# **ABBEY COVERED BONDS LLP Registered in England and Wales** No: OC312644 **ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** FOR THE YEAR ENDED **31 DECEMBER 2017**

#### **STRATEGIC REPORT**

The Members submit the Strategic Report together with their Report of the members and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017. The Strategic Report is required by law to be prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, as applicable to qualifying partnerships.

#### Principal activities

Abbey Covered Bonds LLP (the "Partnership") is a special purpose vehicle whose business is to acquire, inter alia, loans and their related security from Santander UK plc pursuant to the terms of the Mortgage Sale Agreement and to guarantee the Covered Bonds. The Partnership will hold the portfolio and the other charged property in accordance with the terms of the transaction documents.

The Partnership has provided a guarantee covering all guaranteed amounts when the same shall become due for payment, but only following service of a Notice to Pay or an LLP Acceleration Notice. The obligations of the Partnership under the Covered Bond Guarantee and the other transaction documents to which it is a party are secured by the assets from time to time of the Partnership and recourse against the Partnership is limited to such assets.

#### Likely future developments

The members do not expect any significant change in the nature of business in the foreseeable future.

#### The programme

Santander UK plc (the Issuer) issues covered bonds, which are a direct, unsecured and unconditional obligation of the Issuer. The covered bonds benefit from a guarantee from Abbey Covered Bonds LLP. The Issuer makes a term advance to Abbey Covered Bonds LLP equal to the sterling proceeds of each issue of covered bonds. Abbey Covered Bonds LLP uses the proceeds of the term advance to purchase portfolios of residential mortgage loans and their security from Santander UK plc. Under the terms of the guarantee, Abbey Covered Bonds LLP has agreed to pay an amount equal to the guaranteed amounts when the same shall become due for payment but which would otherwise be unpaid by the Issuer.

Prior to 1 June 2016, Abbey National Treasury Services plc was the issuer under the terms of the Covered Bond Programme and issued Covered Bonds to Covered Bondholders on each Issue Date. On 1 June 2016, Santander UK plc was substituted as issuer of the Covered Bonds (the 'Issuer') in place of Abbey National Treasury Services plc. The Covered Bonds will be direct, unsecured and unconditional obligations of the Issuer. Prior to 1 June 2016, Santander UK plc provided a guarantee, on a several basis as between itself and the Partnership, in respect of all Covered Bonds issued from time to time by the Issuer under the Programme and all other amounts payable by the Issuer under the Trust Deed. Following the substitution of Santander UK plc as Issuer in place of Abbey National Treasury Services plc, Santander UK plc has ceased to be a guarantor.

Under the terms of the Trust Deed, the Partnership has provided a guarantee, in respect of payments of interest and principal under the Covered Bonds. The Partnership has agreed to pay an amount equal to the Guaranteed Amounts when the same shall become due for payment but which would otherwise be unpaid by the Issuer. The obligations of the Partnership under the Covered Bond Guarantee constitute direct and (following service of a Notice to Pay or an LLP Acceleration Notice) unconditional obligations of the Partnership, secured as provided in the Deed of Charge. The Bond Trustee will be required to serve a Notice to Pay on the Partnership following the occurrence of an Abbey Event of Default and service of an Abbey Acceleration Notice. An LLP Acceleration Notice may be served by the Bond Trustee on the Partnership following the occurrence of an LLP Event of Default.

If an LLP Acceleration Notice is served, the Covered Bonds will (if an Abbey Acceleration Notice has not already been served) become immediately due and payable as against the Issuer and the Partnership's obligations under the Covered Bond Guarantee will be accelerated.

Payments made by the Partnership under the Covered Bond Guarantee will be made subject to, and in accordance with, the Guarantee Priority of Payments or the Post-Enforcement Priority of Payments, as applicable. The recourse of the Covered Bondholders to the Partnership under the Covered Bond Guarantee will be limited to the assets of the Partnership from time to time.

The loans within the portfolio are monitored and assessed for impairment on a regular basis at a group level as, under International Accounting Standard ("IAS") 39 'Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement,' the beneficial interest in a mortgage portfolio fails the criteria for recognition within the Partnership's financial statements and remains in the Balance Sheet of Santander UK plc. The impairment policy applied by Santander UK plc is equivalent to the impairment of financial assets policy of the Partnership.

The loans included within the underlying portfolio include repayment loans and interest only loans with balances of less than £1 million.

The members believe that the performance of the portfolio has been positive.

### **STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### Key performance

The Partnership received interest and similar income of £501m (2016: £598m) and incurred interest expense and similar charges of £478m (2016: £564m) during the year. The decrease in the loans and debts due to related parties of £1,141m (2016: increase of £372m) is largely due to the £3,588m of bonds redeemed in the year (2016: £3,258m) less £2,250m of new bonds issued in the year (2016:£1,457m) on its behalf by Abbey National Treasury Services plc and Santander UK plc less the foreign exchange loss of £303m (2016: foreign exchange loss £2,036m) plus hedging movement of £297m (2016: loss £136m).

The key performance indicators used by management are predominantly consideration of whether there have been breaches of the transaction documents. However there are certain measures (triggers) set out in the transaction documents which are relevant to the Partnership including assessing whether all counterparties involved in the transaction have a rating that remains adequate to support their on-going roles in the programme, and arrears related events. There were no triggers breached in the year.

#### Fair review of the Partnership's business

Santander UK Group Holdings plc group (the "Group") manages its operations on a divisional basis. For this reason, the members believe that further key performance indicators for the Partnership are not necessary or appropriate for an understanding of the development, performance or position of the business. The performances of the divisions of Santander UK plc, which include the Partnership, are discussed in the Group's Annual Report which does not form part of this Report.

The purpose of this Report is to provide information to the members of the Partnership and as such it is only addressed to those members. The Report may contain certain forward-looking statements with respect to the operations, performance and financial condition of the Partnership. By their nature, these statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties since future events, circumstances and other factors can cause results and developments to differ materially from the plans, objectives, expectations and intentions expressed in such forwardlooking statements. Members should consider this when relying on any forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements reflect knowledge and information available at the date of preparation of this Report and the Partnership undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement during the year. Nothing in this Report should be construed as a profit forecast.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties facing the Partnership

The Partnership's principal risks and uncertainties together with the processes that are in place to monitor and mitigate those risks where possible can be found in Notes 3 and 16.

Approved by the members

agement Board

For and on behalf of the Partnership

30 April 2018

Registered Office Address: 2 Triton Square, Regent's Place, London, NW1 3AN

#### **MEMBERS' REPORT**

The members submit their report together with the Strategic Report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017.

#### Results

The total profit for the year ended 31 December 2017 amounted to £89m (2016: loss £16m).

#### Subsequent events

There have been three new issuances between the end of 2017 and the date of signing. On 10th January 2018 Series 67 was issued for €1m (Euros). On 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018 Series 66 Tranche 1 was issued for £0.5m, and on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018 Series 68 was issued for £1m.

On 24th January 2018, Series 22, Series 22 Tranche 2, Series 22 Tranche 3 and Series 22 Tranche 4 were redeemed for £1.283bn

#### Designated members

The designated members who served throughout the year and to the date of this report were as follows:

Santander UK plc Abbey Covered Bonds (LM) Limited

#### Members' interests

The policy regarding the allocation of results to members and the treatment of capital contributions and drawings is set out in the accounting policies in Note 1 to the financial statements.

