HSBC Bank Australia Ltd
A.B.N. 48 006 434 162

Financial Report

Year Ended 31 December 2014

HSBC

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Directors Report

The Directors of HSBC Bank Australia Limited (the “Company" or the “Bank”) submit their report, together with the financial report of the Company and of the consolidated entity, being the Company and its controlled entities, for the financial year ended 31 December 2014 and the auditor’s report thereon.

DIRECTORS

The Directors of the Company at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Graham J Bradley AM	Non-Executive Chairman
Carol J Austin	Non-Executive Director
Guy D Harvey-Samuel	Non-Executive Director
Richard G Humphry AO	Non-Executive Director
Mark G Johnson	Non-Executive Director
Jayant Rikhye	Non-Executive Director
Anthony W Cripps	Chief Executive Officer
Michael J Arnold	Chief Financial Officer

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the consolidated entity during the financial year were the provision of financial services comprising lending, deposit taking, domestic and international trade finance, custodial securities services, payments & cash management, money market services, interest rate and foreign currency trading and services, capital markets services, financial advice and futures clearing services.

The Company is a public limited company incorporated in Australia. The registered office is Level 32, HSBC Centre, 580 George Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

RESULT OF OPERATIONS

In 2014, HSBC Bank Australia Limited and its controlled entities reported a profit from continuing operations before tax of $329.9m down 10% from 2013, mainly as a result of the non-recurrence of a one-off litigation provision release in 2013.

Total assets remained flat at $25.9 billion, partially due to the sale of the Woolworths white label credit card portfolio to Macquarie Bank Limited in May 2014. The Bank continues to hold high levels of liquid assets in line with HSBC Group policy.

DIVIDENDS

Dividends paid or declared by the Company to shareholders since the end of the previous financial year were $111.8m (2013: $128.1m). Dividend payments decreased from 2013 in line with the movement in profits.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE STATE OF AFFAIRS

HSBC Bank Australia Limited continued to maintain a strong liquidity policy in line with local regulatory requirements and the HSBC Group, which, together with a strong capital position ensured that the Company was able to effectively service its longstanding commitment to its customers as well as maintain its competitive position in the domestic market. In the opinion of the Directors, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company or the consolidated entity during the financial year under review.

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

The Company and its controlled entities are not subject to any particular or significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO REPORTING DATE

There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Directors of the Company, to affect significantly the operations of the consolidated entity, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the consolidated entity, in future financial years.

LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS

Information about likely developments in the operations of the consolidated entity and the expected results of those operations in future financial years has not been included in this report because disclosure of the information would be likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the consolidated entity.

NON-AUDIT SERVICES

During the financial year KPMG, the consolidated entity's auditor, has performed certain other services in addition to their statutory duties.

The Directors have considered the non-audit services provided during the financial year by KPMG and in accordance with written advice provided by resolution of the Audit Committee, are satisfied that the provision of those non-audit services by the Company's auditor is compatible with, and did not compromise, the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 for the following reasons:

- All non-audit assignments were approved in accordance with the process set out in HSBC Holdings plc's Audit Committee terms of reference on the agreed framework for engaging auditors for non-audit services; and
- The non-audit services provided do not undermine the general principles relating to auditor independence as set out in Professional Statement F1 *Professional Independence*, as they did not involve reviewing or auditing the auditor's own work, acting in a management or decision making capacity for the Company, acting as an advocate for the Company or jointly sharing risks and rewards.

Details of the amounts paid to the auditor of the consolidated entity, KPMG, and its related practices for audit and non-audit services provided during the year are set out in note 7 of the financial statements.

The Accounts have been audited by KPMG.

On 2 August 2013, HSBC Holdings plc announced its intention to appoint PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP ('PwC') as auditors for the year ended 31 December 2015. It is proposed that the Company will also appoint PwC as auditors for the year ended 31 December 2015.

LEAD AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

The lead auditor's independence declaration is set out on page 86 and forms part of the Directors' Report for the year ended 31 December 2014.

INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

During the financial year, the consolidated entity paid premiums in respect of contracts insuring all the directors and certain officers of the Company and its controlled entities against any liability incurred in their role as directors or officers of the entity, except where:

a) the liability arises out of conduct involving a wilful breach of duty; or
b) there has been a contravention of Sections 182 and/or 183 of the Corporations Act 2001.

The Directors have not included details of the nature of liabilities covered or the amount of premium paid in respect of the directors' and officers' liability contracts, as such disclosure is prohibited under the terms of the contract.

DIRECTORS' BENEFITS

No Director of the Company has, since the end of the previous financial year, received or become entitled to receive a benefit (other than a benefit included in the aggregate amount of remuneration received or due and receivable by Directors shown in the consolidated financial statements) by reason of a contract made by the Company, a controlled entity or a related body corporate with the Director or with a firm in which the Director is a member, or with an entity in which the Director has a substantial interest, other than that disclosed in the attached financial statements.

REGULATORY DISCLOSURES

Full details of the market disclosures under Pillar 3 as required by Australian Prudential Standard 330 "Public Disclosure" are provided in the Regulatory Disclosures section of the Bank's website at www.hsbc.com.au.

ROUNDING OFF OF AMOUNTS

The Company is of the kind referred to in ASIC Class Order 98/100 dated 10 July 1998 (updated by CO 05/641 effective 28 July 2005 and CO 06/51 effective 31 January 2006) and, in accordance with that Class Order, amounts in this report and the accompanying financial statements, where appropriate, have been rounded to the nearest million dollars except where otherwise stated.

The report is made with a resolution of the Directors.

Graham J Bradley
Chairman

Anthony W Cripps
Director and Chief Executive Officer

Dated at Sydney this 11th February 2015

Income Statements

For The Year Ended 31 December 2014

		Consolidated		Company	
		2014	2013	2014	2013
	Note	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
Interest income	4(i)	1,050.2	1,133.4	1,050.2	1,133.4
Interest expense	4(ii)	(418.2)	(480.9)	(421.3)	(485.1)
Net interest income		632.0	652.5	628.9	648.3
Fee and commission income	4(iv)	216.2	232.1	216.6	232.7
Fee and commission expense	4(iv)	(37.6)	(37.2)	(35.0)	(34.3)
Net fee and commission income		178.6	194.9	181.6	198.4
Net trading income/(loss)	4(v)	4.8	(14.3)	4.8	(14.3)
Net loss from financial instruments designated at fair value	4(vi)	(2.9)	(3.0)	(2.9)	(3.0)
Net gain/(loss) from disposal of financial investments	4(vii)	0.1	3.1	0.1	3.1
Other operating income	4(iii)	91.7	65.5	91.7	67.1
Net other operating income/(loss)		93.7	51.3	93.7	52.9
Operating income before loan impairment charges and other credit risk provisions		904.3	898.7	904.2	899.7
Loan impairment charges and other credit risk provisions	5	(54.1)	(49.0)	(55.6)	(51.4)
Net operating income		850.2	849.7	848.6	848.3
Operating expenses					
- staff costs	6	(254.7)	(243.8)	(254.7)	(243.8)
- premises and equipment	6	(54.9)	(52.0)	(54.9)	(52.0)
- administrative expenses	6	(124.4)	(126.7)	(124.2)	(126.7)
- other expenses	6	(86.3)	(60.7)	(86.3)	(60.7)
Total operating expenses		(520.3)	(483.2)	(520.1)	(483.2)
Profit before income tax		329.9	366.5	328.5	365.1
Income tax expense	8	(99.3)	(106.7)	(98.9)	(106.0)
Profit for the period		230.6	259.8	229.6	259.1
Attributable to:					
Equity holders of the parent		230.6	259.8	229.6	259.1

The notes on pages 14 to 82 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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Statements Of Comprehensive Income

For The Year Ended 31 December 2014

		Consolidated		Company	
		2014	2013	2014	2013
	Note	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
Profit for the period		230.6	259.8	229.6	259.1
Other comprehensive income:					
Available for sale investments:					
- Fair value gains / (losses) taken to equity		4.9	(15.5)	4.9	(15.5)
- Net amount transferred to / (from) profit and loss		(2.3)	14.4	(2.3)	14.4
- Deferred tax on items taken directly to or transferred from equity		(0.6)	0.4	(0.6)	0.4
Cash flow hedges:					
- Net amount transferred to profit and loss		4.4	4.3	4.4	4.3
- Effective portion of changes in fair value		(16.2)	1.0	(16.2)	1.0
- Deferred tax on items taken directly to or transferred from equity		3.2	(1.7)	3.2	(1.7)
Other comprehensive income taken to equity during the period		(6.6)	2.9	(6.6)	2.9
Total comprehensive income for the period		224.0	262.7	223.0	262.0
Attributable to:					
Equity holders of the parent		224.0	262.7	223.0	262.0

The notes on pages 14 to 82 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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Statements Of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2014

		Consolidated		Company	
		2014	2013	2014	2013
	Note	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
ASSETS					
Cash and balances at central banks	30(b)	763.8	473.3	763.8	473.3
Items in the course of collection from other banks		4.5	3.6	4.5	3.6
Derivatives	10	98.8	75.7	98.8	75.7
Loans and advances to banks	28(b)	179.5	225.8	179.5	225.8
Loans and advances to customers	9	16,850.4	17,412.0	16,850.4	17,412.0
Financial investments	11	3,665.2	3,975.0	3,665.2	3,975.0
Other assets	15	4,164.5	3,516.2	4,163.6	3,515.9
Property plant & equipment	12	15.2	20.5	15.2	20.5
Intangible assets	14	63.5	58.9	63.5	58.9
Deferred tax assets	16(a)	81.0	73.6	81.0	73.6
TOTAL ASSETS		25,886.4	25,834.6	25,885.5	25,834.3
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY					
Deposits by banks		342.3	341.2	342.3	341.2
Customer accounts		22,348.2	20,664.0	22,348.2	20,664.0
Trading liabilities	17	86.3	112.2	86.3	112.2
Financial liabilities designated at fair value	17	43.5	38.8	43.5	38.8
Items in the course of transmission to other banks		26.2	32.2	26.2	32.2
Derivatives	10	123.1	97.8	123.1	97.8
Debt securities on issue	19	154.9	793.5	19.9	619.0
Provisions for liabilities and charges	20	2.3	47.7	2.3	47.7
Other liabilities	21	893.4	1,955.7	1,028.4	2,129.8
Employee benefits	22	37.4	34.9	37.4	34.9
Subordinated liabilities	18	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0
TOTAL LIABILITIES		24,257.6	24,318.0	24,257.6	24,317.6
NET ASSETS		1,628.8	1,516.6	1,627.9	1,516.7
EQUITY					
Share capital	23	811.0	811.0	811.0	811.0
Reserves	24	13.6	19.7	13.6	19.7
Retained earnings		804.2	685.9	803.3	686.0
TOTAL EQUITY		1,628.8	1,516.6	1,627.9	1,516.7

The notes on pages 14 to 82 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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Statements Of Changes in Equity

