account capital requirements and cash flows.

At the time of the full year results, the Board reviews the appropriate level of total annual dividend each year. The Board intends that the interim dividend will be set by a formula and will be equivalent to 40% of the total dividend for the previous year. In 2020, given the expected earnings decline for the full year, the Board chose to keep the interim dividend flat on the prior year. Dividends will continue

Dividends per share

	Years ended 31 December				
	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Pence per share:					
Interim	11.07	11.19	10.67	9.34	10.08
Final	16.74 ¹	18.66	16.99	16.24	14.42
Total	27.81	29.85	27.66	25.58	24.50
US cents per share:					
Interim	14.40	14.40	14.00	12.30	12.30
Final	23.10	23.10	22.00	22.70	18.50
Total	37.50	37.50	36.00	35.00	30.80

¹ Translated at the Bank of England rate on 12 February 2021.

to be declared in US Dollars with an equivalent amount in Sterling payable to those shareholders whose registered address is in the UK, or who have validly elected to receive Sterling dividends.

An interim dividend in respect of each fiscal year is normally declared in July or August and paid in October or November. A final dividend will be recommended by the Board of Directors and paid subject to approval by shareholders at the Company's Annual General Meeting.

Future dividends of Smith & Nephew plc will be dependent upon: future earnings; the future financial condition of the Group; the Board's dividend policy; and the additional factors that might affect the business of the Group set out in 'Special note regarding forward-looking statements' and 'Risk Factors'.

Dividends per share

The table below sets out the dividends per ordinary share in the last five-years.

From 6 April 2018 dividends below £2,000 per tax year became tax free for UK income tax purposes and dividends above £2,000 per tax year became subject to UK personal income tax at the rate of 7.5% for basic rate taxpayers, 32.5% for higher rate taxpayers and 38.1% for additional rate taxpayers. If you need to pay UK tax, how you pay depends on the amount of dividend income you receive in a year. If your dividend income is up to £10,000 you can request HMRC to change your tax code so that the tax will be taken from your wages or pension or you can complete a self-assessment tax return. If your dividend income is over £10,000 in the tax year, you will need to complete a self-assessment tax return. This will apply to both cash and dividend reinvestment plan ('DRIP') dividends, although dividends paid on shares held within pensions and ISAs will be unaffected, remaining tax free.

Between 6 April 2016 and 6 April 2018 dividends below £5,000 per tax year were tax free and dividends above £5,000 per tax year were subject to personal income tax at the rates referred to above.

Dividends paid prior to 6 April 2016, included the associated UK tax credit of 10%, but excluded the deduction of withholding taxes.

Since the second interim dividend for 2005, all dividends have been declared in US cents per ordinary share.

In respect of the proposed final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2020 of 23.10 US cents per ordinary share, the record date will be 6 April 2021 and the payment date will be 12 May 2021. The Sterling equivalent per ordinary share will be set following the record date.

Shareholders may elect to receive their dividend in either Sterling or US Dollars and the last day for election will be 20 April 2021. The ordinary shares will trade ex-dividend on both the London and New York Stock Exchanges from 1 April 2021.

The proposed final dividend of 23.10 US cents per ordinary share, which together with the interim dividend of 14.4 US cents, makes a total for 2020 of 37.50 US cents.

Share capital

The principal trading market for the ordinary shares is the London Stock Exchange. The ordinary shares were listed on the New York Stock Exchange on 16 November 1999, trading in the form of ADSs evidenced by ADRs. Each ADS represents two ordinary shares from 14 October 2014, before which time one ADS represented five ordinary shares. The ADS facility is sponsored by J.P. Morgan Chase Bank N.A. acting as depositary.

All the ordinary shares, including those held by Directors and Executive Officers, rank pari passu with each other. On 23 January 2006, the ordinary shares of 122/9p were redenominated as ordinary shares of US 20 cents (following approval by shareholders at the Extraordinary General Meeting in December 2005). The new US Dollar ordinary shares carry the same rights as the previous ordinary shares. The share price continues to be quoted in Sterling. In 2006, the Company issued £50,000 of shares in Sterling in order to comply with English law.

Major shareholders

	12 February 2021	As at 31 December			
		2020	2019	2018	2017
	%*	%*	%*	%*	%*
BlackRock, Inc.	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2

	12 February 2021	As at 31 December			
		2020	2019	2018	2017
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
BlackRock, Inc.	46,427	46,427	46,427	46,427	46,427

* Percentage of ordinary shares in issue, excluding Treasury shares.

These were issued as deferred shares, which are not listed on any stock exchange. They have extremely limited rights and therefore effectively have no value. These shares are held by the Company Secretary, although the Board reserves the right to transfer them to a member of the Board should it so wish.

Shareholdings

As at 12 February 2021, to the knowledge of the Group, there were 14,511 registered holders of ordinary shares, of whom 92 had registered addresses in the US and held a total of 160,713 ordinary shares (0.018% of the total issued). Because certain ordinary shares are registered in the names of nominees, the number of shareholders with registered addresses in the US is not representative of the number of beneficial owners of ordinary shares resident in the US.

As at 12 February 2021, 45,245,317 ADSs equivalent to 90,490,634 ordinary shares or approximately 10.32% of the total ordinary shares in issue, were outstanding and were held by 89 registered ADS holders.