#### Statement of members' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements

The members are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Company law, as applied to limited liability partnerships by the Limited Liability Partnerships (Accounts and Audit) (Application of Companies Act 2006) Regulations 2008 (the "Regulations"), requires the members to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the members have prepared the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union. Under company law, as applied to limited liability partnerships, the members 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 limited liability partnership and of the profit or loss of the limited liability partnership for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the members are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- state whether applicable IFRSs as adopted by the European Union have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the limited liability partnership will continue in business.

The members are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the limited liability partnership's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the limited liability partnership and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 as applied to limited liability partnerships by the Regulations.

The members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the limited liability partnership and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### Statement of going concern

The Partnership's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Strategic Report. The financial position of the Partnership, its cash flows, liquidity position and borrowing facilities are set out in the financial statements. In addition, Notes 3 and 16 to the financial statements include the Partnership's financial risk management objectives; its exposures to credit risk and liquidity risk; and its policies and processes for managing its capital.

The members acknowledge that the Partnership is in a net liability position. However, under the terms of the bonds in issue, the mortgage balance in the Partnership has to be maintained at a value at least equivalent to the value of note principal in issue. As at 31 December 2017, the book value of residential mortgage loans that Santander UK plc had assigned legal title to the Covered Bond structure was £19.7bn (2016: 20.3bn). The Covered Bond structure is over collateralised by £3.6bn (2016: 3.3bn). The Covered Bond structure acquired interest in a portfolio of mortgage loans was £19.7bn (2016: £20.3bn) and the sterling equivalent of notes issued by the Covered Bond programme was £16.1bn (2016: 17.0bn).

### MEMBERS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### Statement of going concern (continued)

In addition, the Partnership has cash balances and reserves totalling £3,846m (2016: £3,133m).

The members, having considered the financial position of the Partnership and the Covered Bond structure as a whole, believe that the Partnership is well placed to manage its business risks successfully.

The members have a reasonable expectation that the Partnership has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements.

#### **Financial instruments**

The Partnership's financial instruments, other than derivatives, comprise loans and other debts to group undertakings, borrowings, cash and liquid resources, and various items, such as other assets and liabilities that arise directly from its operations. The main purpose of these financial instruments is to raise finance for the Group's operations.

The Partnership also enters into derivative transactions (principally cross currency swaps and interest rate swaps). The purpose of such transactions is to manage the currency and interest rate risks arising from the Partnership's operations and its sources of finance.

It is, and has been throughout the year under review, the Partnership's policy that no trading in financial instruments shall be undertaken.

The main risks arising from the Partnership's financial instruments are currency risk and interest rate risk. The Partnership has loans payable denominated in Euros and Norwegian Kroner. The Board reviews and agrees policies for managing these risks. The Partnership's policy is to eliminate all exposures arising from movements in exchange rates and interest rates by the use of cross currency swaps or interest rate swaps to hedge payments of interest and principal on the securities.

All other assets, liabilities and transactions are denominated in Sterling.

Further disclosures regarding the financial risk management objectives and policies and the Partnership's exposure to principal risks can be found in Note 3.

#### Independent Auditors

Each of the members as at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as the member is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Partnership's auditors are unaware; and
- the member has taken all reasonable steps that he/she ought to have taken as a member to make himself/herself aware of any
  relevant audit information and to establish that the Partnership's auditors are aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 as applied to limited liability partnerships by the Limited Liability Partnerships (Accounts and Audit) (Application of Companies Act 2006) Regulations 2008.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP are deemed to be re-appointed as auditors under Section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the members

For and on behalf of the Partnership Designated Member 30 April 2018

Registered Office Address: 2 Triton Square, Regent's Place, London, NW1 3AN

# Independent auditors' report to the members of Abbey Covered Bonds LLP

#### **Report on the audit of the financial statements**

#### Opinion

In our opinion, Abbey Covered Bonds LLP's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the limited liability partnership's affairs as at 31 December 2017 and of its profit and cash flows for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 as applied to limited liability partnerships by the Limited Liability Partnerships (Accounts and Audit) (Application of Companies Act 2006) Regulations 2008.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the balance sheet as at 31 December 2017; the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of cash flows, the statement of changes in members' interests for the year then ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Independence

We remained independent of the limited liability partnership in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which ISAs (UK) require us to report to you when:

- the members' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the members have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the limited liability partnership's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the limited liability partnership's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The members are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

#### Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

#### Responsibilities of the members for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of members' responsibilities set out on page 3, the members are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The members are also 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.

In preparing the financial statements, the members are responsible for assessing the limited liability partnership'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 the members either intend to liquidate the limited liability partnership or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### ABBEY COVERED BONDS LLP - OC312644

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 an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with 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 the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

#### Use of this report

This report, including the opinion, has been prepared for and only for the members of the partnership as a body in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 as applied to limited liability partnerships by the Limited Liability Partnerships (Accounts and Audit) (Application of Companies Act 2006) Regulations 2008 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

#### Other required reporting

#### **Companies Act 2006 exception reporting**

Under the Companies Act 2006 as applicable to limited liability partnerships we are required to report to you if, in our opinion: • we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the limited liability partnership, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Jessica Miller (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors London 30 April 2018

### PRIMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December

Continuing operations	Note	Year ended 31 December 2017 £000	Year ended 31 December 2016 £000
Interest and similar income	5	500,631	597,437
Interest expense and similar charges	6	(477,954)	(563,750)
Net interest income		22,677	33,687
Administration expenses		(23,951)	(26,986)
Net other operating income / (expense)	7	90,676	(23,150)
Total operating profit / (loss) for the year	8	89,402	(16,449)
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	~
Total comprehensive income / (expense) for the year		89,402	(16,449)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS' OTHER INTERESTS

For the year ended 31 December

	Members' capital £000	Members' accumulated losses £000	Members' other interests £000
Members' interest as at 1 January 2016	-	(333,066)	(333,066)
Allocated result:			
Loss for the year available for division among members	-	(16,449)	(16,449)
Debit to loan capital	-	-	
Members' interest as at 31 December 2016			
and 1 January 2017	-	(349,515)	(349,515)
Allocated result:			
Profit for the year available for division among members	-	89,402	89,402
Debit to loan capital	-	-	-
Members' interest as at 31 December 2017		(260,113)	(260,113)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

### PRIMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### **BALANCE SHEET**

As at 31 December

		2017	2016
	Notes	£000	£000
Cash and cash equivalents	9	4,550,444	3,816,682
	10 & 11		2,287,873
Derivative financial instruments - assets Loans and other debts due from members	12	11,325,728	13,293,056
Total assets		18,127,406	19,397,611
Derivative financial instruments - liabilities	10 & 11	(575,093)	(799,797)
Loans and debts due to related parties	13	(16,854,496)	(17,995,288)
Other liabilities	14	(957,930)	(952,041)
Total liabilities		(18,387,519)	(19,747,126)
Net liabilities attributable to members		(260,113)	(349,515)
Members' other interests			
Members' capital		-	-
Members' accumulated losses		(260,113)	(349,515)
Total members' other interests		(260,113)	(349,515)
Total members' interests			
Members' accumulated losses		(260,113)	(349,515)
Loans and other debts due from members	12	(11,325,728)	(13,293,056)
Derivative financial instruments - liabilities	11	560,882	794,174
Loans and debts due to members	13	16,854,496	794,174 17,995,288
Total members' interests		5,829,537	5,146,891