For The Year Ended 31 December 2014 - Consolidated

$'m	Share capital	Available for Sale Reserve	Cash flow Hedging Reserve	Capital contribution Reserve	Retained Profits	Total
Balance at 1 January 2014	811.0	15.4	(1.3)	5.6	685.9	1,516.6
Total comprehensive income for the year						
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	230.6	230.6
Other comprehensive income, net of income tax						
Cash flow hedges						
- Effective portion of changes in fair value	-	-	(13.0)	-	-	(13.0)
- Net amount transferred to profit and loss	-	-	4.4	-	-	4.4
Available for sale assets						
- Net Change in fair value	-	4.1	-	-	-	4.1
- Net amount transferred to profit and loss	-	(2.1)	-	-	-	(2.1)
Total other comprehensive income	-	2.0	(8.6)	-	-	(6.6)
Total comprehensive income for year	-	2.0	(8.6)	-	230.6	224.0
Transactions with Owners, recorded directly in equity						
Contributions by and distributions to owners						
- Share based payments						
contributed in the year	-	-	-	4.2	-	4.2
recycled to profit and loss	-	-	-	0.5	(0.5)	-
other	-	-	-	(4.2)	-	(4.2)
- Dividends to equity holders	-	-	-	-	(111.8)	(111.8)
Total Contributions by and distributions to owners	-	-	-	0.5	(112.3)	(111.8)
Balance at 31 December 2014	811.0	17.4	(9.9)	6.1	804.2	1,628.8

The notes on pages 14 to 82 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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Statements Of Changes in Equity (continued)

For The Year Ended 31 December 2013 - Consolidated

$'m	Share capital	Available for Sale Reserve	Cash flow Hedging Reserve	Capital contribution Reserve	Retained Profits	Total
Balance at 1 January 2013	811.0	16.1	(4.9)	5.8	555.9	1,383.9
Total comprehensive income for the year						
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	259.8	259.8
Other comprehensive income, net of income tax						
Cash flow hedges						
- Effective portion of changes in fair value	-	-	(0.7)	-	-	(0.7)
- Net amount transferred to profit and loss	-	-	4.3	-	-	4.3
Available for sale assets						
- Net Change in fair value	-	(10.3)	-	-	-	(10.3)
- Net amount transferred to profit and loss	-	9.6	-	-	-	9.6
Total other comprehensive income	-	(0.7)	3.6	-	-	2.9
Total comprehensive income for year	-	(0.7)	3.6	-	259.8	262.7
Transactions with Owners, recorded directly in equity						
Contributions by and distributions to owners						
- Cancellation of preference shares	(60.0)	-	-	-	-	(60.0)
- Issue of new ordinary shares	60.0	-	-	-	-	60.0
- Share based payments						
contributed in the year	-	-	-	3.9	-	3.9
recycled to profit and loss	-	-	-	1.7	(1.7)	-
other	-	-	-	(5.8)	-	(5.8)
- Dividends to equity holders	-	-	-	-	(128.1)	(128.1)
Total Contributions by and distributions to owners	-	-	-	(0.2)	(129.8)	(130.0)
Balance at 31 December 2013	811.0	15.4	(1.3)	5.6	685.9	1,516.6

The notes on pages 14 to 83 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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Statements Of Changes in Equity (continued)

For The Year Ended 31 December 2014 - Company

$'m	Share capital	Available for Sale Reserve	Cash flow Hedging Reserve	Capital contribution Reserve	Retained Profits	Total
Balance at 1 January 2014	811.0	15.4	(1.3)	5.6	686.0	1,516.7
Total comprehensive income for the year						
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	229.6	229.6
Other comprehensive income, net of income tax						
Cash flow hedges						
- Effective portion of changes in fair value	-	-	(13.0)	-	-	(13.0)
- Net amount transferred to profit and loss	-	-	4.4	-	-	4.4
Available for sale assets						
- Net Change in fair value	-	4.1	-	-	-	4.1
- Net amount transferred to profit and loss	-	(2.1)	-	-	-	(2.1)
Total other comprehensive income	-	2.0	(8.6)	-	-	(6.6)
Total comprehensive income for year	-	2.0	(8.6)	-	229.6	223.0
Transactions with Owners, recorded directly in equity						
Contributions by and distributions to owners						
- Share based payments						
contributed in the year	-	-	-	4.2	-	4.2
recycled to profit and loss	-	-	-	0.5	(0.5)	-
other	-	-	-	(4.2)	-	(4.2)
- Dividends to equity holders	-	-	-	-	(111.8)	(111.8)
Total Contributions by and distributions to owners	-	-	-	0.5	(112.3)	(111.8)
Balance at 31 December 2014	811.0	17.4	(9.9)	6.1	803.3	1,627.9

The notes on pages 14 to 83 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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Statements Of Changes in Equity (continued)

For The Year Ended 31 December 2013- Company

$'m	Share capital	Available for Sale Reserve	Cash flow Hedging Reserve	Capital contribution Reserve	Retained Profits	Total
Balance at 1 January 2013	811.0	16.1	(4.9)	5.8	556.7	1,384.7
Total comprehensive income for the year						
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	259.1	259.1
Other comprehensive income, net of income tax						
Cash flow hedges						
- Effective portion of changes in fair value	-	-	(0.7)	-	-	(0.7)
- Net amount transferred to Income Statement	-	-	4.3	-	-	4.3
Available for sale assets						
- Net Change in fair value	-	(10.3)	-	-	-	(10.3)
- Net amount transferred to Income Statement	-	9.6	-	-	-	9.6
Total other comprehensive income	-	(0.7)	3.6	-	-	2.9
Total comprehensive income for year	-	(0.7)	3.6	-	259.1	262.0
Transactions with Owners, recorded directly in equity						
Contributions by and distributions to owners						
- Cancellation of preference shares	(60.0)	-	-	-	-	(60.0)
- Issue of new ordinary shares	60.0	-	-	-	-	60.0
- Share based payments						
contributed in the year	-	-	-	3.9	-	3.9
recycled to Income Statement	-	-	-	1.7	(1.7)	-
other	-	-	-	(5.8)	-	(5.8)
- Dividends to equity holders	-	-	-	-	(128.1)	(128.1)
Total Contributions by and distributions to owners	-	-	-	(0.2)	(129.8)	(130.0)
Balance at 31 December 2013	811.0	15.4	(1.3)	5.6	686.0	1,516.7

The notes on pages 14 to 83 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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Statements of Cash flows

For The Year Ended 31 December 2014

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
Cash Flows from Operating Activities					
Interest received		1,064.5	1,128.7	1,064.5	1,128.7
Interest paid		(420.3)	(509.7)	(423.4)	(513.7)
Other operating income received		265.7	261.3	269.2	264.6
Other expenses paid		(477.9)	(482.9)	(478.7)	(483.1)
Loans and bills advanced		2.3	(1,601.5)	0.8	(1,622.0)
Net increase in deposits and other borrowings		560.8	1,819.0	522.7	1,786.7
Net (increase) / decrease in trading assets		2.2	(32.5)	2.2	(32.5)
Net increase / (decrease) in trading liabilities		(25.9)	(188.7)	(25.9)	(188.7)
Cash inflows / (outflows) from movements in other assets/liabilities		80.4	35.0	80.5	35.0
Income tax paid		(118.2)	(60.7)	(118.2)	(60.7)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	30	933.6	368.0	893.7	314.3
Cash Flows from Investing Activities					
Proceeds from portfolio disposal		354.3	-	354.3	-
Net decrease/(increase) in investment securities		299.4	1,677.5	299.4	1,677.5
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(2.6)	(2.7)	(2.6)	(2.7)
Dividends received from controlled entities		-	-	-	1.6
Proceeds/(payments) for Intangible Assets		(4.8)	(0.4)	(4.8)	(0.4)
Net cash used in investing activities		646.3	1,674.4	646.3	1,676.0
Cash Flows from Financing Activities					
Net increase / (decrease) in debt securities on issue		(634.2)	(364.5)	(594.3)	(312.4)
Subordinated debt (redeemed) / issued		-	(42.0)	-	(42.0)
Dividends paid		(111.8)	(128.1)	(111.8)	(128.1)
Net cash used in financing activities		(746.0)	(534.6)	(706.1)	(482.5)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held		833.9	1,507.8	833.9	1,507.8
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		3,433.7	1,925.9	3,433.7	1,925.9
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	30	4,267.6	3,433.7	4,267.6	3,433.7

The notes on pages 14 to 83 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

1. REPORTING ENTITY

HSBC Bank Australia Limited (the Company) is a company domiciled in Australia. The consolidated financial report of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2014 comprises the Company and its subsidiaries (together referred to as the "consolidated entity" or "group"). References to "HSBC" or "the HSBC Group" within this document mean HSBC Holdings plc together with its subsidiaries. The Company and group are for-profit entities.

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

a) Statement of compliance

The financial report is a general purpose financial report which has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards ("AASBs"), including Australian Interpretations, adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001. The consolidated financial report of the consolidated entity and the financial report of the Company comply with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and interpretations adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB").

The financial report was authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 11 February 2015.

b) Basis of measurement

The financial report is prepared on the historical cost basis except that the following assets and liabilities are stated at their fair value: derivative financial instruments, trading assets/liabilities, assets and liabilities designated at fair value and financial instruments classified as available-for-sale. The methods used to measure fair values are discussed further in note 29.

c) Functional and Presentational Currency

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars, which is the Bank's functional currency.

The Company is of a kind referred to in ASIC Class Order 98/100 dated 10 July 1998 (updated by CO 05/641 effective 28 July 2005 and CO 06/51 effective 31 January 2006) and in accordance with that Class Order, amounts in the financial report and Directors' Report have been rounded off to the nearest million dollars, unless otherwise stated.

d) Critical accounting estimates and judgements in applying accounting policies

The preparation of a financial report in conformity with AASBs requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in the formation of estimates. Actual results in the future may differ from those reported.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The accounting policies that are deemed critical to the results and financial position, in terms of the materiality of the items to which the policies are applied and the high degree of judgement involved, including the use of assumptions and estimation, are discussed below.

- *Loan impairment*

Application of the consolidated entity's methodology for assessing loan impairment, as set out in note 3(f), involves considerable judgement and estimation.

For individually significant loans, judgement is required in determining first, whether there are indications that an impairment loss may have already been incurred, and then estimating the amount and timing of expected cash flows, which form the basis of the impairment loss that is recorded.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION (continued)

d) Critical accounting estimates and judgements in applying accounting policies (cont.)

For collectively assessed loans, judgement is involved in selecting and applying the criteria for grouping together loans with similar credit characteristics, as well as in selecting and applying the statistical and other models used to estimate the losses incurred for each group of loans in the reporting period. The benchmarking of loss rates, the assessment of the extent to which historical losses are representative of current conditions, and the ongoing refinement of modelling methodologies, provide a means of identifying changes that may be required, but the process is inherently one of estimation.

- *Valuation of financial Instruments*

The consolidated entity's accounting policy for valuation of financial instruments is included in note 3(j) and is discussed further within note 10 'Derivatives' and note 29 'Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities'.