Major shareholders

As far as is known to Smith+Nephew, the Group is not directly or indirectly owned or controlled by another corporation or by any Government and the Group has not entered into arrangements, the operation of which may at a subsequent date result in a change in control of the Group.

As at 12 February 2021, the Company is not aware of any person who has a significant direct or indirect holding of securities in the Company, as defined in the Disclosure and Transparency Rules

(DTRs) of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), other than as shown above, and is not aware of any persons holding securities which may control the Company. There are no securities in issue which have special rights as to the control of the Company.

The table above shows the last notification(s) received by the Company, in accordance with the FCA's DTRs relating to notifiable interests in the voting rights in the Company's issued share capital.

Purchase of ordinary shares on behalf of the Company

At the AGM, the Company will be seeking a renewal of its current permission from shareholders to purchase up to 10% of its own shares. In order to avoid shareholder dilution, shares allotted to employees through employee share schemes are bought back on a quarterly basis and subsequently cancelled by the Company. The share buy-back programme for 2020 has been suspended in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The programme remains under review.

From 1 January 2020 to 12 February 2021, as listed below, the Company has purchased 649,529 ordinary shares at a cost of \$15,797,489.93.

The shares were purchased in the open market by Merrill Lynch International on behalf of the Company.

The authority to purchase ordinary shares is only exercised if the Directors believe that to do so would result in an increase in earnings per share and would be likely to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its shareholders as a whole.

Purchase of ordinary shares on behalf of the Company

	Total shares purchased '000's	Average price paid per share pence	Approximate US\$ value of shares purchased under the plan
24–25 February 2020	650	1,877.1808	\$15,797,490

Shareholder information continued

Exchange controls and other limitations affecting security holders

There are no UK governmental laws, decrees or regulations that restrict the export or import of capital or that affect the payment of dividends, interest or other payments to non-resident holders of Smith & Nephew plc's securities, except for certain restrictions imposed from time-to-time by Her Majesty's Treasury of the United Kingdom pursuant to legislation, such as the United Nations Act 1946 and the Emergency Laws Act 1964, against the Government or residents of certain countries.

There are no limitations, either under the laws of the UK or under the Articles of Association of Smith & Nephew plc, restricting the right of non-UK residents to hold or to exercise voting rights in respect of ordinary shares, except that where any overseas shareholder has not provided to the Company a UK address for the service of notices, the Company is under no obligation to send any notice or other document to an overseas address. It is, however, the current practice of the Company to send every notice or other document to all shareholders regardless of the country recorded in the register of members, with the exception of details of the Company's dividend reinvestment plan, which are not sent to shareholders with recorded addresses in the US and Canada.

Taxation information for shareholders

The comments below are of a general and summary nature and are based on the Group's understanding of certain aspects of current UK and US federal income tax law and practice relevant to the ADSs and ordinary shares not in ADS form. The comments address the material US and UK tax consequences generally applicable to a person who is the beneficial owner of ADSs or ordinary shares and who, for US federal income tax purposes, is a citizen or resident of the US, a corporation (or other entity taxable as a corporation)

created or organised in or under the laws of the USA (or any State therein or the District of Columbia), or an estate or trust the income of which is included in gross income for US federal income tax purposes regardless of its source (each a US Holder). The comments set out below do not purport to address all tax consequences of the ownership of ADSs or ordinary shares that may be material to a particular holder and in particular do not deal with the position of US Holders who directly, indirectly or constructively own 10% or more of the Company's issued ordinary shares. This discussion does not apply to (i) US Holders whose holding of ADSs or ordinary shares is effectively connected with or pertains to either a permanent establishment in the UK through which a US Holder carries on a business in the UK or a fixed base from which a US Holder performs independent personal services in the UK, or (ii) US Holders whose registered address is inside the UK. This discussion does not apply to certain US Holders subject to special rules, such as certain financial institutions, tax-exempt entities, insurance companies, broker-dealers and traders in securities that elect to use the mark-to-market method of tax accounting, partnerships or other entities treated as partnerships for US federal income tax purposes, US Holders holding ADSs or ordinary shares as part of a hedging, conversion or other integrated transaction or US Holders whose functional currency for US federal income tax purposes is other than the US Dollar. In addition, the comments below do not address the potential application of the provisions of the United States Internal Revenue Code known as the Medicare contribution tax, any alternative minimum tax consequences, any US federal tax other than income tax or any US state, local or non-US (other than UK) taxes. The summary deals only with US Holders who hold ADSs or ordinary shares as capital assets for tax purposes. The summary is based on current UK and US law and practice which is subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect. US Holders are recommended to consult their own tax advisers as to the particular tax consequences to them of the ownership of ADSs or ordinary shares. The Company believes, and this discussion assumes, that the Company was not a passive foreign investment company for its taxable year ended 31 December 2020.

This discussion is based in part on representations by the depositary and assumes that each obligation under the deposit agreement and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms. For purposes of US federal income tax law, US Holders of ADSs will generally be treated as owners of the ordinary shares represented by the ADSs.

Taxation of distributions in the UK and the US

The UK does not currently impose a withholding tax on dividends paid by a UK corporation, such as the Company.