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 25 were approved by the members and signed on its behalf by:  $<\cdot$  Som wells

For and on behalf of the Partnership Abbey Covered Bonds LLP

30 April 2018

# PRIMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 December

	2017	2016
	Note £000	£000
Cash flows generated by / (used in) operating activities		
Profit / (loss) for the year	89,402	(16,449)
Adjustments for non-cash items included in profit:		
Foreign exchange movement on loans and debts due to related parties	(1,608)	1,834,891
Foreign exchange movement on derivative financial instruments	(29,715)	(1,953,173)
Foreign exchange movement on other liabilities	(751)	(8,220)
Movement on hedging instruments	218,218	(91,291)
Operating cash flows before movements in working capital	275,546	(234,242)
Decrease in total derivative financial instruments	(158,350)	(207,900)
Increase in other liabilities	6,640	296,697
Net cash generated by / (used in) operating activities	123,836	(145,445)
Cash flows generated by investing activities		
Loans repaid by members	1,967,328	1,908,064
Net cash generated by investing activities	1,967,328	1,908,064
Cash flows used in financing activities		
Net redemption of loans to related parties	(1,357,402)	(1,372,049)
Net cash used in financing activities	(1,357,402)	(1,372,049)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents during the year	733,762	390,570
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	3,816,682	3,426,112
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	9 4,550,444	3,816,682

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The principal accounting policies adopted in the presentation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### General Information

The Partnership is a limited liability partnership, domiciled and incorporated in the United Kingdom and is part of a European listed group whose ultimate parent is Banco Santander SA. The registered office address of the Partnership is 2 Triton Square, Regent's Place, London NW1 3AN.

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and IFRS Interpretations Committee (IFRS IC) interpretations as adopted by the European Union and the Companies Act 2006 applicable to partnership reporting under IFRS.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and on a going concern basis as disclosed in the Directors' statement of going concern set out in the Report of the Directors, as modified by financial assets and financial liabilities held at fair value through profit or loss and all derivative contracts. An assessment of the appropriateness of the adoption of the going concern basis of accounting is disclosed in the statement of going concern set out in the members' report.

The functional and presentation currency of the partnership is sterling.

#### Future accounting developments

a) At 31 December 2017, the Partnership has not yet adopted the following significant new or revised standards and interpretations, and amendments thereto, which have been issued but which are not yet effective for the Partnership:

IFRS 9 'Financial Instruments' (IFRS 9) – In July 2014, the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) approved IFRS 9 to replace IAS 39 'Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement'.

IFRS 9 sets out the requirements for recognition and measurement of financial instruments. The main new developments of the standard are discussed below.

Classification and measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities: Under IFRS 9, financial assets are classified on the basis of the business model within which they are held and their contractual cash flow characteristics. These factors determine whether the financial assets are measured at amortised cost, fair value through other comprehensive income or fair value through profit or loss. Both tests were applied to financial assets at 31 December 2017, and gave rise to no classification and measurement changes for the Partnership.

Impairment: IFRS 9 introduces fundamental changes to the impairment of financial assets measured at amortised cost or at fair value through other comprehensive income, lease receivables and certain commitments to extend credit and financial guarantee contracts. It is no longer necessary for losses to be incurred before credit losses are recognised. Instead, under IFRS 9, an entity always accounts for expected credit losses (ECLs), and any changes in those ECLs. The ECL approach must reflect both current and forecast changes in macroeconomic data over a horizon that extends from 12 months to the remaining life of the asset if a borrower's credit risk is deemed to have deteriorated significantly at the reporting date compared to the origination date. The estimate of ECLs should reflect an unbiased and probability-weighted amount that is determined by evaluating a range of possible outcomes and considering reasonable and supportable information at the reporting date. Similar to the current incurred credit loss provisioning approach, management will exercise judgement as to whether additional adjustments are required in order to adequately reflect possible events or current conditions that could affect credit risk.

Hedge accounting: The general hedge accounting requirements align more closely with risk management practices and establish a more principle-based approach thereby allowing hedge accounting to be applied to a wider variety of hedging instruments and risks. Macro hedge accounting is being dealt with as a separate project. Until such time as that project is complete, and to remove any potential conflict between any existing macro hedge accounting undertaken under IAS 39 and the new general hedge accounting requirements of IFRS 9, entities can choose to continue to apply the existing hedge accounting requirements in IAS 39. The Partnership has decided to continue IAS 39 hedge accounting and consequently, there are no changes being implemented to hedge accounting policies and practices.

Transition and impact: IFRS 9 has been endorsed for use in the European Union. The mandatory effective date of IFRS 9 is 1 January 2018. For the Partnership, the application of IFRS 9 resulted in no changes to members' interest at 1 January 2018.

b) IFRS 15 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers' (IFRS 15) – In May 2014, the IASB issued IFRS 15. The effective date of IFRS 15 is 1 January 2018. The standard establishes a principles-based approach for revenue recognition and introduces the concept of recognising revenue for performance obligations as they are satisfied. Revenue relating to lease contracts, insurance contracts and financial instruments is outside the scope of IFRS 15. For Santander UK group's fee and commission income, which is within the scope of the standard, income is recognised as services are provided and this continues under the performance obligation approach in IFRS 15. Consequently, there have been no significant changes in the recognition of in scope income and, consequently, IFRS 15 has no material impact on these Financial Statements.

# 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

c) IFRS 16 'Leases' (IFRS 16) – In January 2016, the IASB issued IFRS 16. The standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019. Earlier adoption is permitted for entities that apply IFRS 15 at or before the date of initial application of IFRS 16. IFRS 16 sets out the principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure for both lessees and lessors. For lessee accounting, IFRS 16 introduces a single lessee accounting model and requires a lessee to recognise a right-of-use asset representing its right to use the underlying leased asset and a lease liability representing its obligation to make lease payments for all leases with a term of more than 12 months, unless the underlying asset is of low value. For lessor accounting, IFRS 16 substantially carries forward the lessor accounting requirements from the existing leasing standard (IAS 17) and a lessor continues to classify its leases as operating leases, and so IFRS 16 will not have an effect on these Financial Statements.

#### Foreign currency translation

Items included in the financial statements of the Partnership are measured using the currency that best reflects the economic substance of the underlying events and circumstances relevant to the Partnership (the "functional currency"). The functional and presentation currency of the Partnership is Sterling.

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency at the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities that are denominated in foreign currencies are translated into the functional currency of the Partnership at the rates in effect at the balance sheet date. Non-monetary items carried at fair value that are denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates prevailing at the date when the fair value was determined. Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are not retranslated. Foreign currency translation differences are recognised in profit or loss and are included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### Interest income and expense

Interest income on financial assets that are classified as loans and receivables and interest expense on financial liabilities other than those at fair value through profit and loss are determined using the effective interest method. The effective interest rate is the rate that discounts the estimated future cash payments or receipts over the expected life of the instrument or, when appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability.

When calculating the effective interest rate, the future cash flows are estimated after considering all the contractual terms of the instrument excluding future credit losses. The calculation includes all amounts paid or received by the Partnership that are an integral part of the overall return, direct incremental transaction costs related to the acquisition, issue or disposal of the financial instrument and all other premiums or discounts.

Interest income and expense is shown gross in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### Loans and other debts due from members

The Partnership's beneficial interest in the mortgage portfolio has been acquired from Santander UK plc. The sale by Santander UK plc of the beneficial interest does not, however, pass the recognition criteria as described in IAS 39 and therefore no beneficial interest in a mortgage portfolio is shown in the Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2017. This is further described in the paragraphs below.