When fair values are determined by using valuation techniques which refer to observable market data because independent prices are not available, management will consider the following when applying a valuation model:

(i) The likelihood and expected timing of future cash flows on the instrument. These cash flows are usually governed by the terms of the instrument, although management judgement may be required when the ability of the counterparty to service the instrument in accordance with the contractual terms is in doubt,
(ii) An appropriate discount rate for the instrument. Management determines this rate based on its assessment of the appropriate spread of the rate for the instrument over the risk-free rate; and
(iii) Judgement to determine what model to use to calculate fair value in areas where the choice of valuation model is particularly subjective, for example, when valuing complex derivative models.

When valuing instruments by reference to comparable instruments, management takes into account the maturity, structure, liquidity, credit rating and other market factors of the instrument with which the position held is being compared. When valuing instruments on a model basis using the fair value of underlying components, management also considers the need for adjustments to take account of factors such as bid-offer spread, credit profile, model uncertainty and any other factors market participants would consider in the valuation of that instrument. These adjustments are based on defined policies which are applied consistently across the group.

When unobservable market data have a significant impact on the valuation of derivatives, the entire initial change in fair value indicated by the valuation model is recognised on one of the following bases: over the life of the transaction on an appropriate basis; in the income statement when the inputs become observable; or when the transaction matures or is closed out.

Financial instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss comprise financial instruments held for trading and financial instruments designated at fair value. Changes in their fair value directly impact the group's income statement in the period in which they occur.

A change in the fair value of a financial asset which is classified as 'available-for sale' is recorded directly in equity and other comprehensive income until the financial asset is sold, when the cumulative change in fair value is charged or credited to the income statement. When a decline in the fair value of an available-for sale financial asset has been recognised directly in equity and other comprehensive income and there is objective evidence that the asset is impaired, the cumulative loss that had been recognised directly in equity is removed from equity and recognised in the income statement, reducing the group's operating profit.

- *Impairment of available-for-sale financial investments*

Judgement is required in determining whether or not a decline in fair value of an available-for-sale financial investment below its original costs is of such a nature as to constitute impairment, and thus whether an impairment loss needs to be recognised under AASB 139.

- *Provision for liabilities and charges*

The consolidated entity assesses whether it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle a current legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events. These calculations involve an estimation of the potential loss and likelihood of that loss.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION (continued)

e) Changes in Accounting Policies

There are no new standards adopted during 2014 that have a material impact on the financial statements.

f) Future Accounting Developments

At 31 December 2014, a number of standards and interpretations, and amendments thereto, had been issued by the AASB, which are not effective for the group's consolidated financial statements as at 31 December 2014. In addition to the projects to complete financial instrument accounting and revenue recognition, discussed below, there are other projects on lease accounting which, together with the standards described below, will represent significant changes to accounting requirements in the future.

In July 2014, the AASB issued AASB 15 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers'. The standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2017 with early adoption permitted. AASB 15 provides a principles-based approach for revenue recognition, and introduces the concept of recognising revenue for obligations as they are satisfied. The standard should be applied retrospectively, with certain practical expedients available. The group is currently assessing the impact of this standard but it is not practicable to quantify the effect as at the date of the publication of these financial statements.

In September 2014, the AASB issued AASB 9 'Financial Instruments', which is the comprehensive standard to replace AASB 139 'Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement', and includes requirements for classification and measurement of financial assets and liabilities, impairment of financial assets and hedge accounting.

Classification and measurement
The classification and measurement of financial assets will depend on the entity's business model for their management and their contractual cash flow characteristics and result in financial assets being classified and measured at amortised cost, fair value through Other Comprehensive Income ('FVOCI') or fair value through profit or loss. In many instances, the classification and measurement outcomes will be similar to AASB 139, although some differences will arise. For example, since AASB 9 does not apply embedded derivative accounting to financial assets, equity securities will be measured at fair value through profit or loss or, in limited circumstances, at fair value through OCI. The combined effect of the application of the business model and the contractual cash flow characteristics tests may result in some differences in population of financial assets measured at amortised cost or fair value compared with AASB139. The classification of financial liabilities is essentially unchanged, except that, for certain liabilities measured at fair value, gains or losses relating to changes in the entity's own credit risk are to be included in OCI.

Impairment
The impairment requirements apply to financial assets measured at amortised cost, FVOCI, lease receivables, certain loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts. At initial recognition, allowance (or provision in the case of commitments and guarantees) is required for expected credit losses ('ECL') resulting from default events that are possible within the next 12 months ('12 month ECL'). In the event of a significant increase in credit risk, allowance (or provision) is required for ECL resulting from all possible default events over the expected life of the financial instrument ('lifetime ECL').

The assessment of whether credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition is performed for each reporting period by considering the probability of default occurring over the remaining life of the financial instrument, rather than by considering an increase in ECL.

The assessment of credit risk, as well as the estimation of ECL, are required to be unbiased, probability-weighted and should incorporate all available information which is relevant to the assessment, including information about past events, current conditions and reasonable and supportable forecasts of future events and economic conditions at the reporting date. In addition, the estimation of ECL should take into account the time value of money. As a result, the recognition and measurement of impairment is intended to be more forward-looking than under AASB139 and the resulting impairment charge will tend to be more volatile. It will also tend to result in an increase in the total level of impairment allowances, since all financial assets will be assessed for at least 12-month ECL and the population of financial assets to which lifetime ECL applies is likely to be larger than the population for which there is objective evidence of impairment in accordance with AASB139.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION (continued)

f) Future Accounting Developments (continued)

The general hedge accounting requirements aim to simplify hedge accounting, creating a stronger link between it and risk management strategy and permitting the former to be applied to a greater variety of hedging instruments and risks. The standard does not explicitly address macro hedge accounting strategies, which are being considered in a separate project. To remove the risk of any conflict between existing macro hedge accounting practice and the new general hedge accounting requirements, AASB 9 includes an accounting policy choice to remain with AASB 139 hedge accounting.
The classification and measurement and impairment requirements are applied retrospectively by adjusting the opening balance sheet at the date of initial application, with no requirement to restate comparative periods. Hedge accounting is generally applied prospectively from that date.

The mandatory application date for the standard as a whole is 1 January 2018, but it is possible to apply the revised presentation for certain liabilities measured at fair value from an earlier date. The group intends to revise the presentation of fair value gains and losses relating to the entity's own credit risk on certain liabilities. If this presentation was applied at 31 December 2014, the effect would be to increase or decrease profit before tax with the opposite effect on other comprehensive income based on the change in fair value attributable to changes in the group's credit risk for the year, with no effect on net assets.

The group is currently assessing the impact that the rest of AASB 9 will have on the financial statements through a groupwide project which has been in place since 2012, but due to the complexity of the classification and measurement, impairment, and hedge accounting requirements and their inter-relationships, it is not possible at this stage to quantify the potential effect.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in the consolidated financial statements. Certain comparative amounts have been reclassified to conform with the current year presentation.

a) Principles of Consolidation

(i) Subsidiaries
Subsidiaries are entities controlled by the Company. The Company 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.

Investments in subsidiaries are carried at their cost of acquisition, less provision for impairment, in the Company's financial statements.

(ii) Special purpose entities
Special purpose entities are entities that are created to accomplish a narrow and well-defined objective such as the securitisation of particular assets, or the execution of specific borrowing or lending transactions. The financial statements of special purpose entities are included in the consolidated entity's financial statements where the substance of the relationship is that the consolidated entity controls the special purpose entity.

(iii) Transactions eliminated on consolidation
Intragroup balances and any unrealised gains and losses or income and expenses arising from intragroup transactions, are eliminated in preparing the consolidated financial statements. Unrealised losses are eliminated in the same way as unrealised gains, but only to the extent that there is no evidence of impairment.

b) Foreign Currency Transactions

Items included in each of the entities of the consolidated entity are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates (the 'functional currency'). The consolidated entity's financial statements are presented in Australian dollars which is the Bank's functional and presentation currency.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the foreign exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are translated to Australian dollars at the foreign exchange rate ruling at that date. Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognised in the income statement. Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are stated at fair value are translated to Australian dollars at foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates the fair value was determined.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

c) Interest income and expense

Interest income and expense for all interest-bearing financial instruments, except those classified as held-for-trading or designated at fair value, are recognised in 'Interest income' and 'Interest expense' in the Income Statement using the effective interest rates of the financial assets or financial liabilities to which they relate.

The effective interest rate is the rate that discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts through the expected life of the financial asset or financial liability or, where appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. When calculating the effective interest rate, the consolidated entity estimates cash flows considering all contractual terms of the financial instrument but not future credit losses. The calculation includes all amounts paid or received by the consolidated entity that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, including transaction costs and all other premiums or discounts.

Interest on impaired financial assets is recognised at the original effective interest rate of the financial asset applied to the impaired carrying amount.

d) Non Interest income

Fee income is earned from a diverse range of services provided by the group to its customers. Fee income is accounted for as follows:

- if the income is earned on the execution of a significant act, it is recognised as revenue when the significant act has been completed (for example, fees arising from negotiating, or participating in the negotiation of, a transaction for a third party, such as the arrangement for the acquisition of shares or other securities);
- if the income is earned as services are provided, it is recognised as revenue as the services are provided (for example, portfolio and other management advisory and service fees); and
- if the income is an integral part of the effective interest rate of a financial instrument, it is recognised as an adjustment to the effective interest rate (for example, loan commitment fees) and recorded in 'Interest income'.

Net Trading income comprises all gains and losses from changes in the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities held for trading, together with related interest income, expense and dividends. Income and expenses arising from economic hedging activities which do not qualify for hedge accounting under AASB 139, as well as from ineffective portion of qualifying hedges, are also included in 'Net trading income'.

Net income from financial instruments designated at fair value comprises all gains and losses from changes in the fair value of such financial assets and financial liabilities, together with interest income and expense and dividend income attributable to those financial instruments. Interest income and expense and dividend income arising on these financial instruments are also included, except for interest arising from debt securities issued, and derivatives managed in conjunction with those debt securities, which is recognised in 'Interest expense' (note 4vi).

Dividend income is recognised when the right to receive payment is established.

e) Loans and Advances to Banks and Customers

Loans and advances to banks and customers include loans and advances originated by the consolidated entity, which are not intended to be sold in the short term and have not been classified either as held for trading or designated at fair value. Loans and advances are recognised when cash is advanced to borrowers. They are initially recorded at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less impairment losses (see note 3(f)).

Loan and advances classified as held for trading or designated at fair value are reported as trading instruments, or financial instruments designated at fair value, respectively (notes 3(g) and 3(h)).

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

f) Impairment of loans and advances

Losses for impaired loans are promptly recognised when there is objective evidence that impairment of a loan or portfolio of loans has occurred. Impairment allowances are calculated on individual loans and on groups of loans assessed collectively. Impairment losses are recorded as charges to the income statement. The carrying amount of impaired loans on the statement of financial position is reduced through the use of impairment allowance accounts. Losses expected from future events are not recognised.