For US federal income tax purposes, distributions paid by the Company will generally be foreign source dividends to the extent paid out of the Company's current or accumulated earnings and profits as determined for US federal income tax purposes. Because the Company does not maintain calculations of its earnings and profits under US federal income tax principles, it is expected that distributions generally will be reported to US Holders as dividends. Such dividends will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction generally allowed to corporate US Holders.

Dividends paid to certain non-corporate US Holders of ordinary shares or ADSs may be subject to US federal income tax at lower rates than those applicable to other types of ordinary income if certain conditions are met. Non-corporate US Holders should consult their own tax advisers to determine whether they are subject to any special rules that limit their ability to be taxed at these favourable rates.

Taxation of capital gains

US Holders, who are not resident for tax purposes in the UK, will not generally be liable for UK capital gains tax on any capital gain realised upon the sale or other disposition of ADSs or ordinary shares unless the ADSs or ordinary shares are held in connection with a trade carried on in the UK through a permanent establishment (or in the case of individuals, through a branch or agency). Furthermore, UK resident individuals who acquire ADSs or ordinary shares before becoming temporarily non-UK residents may remain subject to UK taxation of capital gains on gains realised while non-resident.

For US federal income tax purposes, gains or losses realised upon a taxable sale or other disposition of ADSs or ordinary shares by US Holders generally will be US source capital gains or losses and will be long-term capital gains or losses if the ADSs or ordinary shares were held for more than one year. The amount of a US Holder's gain or loss will be equal to the difference between the amount realised on the sale or other disposition and such holder's tax basis in the ADSs, or ordinary shares, each determined in US Dollars.

Inheritance and estate taxes

HM Revenue & Customs imposes inheritance tax on capital transfers which occur on death and in the seven years preceding death. HM Revenue & Customs considers that the US/UK Double Taxation Convention on Estate and Gift Tax applies to inheritance tax. Consequently, a US citizen who is domiciled in the USA and is not a UK national or domiciled in the UK will not be subject to UK inheritance tax in respect of ADSs and ordinary shares.

A UK national who is domiciled in the US will be subject to UK inheritance tax but will be entitled to a credit for any US federal estate tax charged in respect of ADSs and ordinary shares in computing the liability to UK inheritance tax. Special rules apply where ADSs and ordinary shares are business property of a permanent establishment of an enterprise situated in the UK.

US information reporting and backup withholding

Payments of dividends on, or proceeds from the sale of, ADSs or ordinary shares that are made within the US or through certain US-related financial intermediaries generally will be subject to US information reporting, and may be subject to backup withholding, unless a US Holder is an exempt recipient or, in the case of backup withholding, provides a correct US taxpayer identification number and certain other conditions are met.

Any backup withholding deducted may be credited against the US Holder's US federal income tax liability, and, where the backup withholding exceeds the actual liability, the US Holder may obtain a refund by timely filing the appropriate refund claim with the US Internal Revenue Service.

US Holders who are individuals or certain specified entities may be required to report information relating to securities issued by a non-US person (or foreign accounts through which the securities are held), subject to certain exceptions (including an exception for securities held in accounts maintained by US financial institutions). US Holders should consult their tax advisers regarding their reporting obligations with respect to the ADSs or ordinary shares.

UK stamp duty and stamp duty reserve tax

UK stamp duty is charged on documents and in particular instruments for the transfer of registered ownership of ordinary shares. Transfers of ordinary shares in certificated form will generally be subject to UK stamp duty at the rate of ½% of the consideration given for the transfer with the duty rounded up to the nearest £5.

UK stamp duty reserve tax (SDRT) arises when there is an agreement to transfer shares in UK companies 'for consideration in money or money's worth', and so an agreement to transfer ordinary shares for money or other consideration may give rise to a charge to SDRT at the rate of ½% (rounded up to the nearest penny). The charge of SDRT will be cancelled, and any SDRT already paid will be refunded, if within six years of the agreement an instrument of transfer is produced to HM Revenue & Customs and the appropriate stamp duty paid.

Transfers of ordinary shares into CREST (an electronic transfer system) are exempt from stamp duty so long as the transferee is a member of CREST who will hold the ordinary shares as a nominee for the transferor and the transfer is in a form that will ensure that the securities become held in uncertificated form within CREST. Paperless transfers of ordinary shares within CREST for consideration in money or money's worth are liable to SDRT rather than stamp duty. SDRT on relevant transactions will be collected by CREST at ½%, and this will apply whether or not the transfer is effected in the UK and whether or not the parties to it are resident or situated in the UK.

UK legislation provides for a charge to stamp duty (in the case of transfers) or SDRT to be payable at the rate of 1.5% of the consideration (or, in some cases, the value of the shares concerned) where ordinary shares are issued or transferred to the depositary or to certain persons providing a clearance service (or their nominees or agents) for the conversion into ADRs and will generally be payable by the depositary or person providing clearance service. In accordance with the terms of the Deposit Agreement, any tax or duty payable by the depositary on deposits of ordinary shares will be charged by the depositary to the party to whom ADRs are delivered against such deposits. Following litigation on the subject, HMRC has accepted that it will no longer seek to apply the 1.5% SDRT charge when new shares are issued to a clearance service or depositary receipt system on the basis that the charge was not compatible with EU law. HMRC has confirmed that it will not reintroduce the 1.5% charge on the issue of shares (and transfers integral to the raising of capital) into clearance service or depositary receipt systems following the UK's exit from the EU and the expiry of the associated implementation period, unless the relevant UK legislation is amended. In HMRC's view, the 1.5% SDRT or stamp duty charge continues to apply to transfers of shares into a clearance service or depositary receipt system unless they are an integral part of an issue of share capital. Specific professional advice should be sought before paying the 1.5% SDRT or stamp duty charge in any circumstances.