#### Recognition

Under IAS 39, the legal transfer of the beneficial interest in a mortgage portfolio from Santander UK plc to the Partnership fails the criteria for recognition in the financial statements of the Partnership. As no transfer has occurred for accounting purposes the beneficial interest has not been recognised in the Partnership's financial statements and remains in the Balance Sheet of Santander UK plc.

The beneficial interest in the mortgage portfolio is replaced by a related party deemed loan included in Loans and other debts due from members on the Partnership's Balance Sheet. The related party loan is recorded at the book value of the issuance at the time of transfer less any subsequent repayments of capital less deferred consideration due.

# 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets and liabilities are initially recognised when the Partnership becomes a party to the contractual terms of the instrument. The Partnership determines the classification of its financial assets and liabilities at initial recognition. Financial assets are classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, available-for-sale and held to maturity financial assets. The Partnership does not hold available-for-sale and held to maturity financial assets.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows have expired or the Partnership has transferred its contractual right to receive the cash flows from the assets and either: (1) substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred; or (2) the Partnership has neither retained nor transferred substantially all of the risks and rewards, but has transferred control. Financial liabilities are derecognised when extinguished, cancelled or expire.

A regular way purchase is a purchase of a financial asset under a contract whose terms require delivery of the asset within the timeframe established generally by regulation or convention in the market place concerned. Regular way purchases of financial assets classified as loans and receivables are recognised on settlement date; all other regular way purchases are recognised on trade date.

#### a) Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets and financial liabilities are classified as fair value through profit or loss if they are designated at fair value through profit or loss on initial recognition. Financial assets and financial liabilities classified as fair value through profit or loss are initially recognised at fair value and transaction costs are taken directly to the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are included directly in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. The Partnership's financial assets and liabilities that are classified as fair value through profit or loss are derivatives that are not designated in a hedging relationship.

#### b) Borrowings

Borrowings (which include loans and debts due to related parties shown in the Balance Sheet and accrued interest shown within other liabilities) are recognised initially at fair value, being their issue proceeds (fair value of consideration received) net of transactions costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently valued at amortised cost, using the effective interest method, or fair value through profit or loss dependent on designation at initial recognition.

The exception to this are financial liabilities which are designated in fair value hedge accounting relationships and are re-measured to fair value at each reporting period.

For each class of assets and liabilities not measured at fair value in the Balance Sheet but for which the fair value is disclosed, an entity discloses the information required by paragraph 93(b), (d) and (i) of IFRS 13 'Fair Value Measurement'. However, an entity is not required to provide the quantitative disclosures about significant unobservable inputs used in fair value measurements categorised within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy required by paragraph 93(d) of IFRS 13. For such assets and liabilities, an entity does not need to provide the other disclosures required by this IFRS.

#### **Derivative financial instruments**

Derivative financial instruments ('derivatives') are contracts or agreements whose value is derived from one or more underlying indices or asset values inherent in the contract or agreement, which require no or little initial net investment and are settled at a future date.

The Partnership holds cross currency swaps in order to manage foreign currency risk arising on the foreign denominated loans due to related parties. The Partnership also holds interest rate swaps to hedge significant future transactions and cash flows dependent on movement in interest rates.

Derivatives are recognised initially (on the date on which a derivative contract is entered into), and are subsequently remeasured, at their fair value. Fair values of over-the-counter derivatives are obtained using valuation techniques, including discounted cash flow and option pricing models. The Partnership holds no exchange traded derivatives.

Derivatives are contracted with Abbey National Treasury Services plc or counterparties that meet Group credit policies. If subsequently there is a ratings downgrade of the counterparty credit rating, remedial measures include provision of collateral for obligations under the relevant swap.

# 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Hedge accounting

The Partnership applies hedge accounting to represent, to the maximum possible extent permitted under accounting standards, the economic effects of its risk management strategies. Derivatives are used to hedge exposures to interest rates and exchange rates.

At the time a financial instrument is designated as a hedge (i.e., at the inception of the hedge), the Partnership formally documents the relationship between the hedging instrument(s) and hedged item(s), its risk management objective and strategy for undertaking the hedge. The documentation includes the identification of each hedging instrument and respective hedged item, the nature of the risk being hedged (including the benchmark interest rate being hedged in a hedge of interest rate risk) and how the hedging instrument's effectiveness in offsetting the exposure to changes in the hedged item's fair value attributable to the hedged risk is to be assessed. Accordingly, the Partnership formally assesses, both at the inception of the hedge and on an on-going basis, whether the hedging derivatives have been and will be highly effective in offsetting changes in the fair value attributable to the hedged risk during the period that the hedge is designated. A hedge is normally regarded as highly effective if, at inception and throughout its life, the Partnership can expect, and actual results indicate, that changes in the fair value or cash flow of the hedged items are effectively offset by changes in the fair value or cash flow of the hedged items are effectively in achieving its documented objective, hedge accounting is discontinued.

Where derivatives are held for risk management purposes, and when transactions meet the required criteria for documentation and hedge effectiveness, the derivatives may be designated as either: (i) hedges of the change in fair value of recognised assets or liabilities or firm commitments ('fair value hedges'); (ii) hedges of the variability in highly probable future cash flows attributable to a recognised asset or liability, or a forecast transaction ('cash flow hedges'); or (iii) a hedge of a net investment in a foreign operation ('net investment hedges'). The Partnership applies fair value hedge accounting but not cash flow hedge accounting or hedging of a net investment in a foreign operation.

#### a) Fair value hedge accounting

Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as fair value hedges are recorded in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, together with the changes in the fair value of the hedged asset or liability that are attributable to the hedged risk.

If the hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, changes in the fair value of the hedged item attributable to the hedged risk are no longer recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. For fair value hedges of interest rate risk, the cumulative adjustment that has been made to the carrying amount of the hedged item is amortised to the Statement of Comprehensive Income using the effective interest method over the period to maturity.

#### Impairment of financial assets

A financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired and impairment losses are incurred if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset (a 'loss event') and that loss event has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or group of financial assets. Objective evidence that a financial asset or group of assets is impaired includes observable data that comes to the attention of the Partnership about the following loss events:

- significant financial difficulty of the issuer or obligor;
- a breach of contract, such as a default or delinquency in interest or principal payments;
- the Partnership, for economic or legal reasons relating to the borrower's financial difficulty, granting to the borrower a concession that the Partnership would not otherwise consider;
- it becoming probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation;
- the disappearance of an active market for that financial asset because of financial difficulties; or
- observable data indicating that there is a measurable decrease in the estimated future cash flows from a group of financial assets since the initial recognition of those assets, although the decrease cannot yet be identified with the individual financial assets in the Partnership, including:
  - adverse changes in the payment status of borrowers in the Partnership; or
  - national or local economic conditions that correlate with defaults on the assets in the Partnership.

The Partnership first assesses whether objective evidence of impairment exists individually for financial assets that are individually significant, and individually or collectively for financial assets that are not individually significant. If there is no objective evidence of impairment for an individually assessed financial asset it is included in a group of financial assets with similar credit risk characteristics and collectively assessed for impairment.

Impairment for collectively assessed loans are calculated based on the probability of default, exposure at default and the loss given default, using recent historical data adjusted as considered appropriate to reflect current market conditions. An adjustment is made for the effect of discounting cash flows.