(i) Individually assessed loans
The factors considered in determining that a loan is individually significant for the purposes of assessing impairment include:

- the size of the loan;
- the number of loans in the portfolio;
- the importance of the individual loan relationship, and how this is managed; and
- whether volumes of defaults and losses are sufficient to enable a collective assessment methodology to be applied.

Loans considered as individually significant are typically those made to corporate and commercial customers, are for larger amounts, and are managed on an individual relationship basis. Retail lending portfolios are generally assessed for impairment on a collective basis as the portfolios generally consist of large pools of homogeneous loans.

For all loans that are considered individually significant, the group assesses on a case-by-case basis at each balance sheet date whether there is any objective evidence that a loan is impaired. The criteria used by the group to determine that there is such objective evidence include:

- known cash flow difficulties experienced by the borrower;
- past due contractual payments of either principal or interest;
- the probability that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial realisation;
- a concession granted to the borrower for economic or legal reasons relating to the borrower's financial difficulty that results in the forgiveness or postponement of principal, interest or fees, where the concession is not insignificant; and
- deterioration in the financial condition or outlook of the borrower such that the ability to repay is considered doubtful.

For those loans where objective evidence of impairment exists, impairment losses are determined considering the following factors:

- the group's aggregate exposure to the customer;
- the viability of the customer's business model and their capacity to trade successfully out of financial difficulties and generate sufficient cash flow to service debt obligations;
- the amount and timing of expected receipts and recoveries;
- the likely dividend available on liquidation or bankruptcy;
- the extent of other creditors' commitments ranking ahead of, or paripassu with, the group and the likelihood of other creditors continuing to support the company;
- the complexity of determining the aggregate amount and ranking of all creditor claims and the extent to which legal and insurance uncertainties are evident;
- the realisable value of security (or other credit mitigants) and likelihood of successful repossession;
- the likely deduction of any costs involved in recovery of amounts outstanding;
- the ability of the borrower to obtain, and make payments in, the currency of the loan if not denominated in local currency; and
- when available, the secondary market price of the debt.

The realisable value of security is determined based on the current market value when the impairment assessment is performed. The value is not adjusted for expected future changes in market prices; however, adjustments are made to reflect local conditions, such as forced sale discounts. Impairment losses are calculated by discounting the expected future cash flows of a loan at its original effective interest rate and comparing the resultant present value with the loan's current carrying amount. The impairment allowances on individually significant accounts are reviewed at least quarterly and more regularly when circumstances require. This normally encompasses re-assessment of the enforceability of any collateral held and the timing and amount of actual and anticipated receipts. Individually assessed impairment allowances are only released when there is reasonable and objective evidence of a reduction in the established loss estimate.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

f) Impairment of loans and advances (continued)

(ii) Collectively assessed loans
Impairment losses are calculated on a collective basis in two different scenarios:

- for homogeneous groups of loans that are not considered individually significant; and
- in respect of losses which have been incurred but have not yet been identified on loans subject to individual assessment for impairment (see section (i)).

Homogeneous groups of loans
Statistical methods are used to determine impairment losses on a collective basis for homogeneous groups of loans that are not considered individually significant, because individual loan assessment is impracticable.

Losses in these groups of loans are recorded on an individual basis when individual loans are written off, at which point they are removed from the group. Two alternative methods are used to calculate allowances on a collective basis:

- when appropriate empirical information is available, the group utilises a roll rate methodology. This methodology employs statistical analyses of historical data and experience of delinquency and default to estimate the amount of loans that will eventually be written off as a result of the events occurring before the balance sheet date which the group is not able to identify on an individual loan basis, and that can be reliably estimated. Under this methodology, loans are grouped into ranges according to the number of days past due and statistical analysis is used to estimate the likelihood that loans in each range will progress ("roll") through the various stages of delinquency, and ultimately prove irrecoverable. Current economic conditions are also evaluated when calculating the appropriate level of allowance required to cover inherent loss. The estimated loss is the difference between the present value of expected future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate of the portfolio, and the carrying amount of the portfolio. In certain highly developed markets, sophisticated models also take into account behavioural and account management trends as revealed in, for example, bankruptcy and rescheduling statistics.
- when the portfolio size is small or when information is insufficient or not reliable enough to adopt a roll rate methodology, the group adopts a basic formulaic approach based on historical loss rate experience.

The inherent loss within each portfolio is assessed on the basis of statistical models using historical data observations, which are updated periodically to reflect recent portfolio and economic trends. When the most recent trends in portfolio risk factors arising from changes in economic, regulatory or behavioural conditions are not fully reflected in the statistical models, they are taken into account by adjusting the impairment allowances derived solely from historical loss experience to reflect these changes as at the balance sheet date.

These additional portfolio risk factors may include recent loan portfolio growth and product mix, unemployment rates, bankruptcy trends, geographic concentrations, loan product features (such as the ability of borrowers to repay adjustable-rate loans where reset interest rates give rise to increases in interest charges), economic conditions such as national and local trends in housing markets and interest rates, portfolio seasoning, account management policies and practices, current levels of write-offs, changes in laws and regulations and other items which can affect customer payment patterns on outstanding loans, such as natural disasters. These risk factors, where relevant, are taken into account when calculating the appropriate level of impairment allowances by adjusting the impairment allowances derived solely from historical loss experience.

Roll rates, loss rates and the expected timing of future recoveries are regularly benchmarked against actual outcomes to ensure they remain appropriate.

- *Incurred but not yet identified impairment*

Individually assessed loans for which no evidence of loss has been specifically identified on an individual basis are grouped together according to their credit risk characteristics for the purpose of calculating an estimated collective loss. This reflects impairment losses that the group has incurred as a result of events occurring before the balance sheet date, which the group is not able to identify on an individual loan basis, and that can be reliably estimated. These losses will only be individually identified in the future. As soon as information becomes available which identifies losses on individual loans within the group, those loans are removed from the group and assessed on an individual basis for impairment.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

f) Impairment of loans and advances (continued)

The collective impairment allowance is determined after taking into account:

- historical loss experience in portfolios of similar credit risk characteristics (for example, by industry sector, loan grade or product);
- the estimated period between impairment occurring and the loss being identified and evidenced by the establishment of an appropriate allowance against the individual loan; and
- management's experienced judgement as to whether current economic and credit conditions are such that the actual level of inherent losses at the balance sheet date is likely to be greater or less than that suggested by historical experience.

The period between a loss occurring and its identification is estimated by local management for each identified portfolio.

(iii) Loan write-offs
Loans (and the related impairment allowance accounts) are normally written off, either partially or in full, when there is no realistic prospect of recovery. Where loans are secured, this is generally after receipt of any proceeds from the realisation of security. In circumstances where the net realisable value of any collateral has been determined and there is no reasonable expectation of further recovery, write off may be earlier.

(iv) Reversals of impairment
If the amount of an impairment loss decreases in a subsequent period, and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the excess is written back by reducing the loan impairment allowance account accordingly. The write-back is recognised in the income statement.

(v) Assets acquired in exchange for loans
Non-financial assets acquired in exchange for loans in order to achieve an orderly realization are recorded as assets held for sale and reported in 'Other assets'. The asset acquired is recorded at the lower of its fair value less costs to sell and the carrying amount of the loan, net of impairment allowance amounts, at the date of exchange. No depreciation is provided in respect of assets held for sale. Any subsequent write-down of the acquired asset to fair value less costs to sell is recorded as an impairment loss and included in the Income Statement. Any subsequent increase in the fair value less costs to sell, to the extent this does not exceed the cumulative impairment loss, is recognised in the Income Statement.

(vi) Renegotiated loans
Loans subject to individual impairment assessment, whose terms have been renegotiated, are subject to ongoing review to determine whether they remain impaired or should be considered past due. The carrying amounts of loans that have been classified as renegotiated retain this classification until maturity or derecognition.

A loan that is renegotiated is derecognised if the existing agreement is cancelled and a new agreement made on substantially different terms, or if the terms of an existing agreement are modified, such that the renegotiated loan is substantially a different financial instrument.

g) Trading assets and trading liabilities

Treasury bills, customer accounts, loans and advances to and from banks, debt securities, structured deposits, equity shares, own debt issued and short positions in securities which have been acquired or incurred principally for the purpose of selling or repurchasing in the near term, or are part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that are managed together and for which there is evidence of a recent actual pattern of short-term profit-taking, are classified as held for trading. Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised on trade date, when the group enters into contractual arrangements with counterparties to purchase or sell the financial instruments, and are normally derecognised when either sold (assets) or extinguished (liabilities). Measurement is initially at fair value, with transaction costs taken to the income statement. Subsequently, the fair values are remeasured and gains and losses from changes therein are recognised in the income statement within 'Net trading income'.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

h) Financial instruments designated at fair value

A financial instrument, other than one held for trading, is classified in this category if it meets the criteria set out below, and is so designated by management. The group may designate financial instruments at fair value when the designation:

- eliminates or significantly reduces measurement or recognition inconsistencies that would otherwise arise from measuring financial assets or financial liabilities or recognising the gains and losses on them on different bases such as debt issuances that are managed in conjunction with financial assets or liabilities measured on a fair value basis; or
- relates to financial instruments containing one or more embedded derivatives that significantly modify cash flows resulting from those financial instruments, and which would otherwise be required to be accounted for separately; examples include certain debt issuances and debt securities held.

This fair value designation, once made, is irrevocable. Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the group enters the contractual provisions of the arrangements with counterparties, which is generally on trade date, and are normally derecognised when either sold (assets) or extinguished (liabilities). Measurement is initially at fair value, with transaction costs taken to the income statement. Subsequently, the fair values are remeasured and gains and losses from changes therein are recognised in the income statement within 'Net income from financial instruments designated at fair value'.

i) Financial investments

Treasury bills, debt securities and equity shares intended to be held on a continuing basis, other than those designated at fair value, are classified as 'available-for-sale'. Financial investments are recognised on trade date, when the consolidated entity enters into contractual arrangements with counterparties to purchase securities, and are normally derecognised when either the securities are sold or the borrowers repay their obligations.

Available-for-sale securities are initially measured at fair value plus direct and incremental transaction costs. They are subsequently remeasured at fair value and changes therein are recognised in equity in the 'Available-for-sale' reserve (Note 24(a) and Statement of changes in equity) until the securities are either sold or impaired. When available-for sale securities are sold, cumulative gains or losses previously recognised in equity are recognised in the income statement as 'Gains/ (losses) from disposal of financial investments'.

Interest income is recognised on available-for-sale debt securities using the effective interest rate method, calculated over the asset's expected life. Premiums and/or discounts arising on the purchase of dated investment securities are included in the calculation of their effective interest rates. Dividends are recognised in the Income Statement when the right to receive payment has been established. Financial investments are recognised using trade date accounting.

At each balance sheet date an assessment is made of whether there is any objective evidence of impairment in the value of a financial asset or group of assets. Impairments losses are recognised if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset (a 'loss event') and that loss event (or events) has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset that can be reliably estimated.

If the available-for–sale financial asset is impaired, the difference between the financial asset's acquisition cost (net of any principal repayments and amortisation) and the current fair value, less any previous impairment loss recognised in the Income Statement, is removed from equity and recognised in the Income Statement.