No liability for stamp duty or SDRT will arise on any transfer of, or agreement to transfer, an ADS or beneficial ownership of an ADS, provided that the ADS and any instrument of transfer or written agreement to transfer remains at all times outside the UK, and provided further that any instrument of transfer or written agreement to transfer is not executed in the UK and the transfer does not relate to any matter or thing done or to be done in the UK (the location of the custodian as a holder of ordinary shares not being relevant in this context). In any other case, any transfer of, or agreement to transfer, an ADS or beneficial ownership of an ADS could, depending on all the circumstances of the transfer, give rise to a charge to stamp duty or SDRT.

Shareholder information continued

Articles of Association

The following summarises certain material rights of holders of the Company's ordinary shares under the material provisions of the Company's Articles of Association, being those which were adopted at the 2019 Annual General Meeting and English law. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Companies Act and the Company's Articles of Association. In the following description, a 'shareholder' is the person registered in the Company's register of members as the holder of an ordinary share.

The Company is incorporated under the name Smith & Nephew plc and is registered in England and Wales with registered number 324357.

The Company's ordinary shares may be held in certificated or uncertificated form. No holder of the Company's shares will be required to make additional contributions of capital in respect of the Company's shares in the future. In accordance with English law, the Company's ordinary shares rank equally.

Directors

Under the Company's Articles of Association, a Director may not vote in respect of any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal in which he or she, or any person connected with him or her, has any interest which is to his or her knowledge a material interest other than by virtue of his interests in securities of, or otherwise in or through, the Company. This is subject to certain exceptions relating to proposals (a) indemnifying him in respect of obligations incurred on behalf of the Company, (b) indemnifying a third party in respect of obligations of the Company for which the Director has assumed responsibility under an indemnity or guarantee, (c) relating to an offer of securities in which he will be interested as an underwriter, (d) concerning another body corporate in which the Director is beneficially interested in less than 1% of the issued shares of any class of shares of such a body corporate, (e) relating to an employee benefit in which the Director will share equally with other employees and (f) relating to any insurance that the

Company is empowered to purchase for the benefit of Directors of the Company in respect of actions undertaken as Directors (and/or officers) of the Company.

A Director shall not vote or be counted in any quorum present at a meeting in relation to a resolution on which he is not entitled to vote.

The Board is empowered to exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money, subject to the limitation that the aggregate amount of all monies borrowed after deducting cash and current asset investments by the Company and its subsidiaries shall not exceed the sum of \$8,500,000,000.

Any Director who has been appointed by the Board since the previous Annual General Meeting of shareholders, either to fill a casual vacancy or as an additional Director, holds office only until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting (notice of which was given after his or her appointment) and then shall be eligible for re-election by the shareholders. The Company's Articles of Association provide that all Directors are subject to annual re-election in accordance with the UK Corporate Governance Code. If not re-appointed, a Director retiring at a meeting shall retain office until the meeting appoints someone in his place, or if it does not do so, until the conclusion of the meeting.

The Directors are subject to removal with or without cause by the Board or the shareholders. Directors are not required to hold any shares of the Company by way of qualification.

Under the Company's Articles of Association and English law, a Director may be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against liabilities he may sustain or incur in the execution of his duties.

Rights attaching to ordinary shares

Under English law, dividends are payable on the Company's ordinary shares only out of profits available for distribution, as determined in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the UK and by the Companies Act 2006. Holders of the Company's ordinary shares are entitled to receive final dividends as may be declared by the Directors and approved by the shareholders in a general meeting, rateable according to the amounts paid up on such shares, provided that the dividend cannot exceed the amount recommended by the Directors.

The Company's Board of Directors may declare such interim dividends as appear to them to be justified by the Company's financial position.

If authorised by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders, the Board may also make a direct payment of a dividend in whole or in part by the distribution of specific assets (and in particular of paid up shares or debentures of the Company).

Any dividend unclaimed after 12 years from the date the dividend was declared, or became due for payment, will be forfeited and will revert to the Company. Provided that during this 12-year period, at least three dividends whether interim or final on or in respect of the share in question have become payable, and provided further the Company has taken steps which the Board considers reasonable during this 12-year period to trace the shareholder (including, if appropriate, engaging a professional tracing agent) and has sent notice of the Board's intention to sell the shares, the Board can sell the shares and use such proceeds for any purpose that the Board thinks fit.

There were no material modifications to the rights of shareholders under the Company's Articles of Association during 2020. A resolution proposing the adoption of new Articles of Association is included within the business for the 2021 Annual General Meeting. In light of recent advances in technology, and in the context of lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic and in line with the views expressed by various shareholder bodies and regulators including the Financial Reporting Council, the Board has decided that it is appropriate that the Company should have additional flexibility in conducting its General Meetings in future. Accordingly, among other consequential and minor changes, it is proposed that the current Articles of Association be amended to set forth the basis upon which the Company could choose to hold 'hybrid' General Meetings (that is, a General Meeting at which Shareholders would be entitled to attend and participate remotely by means of electronic facilities). The proposed amendments do not permit the Company to hold entirely 'virtual' or 'electronic-only' meetings and shareholders will still be entitled to attend in person if they wish to do so (subject always to any security, health or safety measures or guidance imposed by the Government at the relevant time).