The only asset held by the Partnership that is at risk of material impairment is the loan to Santander UK plc, the repayment of which is dependent upon the performance of the residential mortgage portfolio. The risk of impairment is mitigated by the collateral within the Abbey Covered Bonds LLP securitisation structure.

The performance of the mortgage portfolio is continually assessed by Santander UK plc and external credit rating agencies. It follows that the impairment policies of Santander UK plc are applied by the Partnership.

# 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Valuation of financial instruments

Financial instruments that are classified or designated at fair value through profit or loss and all derivatives are stated at fair value. The fair value of such financial instruments is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date in the principal, or in its absence, the most advantageous market to which the Partnership has access at that date. The fair value of a liability reflects its non-performance risk.

Changes in the valuation of such financial instruments, including derivatives, are included in the line item 'Net other operating income' in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### (i) Initial measurement

The best evidence of the fair value of a financial instrument at initial recognition is the transaction price unless the instrument is evidenced by comparison with other observable current market transactions in the same instrument or based on a valuation technique whose variables include significant data from observable markets. Any difference between the transaction price and the value based on a valuation technique where the inputs are not based on data from observable current markets is not recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on initial recognition. Subsequent gains and losses are only recognised to the extent that they arise from a change in a factor that market participants would consider in setting a price.

#### (ii) Subsequent measurement

The Partnership applies the following fair value hierarchy that prioritises the inputs to valuation techniques used in measuring fair value. The hierarchy establishes three categories for valuing financial instruments, giving the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs.

The three categories are: quoted prices in active markets (Level 1), internal models based on observable market data (Level 2) and internal models based on other than observable market data (Level 3). If the inputs used to measure an asset or a liability fall to different levels within the hierarchy, the classification of the entire asset or liability will be based on the lowest level input that is significant to the overall fair value measurement of the asset or liability.

The Partnership categorises assets and liabilities measured at fair value within the fair value hierarchy based on the inputs to the valuation techniques as follows:

- Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market that the Partnership has the ability to access at the measurement date. The Partnership has no assets or liabilities measured at fair value that are classified as Level 1.
- Level 2: Quoted prices in non-active markets, quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities, recent market transactions, inputs other than quoted market prices for the asset or liability that are observable either directly or indirectly for substantially the full term, and inputs to valuation techniques that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data through correlation or other statistical means for substantially the full term of the asset or liability. Level 2 positions include exchange rate derivatives and interest rate derivatives (note 10).
- Level 3: Inputs to the pricing or valuation techniques that are significant to the overall fair value measurement of the asset or liability are unobservable. The Partnership includes interest rate derivatives that are classified as Level 3 (note 10).

#### Financial instruments valued using a valuation technique

In the absence of a quoted market price in an active market, management uses internal models to make its best estimate of the price that the market would set for that financial instrument. In order to make these estimations, various techniques are employed, including extrapolation from observable market data and observation of similar financial instruments with similar characteristics. Wherever possible, valuation parameters for each product are based on prices directly observable in active markets or that can be derived from directly observable market prices. Chosen valuation techniques incorporate all the factors that market participants would take into account in pricing transactions.

The Partnership did not make any material changes to the valuation techniques and internal models it used during the year ended 31 December 2017.

# 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Valuation techniques

The main valuation techniques employed in the Partnership's internal models to measure the fair value of the financial instruments disclosed above at 31 December 2016 and 2015 are set out below. The Partnership did not make any material changes to the valuation techniques and internal models it used during the years ended 31 December 2017 and 2016.

- A In the valuation of financial instruments requiring static hedging (for example interest rate and exchange derivatives), the 'present value' method is used. Expected future cash flows are discounted using the interest rate curves of the applicable currencies. The interest rate curves are generally observable market data and reference yield curves derived from quoted interest rates in appropriate time bandings, which match the timings of the cash flows and maturities of the instruments.
- B In the valuation of derivatives used to manage the interest rate risk associated with the beneficial interest on the mortgage portfolio, the 'present value' method is used. Expected future cash flows are discounted using the three month sterling LIBOR rate curves. The three month sterling LIBOR rate curves are generally observable market data which match the timings of the cash flows and maturities of the instruments. The future repayment of mortgages, which is a key input in the calculation of the future cash flows, is not observable market data.

#### Internal models based on observable market data - derivative assets and liabilities

These instruments consist of exchange rate contracts and interest rate contracts. The models used in estimating the fair value of these derivatives do not contain a high level of subjectivity as the methodologies used in the models do not require significant judgement, and the inputs used in the models are observable market data such as plain vanilla interest rate swaps and option contracts. As the inputs used in the valuation are based on observable market data, these derivatives are classified within level 2 of the valuation hierarchy.

#### Contributions and drawings

Under the terms of the Limited Liability Partnership Deed describing the sale of the beneficial interest in the mortgage portfolio, Santander UK plc is legally treated as having made a capital contribution to the Partnership in an amount equal to the difference between the current balance of the loans assigned at transfer date and the cash payment made by the Partnership for the loans and relevant security on that transfer date. Transfers of mortgages in kind are also treated as capital contributions.

The member companies of the Partnership are Santander UK plc, the controlling party and Abbey Covered Bonds (LM) Limited. Both companies are incorporated in England and Wales.

Each member may from time to time make cash contributions to the Partnership which will constitute cash capital contributions. It is not intended that Abbey Covered Bonds (LM) Limited will make any capital contributions to the Partnership either in cash or in kind. No interest is paid on the members' capital balances.

Capital distributions are made in accordance with the Limited Liability Partnership Deed only once payments of a higher priority have been made and if sufficient principal receipts are available. All profits will be retained within the partnership until the maturity or redemption of the debt in issue. All retained profits will be allocated to Santander UK plc at this time.

As the sale of the beneficial interest in the mortgage portfolio does not pass the recognition criteria as described in IAS 39, capital contributions represent cash capital contributions only, as it has been deemed that the transfer of mortgages has never occurred. Therefore no capital contributions in kind have been recorded in these financial statements.

Under the priority of payments, payment pro rata and pari passu to the members of the sum of £3,000 (or such other sum as may be agreed by members from time to time) in aggregate, is allocated and paid to each member in proportion to their respective legal capital contribution balances calculated as per the Limited Liability Partnership Deed as at the relevant calculation date subject to a minimum of £1 per annum each, as their profit for their respective interests as members of the Partnership.

#### Deferred purchase consideration

Under the terms of the mortgage sale agreement, Santander UK plc, as the originator of the mortgage loans, legally retains the right to receive excess income ("deferred consideration") arising on those loans, after certain higher priority payments have been met by the Partnership. Deferred consideration is treated as a reduction in the interest due from Santander UK plc on the loans and other debts due from members arising on the failure to recognise the sale of the mortgages. Incremental elements of deferred consideration are recognised on an effective interest rate basis; all other elements are accounted for as incurred.

# 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise assets with less than three months' maturity from the date of acquisition, including cash, restricted balances and non-restricted balances with central banks, loans and advances to banks and amounts due from other banks.

#### Financial Guarantee

Financial guarantees are defined as contracts whereby an entity undertakes to make specific payments on behalf of a third party if the latter fails to do so, irrespective of the various legal forms they may have, such as guarantees, insurance policies or credit derivatives.

The financial guarantee is reviewed periodically to determine any credit risk exposure associated with the guarantee and, if appropriate, to consider whether a provision is required.