Impairment losses for available-for-sale debt securities are recognised within 'Loan impairment charges and other credit risk provisions' in the income statement and impairment losses for available-for-sale equity securities are recognised within 'Gains less losses from financial investments' in the Income Statement. The impairment methodologies for available-for-sale financial assets are set out in more detail below.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

i) Financial Investments (continued)

When assessing available-for-sale debt securities for objective evidence of impairment at the reporting date, the group considers all available evidence, including observable data or information about events specifically relating to the securities which may result in a shortfall in recovery of future cash flows. These events may include a significant financial difficulty of the issuer, a breach of contract such as a default, bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation, or the disappearance of an active market for the debt security because of financial difficulties relating to the issuer.

These types of specific events and other factors such as information about the issuers' liquidity, business and financial risk exposures, levels of and trends in default for similar financial assets, national and local economic trends and conditions, and the fair value of collateral and guarantees may be considered individually, or in combination, to determine if there is objective evidence of impairment of a debt security.

Once an impairment loss has been recognised on an available-for-sale financial asset, the subsequent accounting treatment for changes in the fair value of that asset differs depending on the nature of the available-for-sale financial asset concerned:

- for an available-for sale debt security, a subsequent decline in the fair value of the instrument is recognised in the income statement if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment. Objective evidence of impairment occurs when as a result of one or more loss events, the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset are impacted that can be reliably measured. Where there is no objective evidence of impairment, the decline in the fair value of the financial asset is recognised directly in equity. If the fair value of a debt security increases in a subsequent period, and the increase can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised in the Income Statement, the impairment loss is reversed through the Income Statement to the extent of the increase in fair value;

j) Valuation of Financial Instruments

All financial instruments are recognised initially at fair value. In the normal course of business, the fair value of a financial instrument on initial recognition is normally the transaction price, i.e. the fair value of the consideration given or received. In certain circumstances, however, the fair value may be based on other observable current market transactions in the same instrument, without modification or repackaging, or on a valuation technique whose variables include only data from observable markets, such as interest rate yield curves, option volatilities and currency rates. When such evidence exists, the group recognises a trading gain or loss on inception of the financial instrument, being the difference between the transaction price and the fair value. When unobservable market data have a significant impact on the valuation of financial instruments, the entire initial difference in fair value indicated by the valuation model from the transaction price is not recognised immediately in the income statement but is recognised over the life of the transaction on an appropriate basis, or when the inputs become observable, or the transaction matures or is closed out, or when the group enters into an offsetting transaction.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the fair values of financial instruments measured at fair value are measured in accordance with the group's valuation methodologies, which are described in Note 29.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

k) Sale and repurchase agreements

Where securities are sold subject to a commitment to repurchase them at a predetermined price ('repos'), they remain on the statement of financial position and a liability is recorded in respect of the consideration received. Securities purchased under commitments to re-sell ('reverse repos') are not recognised on the statement of financial position and the consideration paid is recorded in 'Advances to customers' or 'Placings with banks' as appropriate. The difference between the sale and repurchase price is treated as interest income and recognised over the life of the agreement.

Securities lending and borrowing transactions are generally secured, with collateral taking the form of securities or cash advanced or received. The transfer of securities to counterparties under these agreements is not normally reflected on the statement of financial position. Cash collateral advanced or received is recorded as an asset or a liability respectively.

Securities borrowed are not recognised on the statement of financial position. If they are sold on to third parties, an obligation to return the securities is recorded as a trading liability and measured at fair value, and any gains or losses are included in 'Net trading income'.

l) Derivatives and hedge accounting

(i) Derivatives
Derivatives are recognised initially, and are subsequently remeasured, at fair value. Fair values of exchange-traded derivatives are obtained from quoted market prices. Fair values of over-the-counter derivatives are obtained using valuation techniques, including discounted cash flow models and option pricing models.

Derivatives may be embedded in other financial instruments, for example, a convertible bond with an embedded conversion option. Embedded derivatives are treated as separate derivatives when their economic characteristics and risks are not clearly and closely related to those of the host contract; the terms of the embedded derivative would meet the definition of a stand-alone derivative if they were contained in a separate contract; and the combined contract is not held for trading or designated at fair value. These embedded derivatives are measured at fair value with changes therein recognised in the Income Statement.

Derivatives are classified as assets when their fair value is positive, or as liabilities when their fair value is negative. Derivative assets and liabilities arising from different transactions are only offset if the transactions are with the same counterparty, a legal right of offset exists, and the parties intend to settle the cash flows on a net basis.

The method of recognising fair value gains and losses depends on whether derivatives are held for trading or are designated as hedging instruments, and if the latter, the nature of the risks being hedged. All gains and losses from changes in the fair value of derivatives held for trading are recognised in the income statement. When derivatives are designated as hedges, the group classifies them 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'). Hedge accounting is applied to derivatives designated as hedging instruments in a fair value, cash flow or net investment hedge provided certain criteria are met.

(ii) Hedge accounting
At the inception of a hedging relationship, the consolidated entity documents the relationship between the hedging instruments and hedged items, its risk management objective and its strategy for undertaking the hedge. The consolidated entity also requires a documented assessment, both at hedge inception and on an ongoing basis, of whether or not the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions are highly effective in offsetting the changes attributable to the hedged risks in the fair values or cash flows of hedged items. Interest on designated qualifying hedges is included in 'Net interest income'.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

l) Derivatives and hedge accounting (continued)

Fair value hedge
Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as fair value hedging instruments are recorded as 'Net trading income' in the Income Statement, along with changes in the fair value of the asset, liabilities or group thereof, that are attributable to the hedged risk.

If a hedging relationship no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, the cumulative adjustment to the carrying amount of the hedged item is amortised to the Income Statement in 'Net interest income' based on a recalculated effective interest rate over the residual period to maturity, unless the hedged item has been derecognised whereby it is released to the Income Statement immediately.

Cash flow hedge
The effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges is recognised in other comprehensive income. Any gain or loss in fair value relating to an ineffective portion is recognised immediately in the Income Statement.

The accumulated gains and losses recognised in other comprehensive income are recycled to the Income Statement in the periods in which the hedged item will affect profit or loss. However, when the forecast transaction that is hedged results in the recognition of a non-financial asset or a non-financial liability, the gains and losses previously recognised in other comprehensive income are removed from equity and included in the initial measurement of the cost of the asset or liability.

When a hedging instrument expires or is sold, or when a hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, any cumulative gain or loss existing in equity at that time remains in equity until the forecast transaction is eventually recognised in the Income Statement. When a forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, the cumulative gain or loss that was reported in equity is immediately transferred to the Income Statement.

Hedge effectiveness testing
To qualify for hedge accounting, the consolidated entity requires that at the inception of the hedge and throughout its life, each hedge must be expected to be highly effective (prospective effectiveness). Actual effectiveness (retrospective effectiveness) must also be demonstrated on an ongoing basis.

The documentation of each hedging relationship sets out how the effectiveness of the hedge is assessed. The method the consolidated entity adopted for assessing hedge effectiveness will depend on its risk management strategy.

For prospective effectiveness, the hedging instrument must be expected to be highly effective in achieving offsetting changes in fair value or cash flows attributable to the hedged risk during the period for which the hedge is designated. For actual effectiveness, the changes in fair value or cash flows must offset each other in the range of 80 per cent to 125 per cent for the hedge to be deemed effective.

Hedge ineffectiveness is recognised in the Income Statement in 'Net trading income'.

(iii) Derivatives that do not qualify for hedging
All gains and losses from changes in the fair value of any derivative that do not qualify for hedge accounting are recognised immediately in the Income Statement. These gains and losses are reported in 'Net trading income'except where derivatives are managed in conjunction with financial instruments designated at fair value (other than derivatives managed in conjunction with debt securities issued by the group), in which case gains and losses are reported in 'Net income from financial instruments designated at fair value'. The interest on derivatives managed in conjunction with debt securities issued by the group which are designated at fair value is recognised in 'Interest expense'. All other gains and losses on these derivatives are reported in 'Net income from financial instruments designated at fair value'.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

m) Derecognition of financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the assets has expired; or when the consolidated entity has transferred its contractual right to receive the cash flows of the financial assets, and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership; or where control is not retained.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when they are extinguished, that is when the obligation is discharged, cancelled or expires.

n) Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the statement of financial position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

o) Goodwill

(i) Goodwill
Goodwill arises on business combinations when the cost of acquisition exceeds the fair value of the consolidated entity's share of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired. Any excess of the consolidated entity's interest in the fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities of an acquired business over the cost to acquire is recognised immediately in the Income Statement.

Goodwill is allocated to cash-generating units ('CGUs') for the purpose of impairment testing, which is undertaken at the lowest level at which goodwill is monitored for internal management purposes. Impairment testing is performed at least annually, and whenever there is an indication that the CGU may be impaired, by comparing the recoverable amount of a CGU with the carrying amount of its net assets, including attributable goodwill. The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less cost to sell, and its value in use. Value in use is the present value of the expected future cash flows from a CGU. If the recoverable amount of the CGU is less than the carrying value, an impairment loss is charged to the income statement. Any write-off in excess of the carrying value of goodwill is limited to the fair value of the individual assets and liabilities of the CGU.

Goodwill is stated at cost, less accumulated impairment losses, which are charged to the Income Statement (see note 14).

At the date of disposal of a business, attributable goodwill is included in the consolidated entity's share of net assets in the calculation of the gain or loss on disposal.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

p) Property, plant and equipment

(i) Recognition and measurement
Items of property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation (see below) and impairment losses (see note 12).

Cost includes expenditures that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset. The cost of self-constructed assets includes the cost of materials and direct labour, any other costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to a working condition for its intended use, and the cost of dismantling and removing the items and restoring the site on which they are located. Purchased software that is integral to the functionality of the related equipment is capitalised as part of that equipment.

Where parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of property, plant and equipment.

(ii) Subsequent costs
The consolidated entity recognises in the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment the cost of replacing part of such an item when that cost is incurred if it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied with the item will flow to the consolidated entity and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other costs are recognised in the Income Statement as an expense as incurred.

(iii) Depreciation
Depreciation is charged to the Income Statement on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of property, plant and equipment. The estimated useful lives in the current and comparative periods are as follows:

- Plant and equipment — 3-5 years
- Fixtures and fittings — 3-5 years
- Leasehold improvements — life of the leasehold

The residual value, the useful life and the depreciation method applied to an asset are reassessed at least annually.

q) Operating leases

All leases are classified as operating leases. Where the consolidated entity is the lessee, the leased assets are not recognised on the statement of financial position. Rentals payable under operating leases are accounted for on a straight-line basis over the periods of the leases and are included in ‘property and equipment expenses’. Lease incentives received are recognised in the Income Statement as an integral part of the total lease expense.

r) Income tax

Income tax on the profit or loss for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Income tax is recognised in the Income Statement except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in equity, in which case it is recognised in equity.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is provided using the balance sheet liability method, providing for temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

r) Income tax (continued)

The following temporary differences are not provided for: initial recognition of goodwill, the initial recognition of assets or liabilities in a transaction that is not a business combination and that affect neither accounting nor taxable profit, and differences relating to investments in subsidiaries to the extent that they probably will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

In determining the amount of current and deferred tax the consolidated entity takes into account the impact of uncertain tax positions and whether additional taxes and interest may be due. The consolidated entity believes that its accruals for tax liabilities are adequate for all open years based on its assessment of many factors, including interpretations of tax laws and prior experience. This assessment relies on estimates and assumptions and may involve a series of judgements about future events. New information may become available that causes the consolidated entity to change its judgement regarding the adequacy of its existing tax liabilities; such changes to tax liabilities will impact tax expense in the period that the determination is made.

Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to be applied to the temporary differences when they reverse, based on the laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

A deferred tax asset is recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the temporary difference can be utilised. Deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date and are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realised.

HSBC Australia Holdings Pty Ltd and its wholly-owned Australian resident entities which include the Company have formed a tax-consolidated group with effect from 1 July 2002 and are therefore taxed as a single entity from that date. The head entity within the tax-consolidated group is HSBC Australia Holdings Pty Limited.

The current and deferred tax amounts for the tax-consolidated group are allocated among the entities in the group using a 'separate taxpayer within group' approach whereby each entity in the tax-consolidated group measures its current and deferred taxes as if it continued to be a separately taxable entity in its own right. Intercompany transactions are not eliminated.

Any current tax liabilities (or assets) and deferred tax assets arising from unused tax losses assumed by the head entity from the subsidiaries in the tax consolidated group are recognised in conjunction with any tax funding arrangement amounts (refer below). Any difference between these amounts is recognised by the Company as an equity contribution from or distribution to the head entity.

The members of the tax-consolidated group have entered into a tax funding agreement which sets out the funding obligations of members of the tax-consolidated group in respect of tax amounts. The tax funding agreement requires payments equal to the current tax liability (asset) assumed by the head entity and any tax-loss deferred tax asset assumed by the head entity.

The members of the tax-consolidated group have also entered into a valid Tax Sharing Agreement under the tax consolidation legislation which sets out the allocation of income tax liabilities between the entities should the head entity default on its tax payment obligations and the treatment of entities leaving the tax consolidated group.

The Company recognises deferred tax assets arising from unused tax losses of the tax-consolidated group to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits of the tax-consolidated group will be available against which the asset can be utilised.

Any subsequent period adjustments to deferred tax assets arising from unused tax losses as a result of revised assessments of the probability of recoverability is recognised by the head entity only.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

s) Goods and services tax

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax ("GST"), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Australian Tax Office ("ATO") is included as a current asset or liability in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

t) Employee benefits

(i) Defined contribution plans
Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as an expense in the Income Statement as incurred.

(ii) Long-term service benefits
The liability for employee entitlements to long service leave represents the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by the employer resulting from employees' services provided up to the balance date. The provision has been calculated using estimated future increases in wage and salary rates, including related on-costs, and is discounted using the rates attaching to national government securities at balance date that most closely match the terms of maturity of the related liabilities.

(iii) Share-Based Payments
Certain employees are eligible for equity instruments in HSBC Holdings plc, the ultimate parent entity, under various compensation plans as outlined in note 22b). In accordance with AASB 2 'Share-based Payments', these transactions are accounted for as equity settled (i.e. where there is a transfer of an actual equity instrument) rather than cash settled (where the cash equivalent of an equity instrument is transferred) because:

- HSBC Holdings plc has been determined to be the grantor of its equity instruments for all share award and share option plans across the HSBC Group directly to the employees of the Bank; and
- HSBC Holdings plc accounts for these transactions as equity settled, the consolidated entity accounts for these transactions with employees as equity-settled in their separate financial statements

The cost of share-based payment arrangements with employees is measured by reference to the fair value of equity instruments on the date they are granted, and recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the vesting period, with the corresponding credit to 'Capital contribution received under share-based payment'. The fair value of equity instruments that are made available immediately, with no vesting period attached to the award, are expensed immediately.

Fair value is determined by using appropriate valuation models, taking into account the terms and conditions upon which the equity instruments were granted. Market performance conditions are taken into account when estimating the fair value of equity instruments at the date of grant, so that an award is treated as vesting irrespective of whether the market performance condition is satisfied, provided all other conditions are satisfied.

Vesting conditions, other than market performance conditions, are not taken into account in the initial estimate of the fair value at the grant date. They are taken into account by adjusting the number of equity instruments included in the measurement of the transaction, so that the amount recognised for services received as consideration for the equity instruments granted shall be based on the number of equity instruments that eventually vest. On a cumulative basis, no expense is recognised for equity instruments that do not vest because of a failure to satisfy non-market performance or service conditions.

A cancellation that occurs during the vesting period is treated as an acceleration of vesting and recognised immediately for the amount that would otherwise have been recognised for services over the remaining vesting period.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

t) Employee benefits (continued)

(iv) Termination benefits
Termination benefits are recognised as an expense when the consolidated entity is demonstrably committed, without realistic possibility of withdrawal, to a formal detailed plan to terminate employment before the normal retirement date. Termination benefits for voluntary redundancies are recognised if the consolidated entity has made an offer encouraging voluntary redundancy, it is probable that the offer will be accepted, and the number of acceptances can be estimated reliably.

u) Provisions for liabilities and charges

Provisions for liabilities and charges are recognised when it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle a present legal or constructive obligation arising from past events and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Contingent liabilities, which include certain guarantees and letters of credit pledged as collateral security, are possible obligations that arise from past events whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence, or non-occurrence, of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the group; or are present obligations that have arisen from past events but are not recognised because it is not probable that settlement will require the outflow of economic benefits, or because the amount of the obligations cannot be reliably measured. Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the financial statements but are disclosed unless the probability of settlement is remote.

A provision for restructuring is recognised when the consolidated entity has approved a detailed and formal restructuring plan, and the restructuring has either commenced or has been announced publicly. Future operating costs are not provided for.

v) Financial guarantees

Liabilities under financial guarantee contracts which are not classified as insurance contracts are recorded initially at their fair value, which is generally the fee received or receivable. Subsequently, financial guarantee liabilities are measured at the higher of the initial fair value, less cumulative amortisation, and the best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the obligations.

w) Debt securities on issue, subordinated liabilities, deposits by banks and customers

Debt securities issued for trading purposes or designated at fair value are reported under the appropriate Statement of Financial Position captions. Other debt securities in issue and subordinated liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method and are reported under ‘Debt securities in issue’ or ‘Subordinated liabilities’.

x) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents include highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. Such investments are normally those with less than three months’ maturity from the date of acquisition, and include cash and balances at central banks, treasury bills and other eligible bills, loans and advances to banks, and certificates of deposit.

y) Share capital

Shares are classified as equity when there is no contractual obligation to transfer cash or other financial assets. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of equity instruments are shown in equity as a deduction from the proceeds, net of tax. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of equity instruments as consideration for the acquisition of a business are included in the cost of acquisition.

Preference share capital is classified as equity if it is non-redeemable, or redeemable only at the Company’s option, and any dividends are discretionary. Dividends thereon are recognised as distributions within equity upon declaration by the Directors.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Note	Consolidated		Company	
		2014 $'m	2013 $'m	2014 $'m	2013 $'m
4. BANKING OPERATING INCOME					
(i) **Interest income**					
Loans & advances to banks		10.0	11.6	10.0	11.6
Loans & advances to customers		834.7	900.9	834.7	900.9
Financial Investments		125.5	146.0	125.5	146.0
Related corporations		79.6	74.6	79.6	74.6
Key management personnel		0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3
		1,050.2	1,133.4	1,050.2	1,133.4
Total interest income		1,050.2	1,133.4	1,050.2	1,133.4
Less:					
- Interest income classified as 'Net trading income'	4(v)	-	-	-	-
		1,050.2	1,133.4	1,050.2	1,133.4

Included within various captions under interest income for the year ended 31 December 2014 is a total of $6.3m (2013:$4.1m) accrued on impaired financial assets.

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
(ii) **Interest Expense**					
Deposits by banks		5.9	12.5	5.9	12.5
Customer accounts		372.0	392.7	372.0	392.7
Debt securities on issue		17.2	44.6	12.8	38.5
Subordinated liabilities		10.9	11.7	10.9	11.7
Related corporations		12.2	19.4	19.7	29.7
		418.2	480.9	421.3	485.1
Total interest expense		423.6	496.0	426.7	500.2
Less:					
- Interest expense classified as 'Net trading income'	4(v)	(2.7)	(13.0)	(2.7)	(13.0)
- Interest expense classified as 'Net income / (loss) from financial instruments designated at fair value'	4(vi)	(2.7)	(2.1)	(2.7)	(2.1)
		418.2	480.9	421.3	485.1
(iii) **Other Operating Income**					
Dividend income		-	-	-	1.6
Related corporations		74.3	64.5	74.3	64.5
Other income		17.4	1.0	17.4	1.0
		91.7	65.5	91.7	67.1

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
4. BANKING OPERATING INCOME (continued)					
(iv) **Fee and commission income**					
Fees and commissions		205.2	222.2	205.2	222.2
Fee income on fiduciary activities		11.0	9.9	11.4	10.5
		216.2	232.1	216.6	232.7
Fee and commission expense					
Fees and commissions		34.7	34.7	32.1	31.8
Fees payable on fiduciary activities		2.9	2.5	2.9	2.5
		37.6	37.2	35.0	34.3
(v) **Net trading income / (loss)**					
Trading income					
- Exchange rates		5.7	(6.3)	5.7	(6.3)
- Interest rates		1.8	6.6	1.8	6.6
		7.5	0.3	7.5	0.3
Gains / (losses) from hedging activities:					
Fair value Hedges:					
- Net gain/(loss) on hedged items attributable to the hedged risk		(4.1)	14.9	(4.1)	14.9
- Net gain/(loss) on hedging instruments		4.1	(16.5)	4.1	(16.5)
		-	(1.6)	-	(1.6)
Net interest income on trading activities:					
- Interest income	4(i)	-	-	-	-
- Interest expense	4(ii)	(2.7)	(13.0)	(2.7)	(13.0)
		(2.7)	(13.0)	(2.7)	(13.0)
Total net trading income / (loss)		4.8	(14.3)	4.8	(14.3)

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
4. BANKING OPERATING INCOME (continued)					
(vi) **Net income / (loss) from financial instruments designated at fair value**					
Change in fair value of financial assets and liabilities designated at fair value		(0.2)	(0.9)	(0.2)	(0.9)
		(0.2)	(0.9)	(0.2)	(0.9)
Net interest income on financial instruments designated at fair value					
- Interest expense	4(ii)	(2.7)	(2.1)	(2.7)	(2.1)
		(2.7)	(2.1)	(2.7)	(2.1)
Total net loss from financial instruments designated at fair value		(2.9)	(3.0)	(2.9)	(3.0)

Gains and losses from changes in the fair value of the consolidated entity's issued debt securities may arise from changes in the consolidated entity's own credit risk.

		Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
(vii) **Net gains/(loss) from disposal of financial investments**					
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of available for sale securities		0.1	3.1	0.1	3.1
		0.1	3.1	0.1	3.1

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
5 LOAN IMPAIRMENT CHARGES, RECOVERIES AND OTHER CREDIT RISK PROVISIONS					
Loan impairment charges:					
- New allowances		92.8	106.0	92.8	106.0
- Reversal of allowances no longer required		(15.7)	(35.0)	(15.7)	(35.0)
- Recoveries of amounts previously written off		(20.8)	(22.0)	(19.3)	(19.6)
Provision charge for commitments, guarantees and similar obligations		(2.2)	-	(2.2)	-
		54.1	49.0	55.6	51.4
- Individually assessed allowances charged		15.8	(4.4)	17.2	(2.0)
- Collectively assessed allowances charged		40.5	53.4	40.5	53.4
- Other credit risk provisions		(2.2)	-	(2.1)	-
Total loan impairment charges and other credit risk provisions		54.1	49.0	55.6	51.4

6. OPERATING EXPENSES

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
Staff costs					
Wages and salaries		172.7	161.2	172.7	161.2
Bonuses		40.5	42.2	40.5	42.2
Retirement and termination benefits		15.8	17.5	15.8	17.5
Share-based payment transactions	22(b)	4.2	3.9	4.2	3.9
Other		21.5	19.0	21.5	19.0
		254.7	243.8	254.7	243.8

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

		Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
6.	**OPERATING EXPENSES (continued)**					
	Premises and equipment					
	Property rental		34.4	31.8	34.4	31.8
	Hire of equipment		3.4	3.8	3.4	3.8
	Repairs and maintenance		2.2	1.0	2.2	1.0
	EDP costs		1.7	1.5	1.7	1.5
	Utilities		2.9	2.8	2.9	2.8
	Depreciation		8.2	8.8	8.2	8.8
	Other		2.1	2.3	2.1	2.3
			54.9	52.0	54.9	52.0
	Administrative expenses					
	Advertising and marketing		57.5	65.6	57.5	65.6
	Legal and professional fees		7.1	4.6	7.1	4.6
	Communications		4.2	6.7	4.2	6.7
	Business information costs		5.2	6.0	5.1	6.0
	Printing and stationery		9.7	10.6	9.7	10.6
	Travel and entertainment		8.1	8.5	8.1	8.5
	Auditor's remuneration	7	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.5
	Insurance		2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
	Losses from fraud		4.2	3.0	4.1	3.0
	Contracted services		13.2	7.3	13.2	7.3
	Other		11.5	10.8	11.5	10.8
			124.4	126.7	124.2	126.7
	Other expenses					
	Intercompany management fees	33	87.1	72.4	87.1	72.4
	Provision for contingent liabilities and charges		(0.9)	(11.7)	(0.9)	(11.7)
	Amortisation of intangibles		0.1	-	0.1	-
			86.3	60.7	86.3	60.7
7.	**AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION**		**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**
	Audit services					
	Auditor of the consolidated entity - KPMG Australia					
	Audit and review of financial reports		817,580	817,580	817,580	817,580
	Regulatory and other audit services		637,535	591,366	637,535	591,366
			1,455,115	1,408,946	1,455,115	1,408,946
	Other services					
	Auditor of the consolidated entity – KPMG Australia					
	Taxation services		73,035	50,000	73,035	50,000
	Other assurance services		73,313	-	73,313	-
			146,348	50,000	146,348	50,000

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

		Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
8.	**INCOME TAX EXPENSE**					
	Recognised in the Income Statement					
(a)	**Current tax expense**					
	Current year		(102.8)	(105.5)	(102.4)	(104.8)
	Adjustments for prior years		(1.8)	(1.9)	(1.8)	(1.9)
			(104.6)	(107.4)	(104.2)	(106.7)
	Deferred tax expense					
	Origination and reversal of temporary differences		3.3	(0.6)	3.3	(0.6)
	Adjustments for prior years		2.0	1.3	2.0	1.3
		16(b)	5.3	0.7	5.3	0.7
	Total income tax expense in Income Statement		(99.3)	(106.7)	(98.9)	(106.0)
	Attributable to:					
	Continuing operations		(99.3)	(106.7)	(98.9)	(106.0)
			(99.3)	(106.7)	(98.9)	(106.0)
	Numerical reconciliation between tax expense and pre-tax net profit					
	Profit for the period		230.6	259.8	229.6	259.1
	Total income tax expense		99.3	106.7	98.9	106.0
	Profit excluding income tax		329.9	366.5	328.5	365.1
	Income tax using the domestic corporation tax rate of 30%		(99.0)	(110.0)	(98.5)	(109.5)
	(Increase) / decrease in income tax expense due to:					
	Non-deductible expenses		(0.9)	(0.7)	(1.0)	(1.0)
	Non-taxable revenue		0.4	4.6	0.4	5.1
			(99.5)	(106.1)	(99.1)	(105.4)
	(Under) / over provided in prior years		0.2	(0.6)	0.2	(0.6)
	Income tax expense on pre-tax net profit		(99.3)	(106.7)	(98.9)	(106.0)
(b)	**Deferred tax recognised directly in equity**					
	Relating to capital contribution reserve		(0.3)	0.6	(0.3)	0.6
	Relating to available for sale and cash flow hedging reserves		2.4	(1.2)	2.4	(1.2)
		16(b)	2.1	(0.6)	2.1	(0.6)

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Consolidated		Company	
	2014 $'m	2013 $'m	2014 $'m	2013 $'m
9. LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS AND IMPAIRMENT ALLOWANCES				
Gross amount of loans not individually impaired	16,794.4	17,326.0	16,794.4	17,326.0
Allowance for collective impairment	(40.5)	(39.5)	(40.5)	(39.5)
Carrying amount	16,753.9	17,286.5	16,753.9	17,286.5
Gross amount of impaired loans	157.9	231.1	157.9	231.1
Allowance for individual impairment	(53.1)	(92.2)	(53.1)	(92.2)
Allowance for collective impairment	(8.3)	(13.4)	(8.3)	(13.4)
Carrying amount	96.5	125.5	96.5	125.5
Total Loans	16,850.4	17,412.0	16,850.4	17,412.0
Movements in Impairment Allowances				
Allowance for individual impairment				
Balance opening	92.2	93.9	92.2	93.9
Impairment charge for the year	16.0	(4.4)	16.0	(2.0)
Transfer from provision for contingent liabilities	3.0	7.7	3.0	7.7
Net write off	(58.2)	(5.0)	(58.2)	(7.4)
Balance closing	53.0	92.2	53.0	92.2
Allowance for collective impairment				
Balance opening	52.9	52.0	52.9	52.0
Impairment charge for the year	40.5	53.4	40.5	53.4
Net write off	(44.6)	(52.5)	(44.6)	(52.5)
Balance closing	48.8	52.9	48.8	52.9

10. DERIVATIVES

Derivatives are financial instruments that derive their value from the price of an underlying item such as equities, bonds, interest rates, foreign exchange, credit spreads, commodities and equity or other indices.

Derivatives enable users to increase, reduce or alter exposure to credit or market risks. The consolidated entity makes markets in derivatives for its customers and uses derivatives to manage its exposure to credit and market risks.

Derivatives are carried at fair value and shown in the statement of financial position as separate totals of assets and liabilities. A description of how the fair value of derivatives is derived is set out in Note 29.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

10. DERIVATIVES (continued)

Derivative assets and liabilities on different transactions are only offset if: the transactions are with the same counterparty; a legal right of set-off exists; and the cash flows are intended to be settled on a net basis. Changes in the values of derivatives are recognised in accordance with the consolidated entity's accounting policy as described in note 3(l).

Use of derivatives

The consolidated entity transacts derivatives for three primary purposes: to create risk management solutions for clients; for proprietary trading purposes; and to manage and hedge the consolidated entity's own risks. For accounting purposes, derivative instruments are classified as held either for trading or hedging. Derivatives that are held as hedging instruments are formally designated as hedges as defined in AASB 139. All other derivative instruments are classified as held-for trading. The held-for-trading classification includes two types of derivative instruments. The first type are those used in sales and trading activities, and those instruments that are used for risk management purposes but which for various reasons do not meet the qualifying criteria for hedge accounting. The second type of held for trading category includes derivatives managed in conjunction with financial instruments designated at fair value. These activities are described more fully below.

The consolidated entity's derivative activities give rise to significant open positions in portfolios of derivatives. These positions are managed constantly to ensure that they remain within acceptable risk levels, with offsetting deals being utilised to achieve this where necessary. When entering into derivative transactions, the consolidated entity employs the same credit risk management procedures to assess and approve potential credit exposures as are used for traditional lending.

Trading derivatives

Most of the consolidated entity's derivative transactions relate to sales and trading activities. Sales activities include the structuring and marketing of derivative products to customers to enable them to take, transfer, modify or reduce current or expected risks. Trading activities in derivatives are entered into principally for the purpose of generating profits from short-term fluctuations in price or margin. Positions may be traded actively or be held over a period of time to benefit from expected changes in currency rates, interest rates, equity prices or other market parameters. Trading includes market-making, positioning and arbitrage activities. Market-making entails quoting bid and offer prices to other market participants for the purpose of generating revenues based on spread and volume; positioning means managing market risk positions in the expectation of benefiting from favourable movements in prices, rates or indices; arbitrage involves identifying and profiting from price differentials between markets and products.

As mentioned above, other derivatives classified as held-for-trading include: non-qualifying hedging derivatives; ineffective hedging derivatives; and the components of hedging derivatives that are excluded from assessing hedge effectiveness. Non-qualifying hedging derivatives are entered into for risk management purposes but do not meet the criteria for hedge accounting. These include derivatives managed in conjunction with financial instruments designated at fair value. Ineffective hedging derivatives were previously designated as hedges, but no longer meet the criteria for hedge accounting.

Hedging derivatives

The consolidated entity uses derivatives (principally interest rate swaps) for hedging purposes in the management of its own asset and liability portfolios and structural positions. This enables the consolidated entity to optimise the overall cost of accessing debt capital markets, and to mitigate the market risk, which would otherwise arise from structural imbalances in the maturity and other profiles of its assets and liabilities.

The accounting treatment of hedge transactions varies according to the nature of the instrument hedged and the type of hedge transactions. Derivatives may qualify as hedges for accounting purposes if they are fair value hedges or cash flow hedges. These are described under the relevant headings below.

The cash flows of the above hedging derivatives are expected to affect the income statement in 2015 and beyond.

With respect to exchange rate and interest rate contracts, the notional or contractual amounts of these instruments indicate the nominal value of transactions outstanding at the balance sheet date; they do not represent amounts at risk.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

10. DERIVATIVES (continued)

Fair value of open positions by product type

The following table summarises the fair values of third party and inter-company derivatives' open positions by product contract type.