A summary of the material changes proposed to the current Articles of Association is set out in the explanatory notes within the 2021 Notice of Annual General Meeting.

Voting rights of ordinary shares

The Company's Articles of Association provide that voting at any General Meeting of shareholders is by a show of hands unless a poll, which is a written vote, is duly demanded and held. On a show of hands, every shareholder who is present in person at a General Meeting has one vote regardless of the number of shares held. On a poll, every shareholder who is present in person or by proxy has one vote for each ordinary share held by that shareholder. A poll may be demanded by any of the following:

- The Chair of the meeting;
- At least five shareholders present or by proxy entitled to vote on the resolution;
- Any shareholder or shareholders representing in the aggregate not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all shareholders entitled to vote on the resolution; or
- Any shareholder or shareholders holding shares conferring a right to vote on the resolution on which there have been paid-up sums in aggregate equal to not less than one-tenth of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right.

A Form of Proxy will be treated as giving the proxy the authority to demand a poll, or to join others in demanding one, as above.

It is the Company's usual practice to vote by poll at Annual General Meetings.

The necessary quorum for a General Meeting is two shareholders present in person or by proxy carrying the right to vote upon the business to be transacted.

Matters are transacted at General Meetings of the Company by the processing and passing of resolutions of which there are two kinds; ordinary and special resolutions:

- Ordinary resolutions include resolutions for the re-election of Directors, the approval of financial statements, the declaration of dividends (other than interim dividends), the appointment and re-appointment of auditors or the grant of authority to allot shares. An ordinary resolution requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes of those persons voting at the meetings at which there is a quorum.

- Special resolutions include resolutions amending the Company's Articles of Association, dis-applying statutory pre-emption rights or changing the Company's name; modifying the rights of any class of the Company's shares at a meeting of the holders of such class or relating to certain matters concerning the Company's winding up. A special resolution requires the affirmative vote of not less than three-quarters of the votes of the persons voting at the meeting at which there is a quorum.

Annual General Meetings must be convened upon advance written notice of 21-days. Other General Meetings must be convened upon advance written notice of at least 14-clear days. The days of delivery or receipt of notice are not included. The notice must specify the nature of the business to be transacted. Meetings are convened by the Board. Members with 5% of the ordinary share capital of the Company may requisition the Board to convene a meeting. Any two Members may call a General Meeting in order to appoint one or more additional Directors in the event that there are insufficient Directors to be able to call a General Meeting, or where they are unwilling to do so.

Variation of rights

If, at any time, the Company's share capital is divided into different classes of shares, the rights attached to any class may be varied, subject to the provisions of the Companies Act, with the consent in writing of holders of three-quarters in nominal value of the issued shares of that class or upon the adoption of a special resolution passed at a separate meeting of the holders of the shares of that class. At every such separate meeting, all the provisions of the Articles of Association relating to proceedings at a General Meeting apply, except that the quorum is to be the number of persons (which must be two or more) who hold or represent by proxy not less than one-third in nominal value of the issued shares of the class and at any such meeting a poll may be demanded in writing by any person or their proxy who hold shares of that class. Where a person is present by proxy or proxies, he is treated as holding only the shares in respect of which the proxies are authorised to exercise voting rights.

Rights in a winding up

Except as the Company's shareholders have agreed or may otherwise agree, upon the Company's winding-up, the balance of assets available for distribution:

- After the payment of all creditors including certain preferential creditors, whether statutorily preferred creditors or normal creditors;
- Subject to any special rights attaching to any other class of shares; and
- Is to be distributed among the holders of ordinary shares according to the amounts paid-up on the shares held by them. This distribution is generally to be made in US Dollars. A liquidator may, however, upon the adoption of any extraordinary resolution of the shareholders and any other sanction required by law, divide among the shareholders the whole or any part of the Company's assets in kind.

Limitations on voting and shareholding

There are no limitations imposed by English law or the Company's Articles of Association on the right of non-residents or foreign persons to hold or vote the Company's ordinary shares or ADSs, other than the limitations that would generally apply to all of the Company's shareholders.

Transfers of shares

The Board may refuse to register the transfer of shares held in certificated form which:

- Are not fully paid (provided that it shall not exercise this discretion in such a way as to prevent stock market dealings in the shares of that class from taking place on an open and proper basis);
- Are not duly stamped or duly certified or otherwise shown to the satisfaction of the Board to be exempt from stamp duty, lodged at the Transfer Office or at such other place as the Board may appoint and (save in the case of a transfer by a person to whom no certificate was issued in respect of the shares in question) accompanied by the certificate for the shares to which it relates, and such other evidence as the Board may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer and, if the instrument of transfer is executed by some other person on his behalf, the authority of that person so to do;

Shareholder information continued

- Are in respect of more than one class of shares; or
- Are in favour of more than four transferees.