# 2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND AREAS OF SIGNIFICANT MANAGEMENT JUDGEMENT

The preparation of the Partnership's financial statements requires management to make estimates and judgements that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of income and expenses during the reporting period. Management evaluates its estimates and judgements on an on-going basis. Management bases its estimates and judgements on historical experience and on other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

The following accounting estimates and judgements are considered important to the portrayal of the Partnership's financial results and financial condition because: (i) they are highly susceptible to change from period to period as assumptions are made to calculate the estimates, and (ii) any significant difference between the estimated amounts and actual amounts could have a material impact on the Partnership's future financial results and financial condition.

In calculating each estimate, a range of outcomes was calculated based principally on management's conclusions regarding the input assumptions relative to historic experience. The actual estimates were based on what management concluded to be the most probable assumptions within the range of reasonably possible assumptions. There were no changes in the year.

#### Valuation of financial instruments

When estimating the value of its derivative assets and liabilities management considers a range of interest rates, exchange rates, counterparty credit ratings and other similar inputs, all of which vary across maturity bands. These are chosen to best reflect the particular characteristics of each transaction based on observable inputs and adjustments to these inputs for Level 2 instruments. Detailed disclosures on financial instruments can be found in note 1 and 11.

#### Impairment losses

The Partnership asses its financial assets for objective evidence of impairment at the Balance Sheet date. An impairment loss is recognised if, and only if, there is a loss event that has occurred after initial recognition and before the Balance Sheet date and that has a reliably measurable impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial assets.

### 3. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Partnership's risk management focuses on the major areas of credit risk, market risk and liquidity risk. Risk management is carried out by the central risk management function of the Santander UK Group. Authority flows from the Santander UK plc Board to the Chief Executive Officer and from him to his direct reports. Delegation of authority is to individuals. Formal standing committees are maintained for effective management of oversight.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that counterparties will not meet their financial obligations and may result in the Partnership losing the principal amount lent, the interest accrued and any unrealised gains, less any security held. The main source of credit risk is in the loans and other debts due from members and derivative financial instruments assets.

The maximum exposure to credit risk without taking into account collateral or credit enhancements is the carrying amount of the loans and other debts due from members of £11.3bn (2016: £13.3bn) and the fair value of derivative financial assets of £2.3bn (2016: £2.3bn).

At the balance sheet date all financial assets subject to credit risk were neither past due nor impaired.

As at 31 December 2017, the book value of residential mortgage loans that Santander UK plc had assigned legal title to the Covered Bond structure was £19.7bn (2016: £20.3bn). The Covered Bond structure is over collateralised by £3.6bn (2016: £3.3bn). The Covered Bond structure acquired interest in a portfolio of mortgage loans was £19.7bn (2016: £20.3bn) and the sterling equivalent of notes issued by the Covered Bond programme was £16.1bn (2016: £17.0bn).

The loans included within the underlying portfolio include repayment loans and interest only loans with balances of less than £1million. These are all secured on residential properties in the UK. For details on repurchase of loans please refer to the Securitisation Transaction document which can be found at <u>http://www.santander.co.uk/uk/about-santander-uk/debt-investors/santander-uk-covered-bonds</u>.

Derivatives are contracted with Abbey National Treasury Services plc or counterparties that meet Group credit policies. If subsequently there is a ratings downgrade of the counterparty credit rating, remedial measures include provision of collateral for obligations under the relevant swap.

The loans within the portfolio are monitored and assessed for impairment on a regular basis at a group level as, under International Accounting Standard ("IAS") 39 'Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement,' the beneficial interest in a mortgage portfolio fails the criteria for recognition within in the Partnership's financial statements and remains in the Balance Sheet of Santander UK plc. The impairment policy applied by Santander UK plc is equivalent to the impairment of financial assets policy of the Partnership.

Santander UK plc is rated periodically by credit rating agencies Standard & Poor's, Moody's Investors Service and Fitch Ratings, Ltd.

Santander UK plc's credit ratings are disclosed below as the financial assets of the Covered Bond structure are secured on mortgage assets within Santander UK plc. Santander UK plc, issues covered bonds on behalf of the Covered Bonds securitisation structure, which are guaranteed by a pool of Santander UK plc's mortgage loans that it has transferred into the structure and enters into financing arrangements with Group companies.

Further details can be found in the notes to the Group financial statements of Santander UK plc's Annual Report and Financial Statements and monthly investor reports of Abbey Covered Bond.

Santander UK plc's current credit ratings were:

	S & P	Stable Positive	Fitch
Long-term rating	A		A
Long-term rating outlook	Stable	Stable	
Short term rating	A-1	P-1	F1

#### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the potential that, although remaining solvent, the Partnership does not have sufficient liquid financial resources to enable it to meet its obligations as they fall due, or can secure them only at excessive cost.

In recognition that the Partnership is in a net liabilities position, the members ensure there are sufficient funds to meet payments as they fall due through related party funding.

The Partnership does not issue debt securities. These are issued by Santander UK plc (issued by Abbey National Treasury Services plc pre June 2016) on behalf of the Covered Bonds securitisation structure. The loans due from members are repayable when the associated bonds in issue are redeemed.

# 3. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

#### Liquidity risk (continued)

#### Maturities of financial liabilities

The table below analyses the maturities of the undiscounted cash flows relating to the financial liabilities of the Partnership based on the remaining period to the contractual maturity date at the Balance Sheet date. There are no significant financial liabilities related to financial guarantee contracts.

At 31 December 2017	On demand £000	1-3 months £000	3-12 months £000	1-5 years £000	Over 5 years £000	2017 Total £000
Loans and debts due to related parties	-	(1,350,293)	(838,760)	(10,095,441)	(4,570,002)	(16,854,496)
Derivative financial liabilities	-	(25,477)	(58,652)	(333,979)	(156,985)	(575,093)
Interest payable to related parties	(35,478)	(67,523)	(314,726)	(1,230,307)	(731,660)	(2,379,694)
Total	(35,478)	(1,443,293)	(1,212,138)	(11,659,727)	(5,458,647)	(19,809,283)

At 31 December 2016	On demand £000	1-3 months £000	3-12 months £000	1-5 years £000	Over 5 years £000	2016 Total £000
Loans and debts due to related parties	-	(750,000)	(2,792,892)	(9,601,351)	(4,851,045)	(17,995,288)
Derivative financial liabilities	-	(42,730)	(114,311)	(452,769)	(189,987)	(799,797)
Interest payable to related parties	(41,271)	(77,203)	(334,259)	(1,190,911)	(767,906)	(2,411,550)
Total	(41,271)	(869,933)	(3,241,462)	(11,245,031)	(5,808,938)	(21,206,635)

The maturity analyses above for derivative financial liabilities include the remaining contractual maturities for those derivative financial liabilities for which contractual maturities are essential for an understanding of the timing of the cash flows. The undiscounted cash flows for the derivative financial instruments comprise only the amounts payable under the contract. Under the terms of the contract these cash outflows are accompanied by related cash inflows.

Collateral calls on derivatives positions can pose a significant liquidity risk. Collateral calls may arise at times of market stress and when asset liquidity may be tightening. The timing of the cash flows on a derivative hedging an asset may be different to the timing of the cash flows of the asset being held, even if they are similar in all other respects. Collateral calls may be triggered by a credit downgrading. The Partnership manages these risks by including collateral calls in stress tests on liquidity, and by maintaining a portfolio of assets held for managing liquidity risk. As at 31 December 2017, the Partnership held cash collateral of £702m (2016: £683m).