Deferred shares

Following the re-denomination of share capital on 23 January 2006, the ordinary shares' nominal value became 20 US cents each. There were no changes to the rights or obligations of the ordinary shares. In order to comply with the Companies Act 2006, a new class of Sterling shares was created, deferred shares, of which 50,000 shares of £1 each were issued and allotted in 2006 as fully paid to the Chief Executive Officer. These shares were subsequently transferred and are now held by the Company Secretary, although the Board reserves the right to transfer them to a member of the Board should it so wish. These deferred shares have no voting or dividend rights and on winding up are only entitled to repayment at nominal value only if all ordinary shareholders have received the nominal value of their shares plus an additional US\$1,000 each.

Amendments

The Company does not have any special rules about amendments to its Articles of Association beyond those imposed by law.

Iran notice

Section 13(r) of the Exchange Act requires issuers to make specific disclosure in their annual reports of certain types of dealings with Iran, including transactions or dealings with Iranian government-owned entities, as well as dealings with entities sanctioned for activities related to terrorism or proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, even when those activities are not prohibited by US law and do not involve US persons.

The Group does not have a legal entity based in Iran, but in 2020 it exported certain medical devices to Iran, via sales by non-US entities, to a privately-owned Iranian distributor for sale in Iran. Sales by the distributor were made to hospitals that we understand are owned or controlled by the Government of Iran.

The Group's direct and indirect sales of US origin medical devices into Iran are permitted pursuant to section 560.530(a)(3)(i) of the Iranian Transactions and Sanctions Regulations, and its indirect sales of non-US origin medical devices into Iran are made in accordance with applicable law. The Group also provides training to its distributor(s) and surgeons in Iran as necessary and ordinarily incident to the safe and effective use of the medical devices, which is also permitted by applicable law.

In 2020, Smith+Nephew's gross revenues from sales to Iran were US\$nil and net losses were approximately US\$0.4m.

The Group is reporting the entire gross revenues and net losses for the activities described above, which figures include sales of US origin medical devices. Although the Group is not required to disclose the sales of US origin medical devices because such sales to Iran are licensed under US law, the Group is including sales of these devices in its total gross revenue and net profit figures as it does not separately break out revenues and profits by country of origin.

About Smith+Nephew

The Smith+Nephew Group (the Group) is a portfolio medical technology business with leadership positions in Orthopaedics, Advanced Wound Management and Sports Medicine, and revenue of approximately \$4.6bn in 2020. Smith & Nephew plc (the Company) is the Parent Company of the Group. It is an English public limited company with its shares listed on the premium list of the UK Listing Authority and traded on the London Stock Exchange. Shares are also traded on the New York Stock Exchange in the form of American Depositary Shares (ADSs).

This is the Annual Report of Smith & Nephew plc for the year ended 31 December 2020. It comprises, in a single document, the Annual Report and Accounts of the Company in accordance with UK requirements and the Annual Report on Form 20-F in accordance with the regulations of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Smith+Nephew operates on a worldwide basis and has distribution channels in over 100 countries. The Group is engaged in a single business activity, being the development, manufacture and sale of medical technology products and services.

In 2020, Smith+Nephew's operations were organised into three global franchises (Orthopaedics, Sports Medicine & ENT, and Advanced Wound Management) within the medical technology industry.

Smith+Nephew's corporate website, www.smith-nephew.com, gives additional information on the Group, including an electronic version of this Annual Report. Information made available on this website, or other websites mentioned in this Annual Report, are not and should not be regarded as being part of, or incorporated into, this Annual Report.

The terms 'Group' and 'Smith+Nephew' are used to refer to Smith & Nephew plc and its consolidated subsidiaries, unless the context requires otherwise.

For the convenience of the reader, a Glossary of terms used in this document is included on [page 237](#).

The product names referred to in this document are identified by use of capital letters and the \diamond symbol (on first occurrence on a particular page) and are trademarks owned by or licensed to members of the Group.

Presentation

The Group's fiscal year end is 31 December. References to a particular year in this Annual Report are to the fiscal year, unless otherwise indicated. Except as the context otherwise requires, 'ordinary share' or 'share' refer to the ordinary shares of Smith & Nephew plc of 20 US cents each.

The Group Accounts of Smith & Nephew plc in this Annual Report are presented in US Dollars. Solely for the convenience of the reader, certain parts of this Annual Report contain translations of amounts in US Dollars into Sterling at specified rates. These translations should not be construed as representations that the US Dollar amounts actually represent such Sterling amounts or could be converted into Sterling at the rate indicated.

Unless stated otherwise, the translation of US Dollars and cents to Sterling and pence in this Annual Report has been made at the Bank of England exchange rate on the date indicated. On 12 February 2021, the latest practicable date for this Annual Report, the Bank of England rate was US\$1.38 per £1.00.

The results of the Group, as reported in US Dollars, are affected by movements in exchange rates between US Dollars and other currencies.

The Group applied the average exchange rates prevailing during the year to translate the results of companies with functional currency other than US Dollars. The currencies which most influenced these translations in the years covered by this report were Sterling, Swiss Franc and the Euro.

The Accounts of the Group in this Annual Report are presented in millions (m) unless otherwise indicated.

Special note regarding forward-looking statements

The Group's reports filed with, or furnished to, the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), including this document and written information released, or oral statements made, to the public in the future by or on behalf of the Group, contain 'forward-looking statements' within the meaning of the US Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, that may or may not prove accurate. For example, statements regarding expected revenue growth and trading profit margins discussed under 'Outlook' and 'Strategic Priorities', market trends and our product pipeline are forward-looking statements. Phrases such as 'aim', 'plan', 'intend', 'anticipate', 'well-placed', 'believe', 'estimate', 'expect', 'target', 'consider' and similar expressions are generally intended to identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that could cause actual results, to differ materially from what is expressed or implied by the statements.

For Smith+Nephew, these factors include: economic and financial conditions in the markets we serve, especially those affecting healthcare providers, payers and customers; price levels for established and innovative medical devices; developments in medical technology; regulatory approvals, reimbursement decisions or other government actions; manufacturing and supply related risk; product defects or recalls; litigation relating to patent or other claims; legal compliance risks and related investigative,

remedial or enforcement actions; strategic actions, including acquisitions and dispositions and our success in performing due diligence, valuing and integrating acquired businesses; disruption that may result from transactions or other changes we make in our business plans or organisation to adapt to market developments and numerous other matters that affect us or our markets, including those of a political, economic, business, competitive or reputational nature; relationships with healthcare professionals; reliance on information technology and cybersecurity. Specific risks faced by the Group are described under 'Risk factors' on pages 215–219 of this Annual Report. Any forward-looking statement is based on information available to Smith+Nephew as of the date of the statement. All written or oral forward-looking statements attributable to Smith+Nephew are qualified by this caution. Smith+Nephew does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement to reflect any change in circumstances or in Smith+Nephew's expectations.

Product data

Product data and product share estimates throughout this report are derived from a variety of sources including publicly available competitors' information, internal management information and independent market research reports.

Documents on display

It is possible to read and copy documents referred to in this Annual Report at the Registered Office of the Company. Documents referred to in this Annual Report that have been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in the US may be read and copied at the SEC's public reference room located at 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington DC 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference rooms and their copy charges. The SEC also maintains a website at www.sec.gov that contains reports and other information regarding registrants that file electronically with the SEC. This Annual Report on Form 20-F and some of the other information submitted by the Group to the SEC may be accessed through the SEC website.

Corporate headquarters and registered office

The corporate headquarters is in the UK and the registered office address is:

Smith & Nephew plc,
Building 5, Croxley Park,
Hatters Lane, Watford,
Hertfordshire WD18 8YE UK.

Registered in England and Wales
No. 324357.

Tel. +44 (0)1923 477 100
www.smith-nephew.com

Cross reference to Form 20-F

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Item 15 Controls and Procedures	<u>96–97</u>
Item 16 (Reserved)	n/a
A – Audit Committee Financial Expert	<u>88</u>
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C – Principal Accountant Fees and Services for Audit Committees	<u>92, 161</u>
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F – Change in Registrant’s Certifying Accountant	n/a
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Glossary

Unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms have the meanings shown below:

Term	Meaning
ADR	In the US, the Company's ordinary shares are traded in the form of American Depositary Shares evidenced by American Depositary Receipts (ADRs).
ADS	In the US, the Company's ordinary shares are traded in the form of American Depositary Shares (ADSs).
Arthroscopic Enabling Technologies	A product group which includes a variety of technologies such as fluid management equipment for surgical access, high definition cameras, digital image capture, scopes, light sources and monitors to assist with visualisation inside the joints, radio frequency, electromechanical and mechanical tissue resection devices, and hand instruments for removing damaged tissue.
Advanced Wound Bioactives	A product group which includes biologics and other bioactive technologies that provide unique approaches to debridement and dermal repair/regeneration, and regenerative medicine products including skin, bone graft and articular cartilage substitutes.
Advanced Wound Care	A product group which includes products for the treatment and prevention of acute and chronic wounds, including leg, diabetic and pressure ulcers, burns and post-operative wounds.
Advanced Wound Devices	A product group which includes traditional and single-use Negative Pressure Wound Therapy, a patient monitoring system for pressure injury prevention and patient mobility monitoring, and hydrosurgery systems.
AGM	Annual General Meeting of the Company.
Arthroscopy	Endoscopy of the joints is termed 'arthroscopy', with the principal applications including the knee and shoulder.
ASC	Ambulatory Surgical Center.
Basis Point	One hundredth of one percentage point.
Chronic wounds	Chronic wounds are those with long or unknown healing times including leg ulcers, pressure sores and diabetic foot ulcers.
Company	Smith & Nephew plc or, where appropriate, the Company's Board of Directors, unless the context otherwise requires.
Companies Act	Companies Act 2006, as amended, of England and Wales.
Emerging Markets	Emerging Markets include Latin America, Asia (excluding Japan), Africa and Russia.
EPSA	Adjusted earnings per ordinary share as defined on page 224.
Endoscopy	Through a small incision, surgeons are able to see inside the body using a monitor and identify and repair defects.
ENT	Ear, Nose and Throat.
Established Markets	Established Markets are United States of America, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Japan.
Euro or €	References to the common currency used in the majority of the countries of the European Union.
FDA	US Food and Drug Administration.
Financial statements	Refers to the consolidated Group Accounts of Smith & Nephew plc.
FTSE 100	Index of the largest 100 listed companies on the London Stock Exchange by market capitalisation.
Group or Smith+Nephew	Used for convenience to refer to the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries, unless the context otherwise requires.
Health economics	A branch of economics concerned with issues related to efficiency, effectiveness, value and behaviour in the production and consumption of health and healthcare.
Hip Implants	A product group which includes specialist products for reconstruction of the hip joint.
IFRIC	International Financial Reporting Interpretations as adopted by the EU and as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