#### **Operational risk**

Operational risk is the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events. This includes regulatory, legal and compliance risk. Operational risk is monitored and managed within the Group. An independent central operational risk function has responsibility for establishing the framework within which these risks are managed and is aligned to operational risk professionals within business areas to ensure consistent approaches are applied across the Group. The primary purpose of the framework is to define and articulate the Group-wide policy, processes, roles and responsibilities.

The day-to-day management of operational risk is the responsibility of business managers who identify, assess and monitor the risks, in line with the processes described in the framework. The operational risk function ensures that all key risks are regularly reported to the Group's, risk committee and board of directors.

#### Market risk

Market risk is potential for loss of income or decrease in the value of net assets caused by movements in the levels and prices of financial instruments. The Partnership is subject to market risk in the form of interest rate risk and currency risks from the fluctuations in the Euro and Norwegian Krone currencies.

In order to hedge against currency risks, the Partnership enters into cross currency swaps and as a result of this, the Partnership's total interest income and expense on financial assets and liabilities is based on the same rate of sterling LIBOR; it therefore has no material cash flow sensitivity to changes in currency rates in either 2017 or 2016. As a result, no sensitivity analysis is presented for currency risk as the changes to the two instruments will be equal and offsetting.

The Partnership also enters into interest rate swap contracts with Abbey National Treasury Services plc, a related party, to manage basis risk between interest flows on the cross currency swaps and on interest payments received from Santander UK plc. Hedge accounting is adopted for that funding so that the Partnership is hedged against the exposure to interest rate volatility from the movement in fair value of those interest rate swap contracts.

#### Market risk (continued)

The sensitivity analysis below has been determined based on the exposure to interest rates for floating rate interest bearing assets at the end of the reporting period. The analysis is prepared assuming that amount outstanding, for which amounts receivable are based upon, was outstanding for the whole year.

A 50bp positive or adverse movement in interest rates, with all other variables held constant, would result in a decrease in operating profit and increase in net liabilities of £31.0m (2016: £33.0m). A 50bp positive movement in interest rates, with all other variables held constant, would result in an increase in operating profit and decrease in net liabilities of £31.0m (2016: £33.0m).

### 4. BUSINESS AND GEOGRAPHICAL SEGMENTS

The Partnership operates in one business sector and all of the Partnership's activities are in the UK.

# 5. INTEREST AND SIMILAR INCOME

	Year ended 31 December 2017 £000	Year ended 31 December 2016 £000
Interest income from members	440,856	562,454
Bank interest income	10,800	20,715
Swap interest income	48,975	14,268
	500,631	597,437

### 6. INTEREST EXPENSE AND SIMILAR CHARGES

	Year ended 31 December 2017 £000	Year ended 31 December 2016 £000
Interest expense to Santander UK plc	477,954	563,750
	477,954	563,750

# 7. NET OTHER OPERATING INCOME / (EXPENSE)

	Year ended 31 December 2017 £000	Year ended 31 December 2016 £000
Fair value hedging:		
- (Losses) / gains on hedging instruments	(218,218)	91,291
- Gains / (losses) on hedged items attributable to hedged risks	222,364	(69,212)
Fair value hedging ineffectiveness	4,146	22,079
Fair value gains / (losses) on derivatives	54,456	(171,731)
Foreign exchange gains / (losses) on loans and debts due to related parties	1,608	(1,834,891)
Foreign exchange gain on derivative financial instruments	29,715	1,953,173
Foreign exchange gain on other liabilities	751	8,220
, orangit energing of generation and and and and and and and and and an	90,676	(23,150)

The gain / (loss) arising on adjustment for the hedged item in a designated fair value hedge accounting relationship relates to the loans and debts due to related parties, details of which are disclosed in note 13. This gain/ (loss) forms part of the net gains or net losses on financial liabilities carried at amortised cost.

# 8. TOTAL OPERATING PROFIT / (LOSS) FOR THE YEAR

#### Staff costs

The Partnership had no employees in the current or previous financial year.

#### Auditors remuneration

The audit fee for the current and prior year has been paid on the Partnership's behalf by Santander UK plc, in accordance with the Partnership's policy, for which no recharge has been made. The audit fee for the current year is £12,000 (2016: £11,000).

# 9. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Cash and cash equivalents	4,550,444	3,816,682
	4,550,444	3,816,682

Cash and cash equivalent balances due from Abbey National Treasury Services plc, a related party, was £702m (2016: £683m) and cash due from Santander UK plc, also a related party, was £3,848m (2016: £3,133m).

Cash held with Abbey National Treasury Services plc is classified as restricted, as it will be held until the swap is terminated either on maturity or on default, in accordance with the terms of the securitisation structure.

All cash balances held with Santander UK plc are held under a Guaranteed Investment Contract and are classified as restricted funds, as withdrawals are restricted by a priority of payments in accordance with the terms of the securitisation structure.

# **10. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The Partnership holds derivatives to manage the interest rate risk associated with the beneficial interest on the mortgage portfolio. These derivatives are held with Santander UK plc, a related party, and require the Partnership to pay a weighted average of the mortgage interest earned on the beneficial interest in the mortgage portfolio and receive payments based on a rate linked to three month sterling LIBOR. The derivatives are held at fair value in the Balance Sheet and any gains and losses are recorded in profit and loss in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. These derivatives are held at level 3 (2016: level 3) within the fair value hierarchy.

The Partnership also holds derivatives to economically hedge interest rate exposure and currency risk associated with the related party foreign currency loans. The cross currency swaps require the Partnership to pay a rate linked to three-month Sterling LIBOR and receive fixed rate payment in Euros and Norwegian Krone and the interest rate swaps require the Partnership to pay a rate linked to three-month Sterling LIBOR and receive fixed rate payment in Sterling. These derivatives are held at level 2 (2016: level 2) within the fair value hierarchy.

These derivatives are held at fair value in the Balance Sheet and any gains and losses are recorded in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. A number of cross currency swaps are designated in hedge accounting relationships however no derivatives designated as cash flow hedges.

# **11. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The following tables summarise the fair values of the financial asset and liability classes accounted for at fair value at 31 December 2016 and 2015, analysed by the valuation methodology used by the Partnership to determine their fair value, including their levels in the fair value hierarchy – level 1, level 2 and level 3.

31 December 2017				Internal mo	odels ba	ised on				Valuation
Balance Sheet cate	gory	Lev	vel 1 Level 2		Leve	Level 3		Total		
			%	£000	%	£000	%	£000	%	Techniqu
Assets										
Derivative assets	Foreign									
	exchange								74	
	contracts	-		1,673,670	74			1,673,670	74	
	Interest								26	
	rate swaps	-	-	577,564	26	-	-	577,564	26	
Total assets at fair	value	-	-	2,251,234	100	-	-	2,251,234	100	A
Liabilities										
Derivative	Foreign									
liabilities	exchange									
	contracts	-	-	14,211	100	2	-	14,211	2	<b>A</b>
	Interest									
	rate swaps	-	-	-	-	560,882	100	560,882	98	B
Total liabilities at fair value		•	-	14,211	100	560,882	100	575,093	100	•
31 December 2016				In	ternal m	odels based on				
										Valuation
Balance Sheet categ	lory	Level	1	Level 2		Level 3		Total	-2	technique
	5 - 22 	£000	%	£000	%	£000	%	£000	%	
Assets										
Derivative assets	Foreign exchange									
	contracts	-	-	1,617,117	71	-	-	1,617,117	71	
	Interest rate swaps	•		670,756	29	-		670,756	29	eseren
								2 207 072	100	- <u>,</u>
Total assets at fair	value	-	-	2,287,873	100		-	2,287,873	100	A

Total assets at fa	air value	-	-	2,287,873	100	-	-	2,287,873	100	A
Liabilities Derivative liabilities	Foreign exchange contracts			5.623	100	-	-	5,623	1	A
	Interest rate swaps	_	_	-	-	794,174	100	794,174	99	В
Total liabilities a	t fair value	-	-	5,623	100	794,174	100	799,797	100	

The main valuation techniques employed in the Partnership's internal models to measure the fair value of the financial instruments are set out on page 14.