Term	Meaning
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU and as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.
Knee implants	A product group which includes an innovative range of products for specialised knee replacement procedures.
LSE	London Stock Exchange.
MDR	Medical Device Regulations.
MHRA	The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency in the UK.
Negative Pressure Wound Therapy	A technology used to treat chronic wounds such as diabetic ulcers, pressure sores and post-operative wounds through the application of sub-atmospheric pressure to an open wound.
NHS	The UK National Health Service.
NYSE	New York Stock Exchange.
Orthopaedic products	Orthopaedic reconstruction products include joint replacement systems for knees, hips and shoulders and support products such as computer-assisted surgery and minimally invasive surgery techniques. Orthopaedic trauma devices are used in the treatment of bone fractures including rods, pins, screws, plates and external frames.
Other Reconstruction	A product group which includes robotics-assisted surgery, bone cement and accessory products.
OXINIUM	OXINIUM material is an advanced load bearing technology. It is created through a proprietary manufacturing process that enables zirconium to absorb oxygen and transform to a ceramic on the surface, resulting in a material that incorporates the features of ceramic and metal. Management believes that OXINIUM material used in the production of components of knee and hip implants exhibits unique performance characteristics due to its hardness, low-friction and resistance to roughening and abrasion.
Parent Company	Smith & Nephew plc.
Pound Sterling, Sterling, £, pence or p	References to UK currency. 1p is equivalent to one hundredth of £1.
SEC	US Securities and Exchange Commission.
Sports Medicine Joint Repair	The Sports Medicine Joint Repair franchise includes instruments, technologies and implants necessary to perform minimally invasive surgery of joints.
Trading results	Trading profit, trading profit margin (trading profit expressed as a percentage of revenue), trading cash flow and trading profit to cash conversion ratio (trading cash flow expressed as a percentage of trading profit) are trend measures, which present the profitability of the Group. The adjustments made exclude the impact of specific transactions that management considers affect the Group's short-term profitability and cash flows, and comparability of results. Refer to page 223 for further information.
Trauma	A product group which includes internal and external devices used in the stabilisation of severe fractures and deformity correction procedures.
UK	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
Underlying growth	Growth after adjusting for the effects of currency translation and the inclusion of the comparative impact of acquisitions and exclusion of disposals.
US	United States of America.
US Dollars, \$ or cents or ¢	References to US currency. 1 cent is equivalent to one hundredth of US\$1.

References from Franchise areas

A Patient Testimonials

The patient testimonial(s) depicted herein represents the individual patient's own opinions, findings, beliefs, and/or experiences. Patients featured may have been compensated by Smith+Nephew for their time. Individual results will vary. Not everyone who receives a product or treatment will experience the same or similar results; results may vary depending on a number of factors, including each patient's specific circumstances and condition, and compliance with the applicable Instructions for Use. Smith+Nephew is not responsible for the selection of any treatment by a healthcare professional to be used on a particular patient. Smith+Nephew makes no representations, warranties, guarantees or assurances as to the availability, accuracy, currency or completeness of the information presented or its contents.

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Financial calendar

Annual General Meeting

The Company's Annual General Meeting ('AGM') will be held on **Wednesday, 14 April 2021** at **4:00 pm** at our **Expert Connect Centre, Building 5, Croxley Park, Hatters Lane, Watford, WD18 8YE**.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the social distancing restrictions and measures in place, aimed at reducing the transmission of the virus, we will be conducting our 2021 AGM as a hybrid meeting, enabling shareholders to attend and participate by electronic means. The physical location of the AGM is to be at Smith+Nephew's Expert Connect Centre, Building 5, Croxley Park, Hatters Lane, Watford, WD18 8YE. The physical meeting will merely ensure the minimum necessary quorum, with the majority of our Directors attending electronically rather than in person. Shareholders will be able to participate (voting and raising questions) electronically, in accordance with the UK Corporate Governance Code 2018 (the 'Code') and the Annual General Meeting Guidance published by the Financial Reporting Council ('FRC') in October 2020.

Registered shareholders have been sent either a Notice of Annual General Meeting or notification of availability of the Notice of Annual General Meeting, which contains further information on how to join the meeting electronically.

2021	
Annual General Meeting	14 April
First quarter Trading Report	11 May
Payment of 2020 final dividend	12 May
Half year results announced	29 July ¹
Third quarter Trading Report	4 November
Payment of 2021 interim dividend	October/ November

2022	
Full year results announced	February ¹
Annual Report available	February/March
Annual General Meeting	April



¹ Dividend declaration dates.



The inks used are renewable, biodegradable and emit fewer Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) than mineral-oil inks. They are based on high levels of renewable raw materials such as vegetable oils and naturally occurring resin. The inks do not contain any toxic heavy metals and therefore, do not pose a problem if placed in landfill.

Designed and Produced by Radley Yeldar.





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