# 11. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

### Effect of changes in significant unobservable assumptions to reasonably possible alternatives (Level 3)

The fair value of financial instruments are, in certain circumstances, measured using valuation techniques that incorporate assumptions that are not evidenced by prices from observable current market transactions in the same instrument and are not based on observable market data and, as such require the application of a degree of judgement. Changing one or more of the inputs to the valuation models to reasonably possible alternative assumptions would change the fair values significantly. The following table shows the sensitivity of these fair values to reasonably possible alternative assumptions.

Favourable and unfavourable changes are determined on the basis of changes in the value of the instrument as a result of varying the levels of the unobservable input as described in the table below. The potential effects do not take into effect any hedged positions.

#### 31 December 2017

				Sensi	tivity
	Fair value £'000	Assumption description	Shift	Favourable changes £'000	Unfavourable changes £'000
Derivative liabilities: Interest rate swaps	(560,882)	Weighted Average Mortgage Rate Payable	1%	26,767,061	(26,767,061)

#### Reconciliation of fair value measurements in Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy

The following table provides a reconciliation of the movement between opening and closing balances of level 3 financial instruments, measured at fair value using a valuation technique with significant unobservable inputs:

	Der	Derivatives	
	Assets £'000	Liabilities £'000	
At 1 January 2016		(794,174)	
Transfers in			
Total gains/(losses) recognised in profit/(loss)			
-Interest movements		(4,948)	
-Fair value movements	-	238,240	
At 31 December 2016	-	(560,882)	

### 12. LOANS AND OTHER DEBTS DUE FROM MEMBERS

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Loans and other debts due from Santander UK plc	11,325,728	13,293,056

# 13. LOANS AND DEBTS DUE TO RELATED PARTIES

5. LOANS AND DEDTS DOE TO RELAT	2017	2016
	£000	£000
Loans and debts due to related parties	16,854,496	17,995,288
These borrowings are repayable as follows:		
Less than 3 months	1,350,293	750,000
Between 3 and 12 months	838,760	2,792,892
Between 1 and 5 years	10,095,441	9,601,351
Greater than five years	4,570,002	4,851,045
Gleater than live years	16,854,496	17,995,288

The amount owing to related parties comprises a term advance equivalent to the amounts raised by Santander UK plc under its Covered Bond programme. The rate of interest payable in respect of each term advance matches the interest rate payable in respect of the corresponding tranche or series of covered bonds that funded the tranche.

Santander UK plc will not be relying on repayment of any term advances by the Partnership or the interest thereon in order to meet its repayment or interest obligations under the Covered Bond programme. The term advances will not be repaid by the Partnership until all amounts payable under the corresponding series of covered bonds have been repaid in full. Amounts owed by the Partnership to Santander UK plc will be subordinated to amounts owed by the Partnership under the Covered Bond Guarantee described below.

Under the terms of the trust deed, the Partnership has provided a guarantee as to payments of interest and principal under the covered bonds, where amounts would otherwise be unpaid by Santander UK plc. The obligations of the Partnership under its guarantee constitute direct obligations of the Partnership secured against the assets of the Partnership and recourse against the Partnership is limited to such assets. The principal asset is the interest in the mortgage portfolio acquired from Santander UK plc.

The amounts due to Santander UK plc mature at various dates between 20 January 2017 and 6 February 2032. The carrying amount of loans and debt from related parties approximates to its fair value.

Included in the carrying amount of loans from related parties are the following fair value hedge accounting valuation adjustments arising from these loans.

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Fair value hedge accounting valuation adjustments	701,784	883,608

The movements of the fair value hedge accounting valuation adjustments were:

£000
816,622
69,212
(2,226)
883,608
(222,364)
40,540
701,784

### **14. OTHER LIABILITIES**

	2017	2016
	£000	£000
		260.607
Accrued interest payable	255,775	200,007
Cash collateral (restricted)	702,155	683,344
	957,930	952,041

Other liabilities include £255.8m (2016: £268.7m) of accrued interest payable to Santander UK plc. Other liabilities are deemed repayable within one year.

# **15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

During the year, the Partnership entered into the following transactions with related parties:

	Interest income 2017 £000	Interest expense 2017 £000	Amounts due from related parties 2017 £000	Amounts due to related parties 2017 £000	Derivative financial instruments receivable 2017 £000	Derivative financial instruments payable 2017 £000
Santander UK plc	1,286,466	477,954	11,325,728	16,854,496		560,882
Santander UK plc Abbey National Treasury Services plc	-		-		1,452,302	14,211
			Amounts due from related		Derivative financial	Derivative financial
	Interest income	Interest expense	parties	parties	instruments receivable	instruments payable
	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016
	£000	£000		£000	£000	<u> </u>
Santander UK plc	597,437	327,454	13,293,056	17,995,288	-	794,174
Sandander ok pie				******		F (22

Abbey National Treasury Services plc

# **16. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES**

Santander UK plc adopts a centralised capital management approach, based on an assessment of both regulatory requirements and the economic capital impacts of businesses in the Santander UK group. Disclosures relating to the Partnership's capital management can be found in the Santander UK Annual Report and Financial Statements.

236,297

2,287,873

5,623

Capital held by the Partnership and managed centrally as part of Santander UK plc, comprises members' interests which can be found in the Balance Sheet on page 8. The Partnership's capital is not externally regulated.

Capital is managed by way of processes set up at inception of the Partnership and subsequently there is no active process for managing its own capital. The Partnership is designed to hold minimum reserves once all amounts due on the related party loans have been received and amounts owing, including deferred consideration, have been paid.

# 17. PARENT UNDERTAKING AND CONTROLLING PARTY

The member companies of the Partnership are Santander UK plc, the controlling party, and Abbey Covered Bonds (LM) Limited. Both companies are registered in England and Wales.

The administration, operations, accounting and financial reporting functions of the Partnership are performed by Santander UK plc, which is incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales.

Santander UK plc has been delegated administration and servicing functions in respect of the loans on behalf of the mortgages' trustee and the beneficiary as the service providers.

The Partnership is a Special Purpose Entity controlled by and is therefore consolidated within the Santander UK Group Holdings plc group financial statements.

The Partnership's ultimate controlling party is Banco Santander SA a company incorporated in Spain. Banco Santander SA is the parent undertaking of the largest group of undertakings for which group financial statements are drawn up and of which the Partnership is a member. Santander UK plc is the parent undertaking of the smallest group of undertakings for which the group financial statements are drawn up and of which the Partnership is a member.

Copies of all sets of group financial statements, which include the results of the Partnership, are available from Secretariat, Santander UK plc, 2 Triton Square, Regent's Place, London, NW1 3AN.