	Consolidated		Company	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
Assets:				
Trading derivatives				
Third party				
- Exchange rate	33.9	26.1	33.9	26.1
- Interest rate	3.7	1.9	3.7	1.9
	37.6	28.0	37.6	28.0
Related entities				
- Exchange rate	53.6	42.5	53.6	42.5
- Interest rate	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8
- Equity	3.4	2.3	3.4	2.3
	57.9	45.6	57.9	45.6
Hedging derivatives				
Related entities				
- Interest rate	0.5	2.1	0.5	2.1
	0.5	2.1	0.5	2.1
Derivatives matching fair value designated instruments				
Third party				
- Interest rate	2.8	-	2.8	-
	2.8	-	2.8	-
	98.8	75.7	98.8	75.7
Liabilities:				
Trading derivatives				
Third party				
- Exchange rate	42.6	39.6	42.6	39.6
- Interest rate	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9
	43.4	40.5	43.4	40.5
Related entities				
- Exchange rate	34.3	15.1	34.3	15.1
- Interest rate	2.9	2.0	2.9	2.0
- Equity	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.6
	37.4	17.7	37.4	17.7
Hedging derivatives				
Related entities				
- Interest rate	42.3	38.1	42.3	38.1
	42.3	38.1	42.3	38.1
Derivatives matching fair value designated instruments				
Related entities				
- Interest rate	-	1.5	-	1.5
	123.1	97.8	123.1	97.8

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

10. DERIVATIVES (continued)

Fair value hedges

The consolidated entity's fair value hedges principally consist of interest rate swaps that are used to protect against changes in the fair value of fixed-rate long-term financial instruments due to movements in market interest rates.

For qualifying fair value hedges, all changes in the fair value of the derivative and in the fair value of the item in relation to the risk being hedged are recognised in income. If the hedge relationship is terminated, the fair value adjustment to the hedged item continues to be reported as part of the basis of the item and is amortised to income as a yield adjustment over the remainder of the hedging period.

The fair values of outstanding derivatives designated as fair value hedges at 31 December 2014 were assets of $0.0m (2013:$0.1m) and liabilities of $27.4m (2013:$32.2m).

	Consolidated		Company	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
Gains or losses arising from fair value hedges				
Gains / (losses):				
- on hedging instruments	(4.1)	14.9	(4.1)	14.9
- on the hedged items attributable to the hedged risk	4.1	(16.5)	4.1	(16.5)
	-	(1.6)	-	(1.6)

Cash flow hedges

The consolidated entity is exposed to variability in future interest cash flows on non-trading assets and liabilities which bear interest at variable rates or which are expected to be re-funded or reinvested in the future. The amounts and timing of future cash flows, representing both principal and interest flows, are projected for each portfolio of financial assets and liabilities on the basis of their contractual terms and other relevant factors, including estimates of prepayments and defaults. The aggregate principal balances and interest cash flows across all portfolios over time form the basis for identifying gains and losses on the effective portions of derivatives designated as cash flow hedges of forecast transactions. These are initially recognised directly in equity as gains or losses not recognised in the Income Statement and are transferred to current period earnings when the forecast cash flows affect net profit or loss.

The consolidated entity also enters into 'micro cash flow hedges' where it seeks to hedge the exposure to the variability of future cash flows of an individual floating rate financial asset or financial liability or future cash flows of a forecast transaction attributable to movements in interest rates that could affect reported earnings.

At 31 December 2014, the fair values of outstanding derivatives designated as cash flow hedges of forecast transactions were assets of $0.5m (2013:$1.9m) and liabilities of $14.9m (2013:$5.9m).

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

10. DERIVATIVES (continued)

Cash flow hedges (continued)

The schedule of forecast principal balances on which the expected interest cash flows arise as at 31 December 2014 is as follows:

	3 months or less $'m	More than 3 months but less than 1 year $'m	5 years or less but more than 1 year $'m
Consolidated and company			
At 31 December 2014			
Cash inflows from assets	100.0	100.0	-
Cash outflows from liabilities	(744.1)	(744.1)	(609.1)
Net cash outflows	(644.1)	(644.1)	(609.1)
At 31 December 2013			
Cash inflows from assets	200.0	200.0	100.0
Cash outflows from liabilities	(643.4)	(443.4)	(403.4)
Net cash Inflows / (outflows)	(443.4)	(243.4)	(303.4)

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

		Consolidated		Company	
	Note	2014 $'m	2013 $'m	2014 $'m	2013 $'m
11. FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS					
Available-for-sale securities at fair value					
- Debt securities		3,418.6	3,806.0	3,418.6	3,806.0
- Treasury and other eligible bills		246.6	169.0	246.6	169.0
		3,665.2	3,975.0	3,665.2	3,975.0
Available-for-sale securities					
- Which may not be repledged or resold or are not subject to repledge or resale by counterparties		3,665.2	3,975.0	3,665.2	3,975.0
- Which may be repledged or resold or are subject to repledge or resale by counterparties		-	-	-	-
		3,665.2	3,975.0	3,665.2	3,975.0
Analysis of available for sale securities by issuer:					
- Government securities and Australian government agencies		1,386.4	1,305.7	1,386.4	1,305.7
- Banks and building societies		2,278.8	2,603.9	2,278.8	2,603.9
- Corporate debt and other securities		-	65.4	-	65.4
		3,665.2	3,975.0	3,665.2	3,975.0
12. PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT					
Leasehold improvements at cost					
Balance at 1 January		62.4	61.2	62.4	61.2
Assets acquired		1.0	1.3	1.0	1.3
Assets disposed		(1.2)	(0.1)	(1.2)	(0.1)
Balance at 31 December		62.2	62.4	62.2	62.4
Furniture, fittings, office equipment at cost					
Balance at 1 January		62.8	62.7	62.8	62.7
Assets acquired		1.6	1.9	1.6	1.9
Assets disposed		(6.8)	(1.8)	(6.8)	(1.8)
Balance at 31 December		57.6	62.8	57.6	62.8
Leasehold improvements accumulated depreciation					
Balance at 1 January		(49.8)	(45.0)	(49.8)	(45.0)
Depreciation charge for the year		(4.7)	(4.9)	(4.7)	(4.9)
Disposals		1.1	0.1	1.1	0.1
Balance at 31 December		(53.4)	(49.8)	(53.4)	(49.8)
Furniture, fittings, office equipment accumulated depreciation					
Balance at 1 January		(54.9)	(52.7)	(54.9)	(52.7)
Depreciation charge for the year		(3.5)	(3.9)	(3.5)	(3.9)
Disposals		7.2	1.7	7.2	1.7
Balance at 31 December		(51.2)	(54.9)	(51.2)	(54.9)
Carrying amounts					
At 1 January		20.5	26.2	20.5	26.2
At 31 December		15.2	20.5	15.2	20.5

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

13. GROUP ENTITIES

(a) SHARES IN CONTROLLED ENTITIES

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
Unlisted securities at cost					
Shares in controlled entities at cost		-	-	79.9	79.9
Less: provision for impairment		-	-	(79.9)	(79.9)
		-	-	-	-

(1) Under a previous version of Australian accounting standards, shares in controlled entities were measured at fair value on a class of assets basis. On transition to A-IFRS in 2005, the deemed cost of the investment in controlled entities was the fair value of the net assets.

Over time activities within the subsidiaries have been migrated to the Company. The Company is in the process of deregistering dormant legacy entities. As part of this exercise, retained profits and capital have been upstreamed through dividends and capital redemptions from subsidiaries. As a consequence of the deemed cost calculated above, this has resulted in impairments of $79.9m being recognised.

(b) CONTROLLED ENTITIES

All controlled entities are incorporated in Australia.

Name of Entity	Note	2014 %	2013 %	Place of incorporation
Controlling Entity:				
HSBC Bank Australia Limited				Australia
Controlled entities:				
HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Limited		100	100	Australia
HSBC Finance Holdings (Australia) Pty Ltd		100	100	Australia
Midland Australia Pty Limited		100	100	Australia
ACN 087 652 113 Pty Ltd		100	100	Australia
Lion Series 2007-1 Trust	(1)	-	-	Australia
Lion Series 2009-1 Trust	(2)	-	-	Australia

(1) Although the Company does not hold any ownership interests in Lion Series 2007-1 Trust, it receives substantially all of the benefits related to the Lion Trust securitisation programme. Consequently, the Company consolidates this entity. This trust was established on 22 April 2007.

(2) The Company established the Lion 2009-1 Trust in July 2009 and purchased $1.6 billion of customer mortgages, enabling the creation of notes eligible for repo with the RBA, as part of consolidated entity's contingency liquidity plan. The Company does not hold any ownership interests in Lion Series 2009-1 Trust. It owns all the notes and receives substantially all of the benefits related to the Lion Trust securitisation programme. As a result, the Company consolidates this entity.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
14. INTANGIBLE ASSETS					
GOODWILL					
Cost and carrying amount					
Opening balance at 1 January		58.7	58.7	58.7	58.7
Closing balance at 31 December		58.7	58.7	58.7	58.7
INTERNALLY DEVELOPED SOFTWARE					
Cost					
Opening balance at 1 January		13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4
Addition		4.8	-	4.8	-
Disposals		(5.6)	-	(5.6)	-
Closing Balance at 31 December		12.6	13.4	12.6	13.4
Accumulated Amortisation					
At 1 January		(13.2)	(13.2)	(13.2)	(13.2)
Amortisation charge for the year		(0.2)	-	(0.2)	-
Disposals		5.6	-	5.6	-
Accumulated amortisation at 31 December		(7.8)	(13.2)	(7.8)	(13.2)
Carrying amounts					
At 1 January		0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
At 31 December		4.8	0.2	4.8	0.2
TOTAL INTANGIBLE ASSETS		63.5	58.9	63.5	58.9

Segment allocation of Goodwill

In accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 138: Intangible Assets, the consolidated entity's carrying amount of goodwill as at 31 December 2014 is disclosed for each segment of business.

	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
Retail Banking and Wealth Management	57.4	57.4	57.4	57.4
Global Banking and Markets	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
	58.7	58.7	58.7	58.7

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

14. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (continued)

Impairment Tests for Goodwill

Goodwill has been allocated for impairment testing purposes to cash generating units in the following business segments: Retail Banking and Wealth Management, and Global Banking and Markets. Under AASB 136: Impairment of assets, a cash-generating unit to which goodwill has been allocated shall be tested for impairment annually, and whenever there is an indication that the unit may be impaired. The key assumptions in calculating the recoverable amounts of these segments are disclosed below.

i) Retail Banking and Wealth Management

Goodwill allocated to Retail Banking and Wealth Management arose from the acquisition in 2001 by HSBC Bank Australia Limited of NRMA Building Society Group Limited. The Retail Banking and Wealth Management units' impairment test is based on fair value calculations.

Retail Banking and Wealth Management units' fair value has been assessed for the year ended 31 December 2014 by calculating a PE value, with industry average price earning's ratio for retail banks of 11 to 15 applied against the current year earnings of the unit from continuing operations to determine an upper and lower recoverable amount.

This recoverable amount exceeds the carrying amount of goodwill of $57.4m, such that management considers that it is not reasonably possible for the assumed price to earnings ratio to change so significantly as to eliminate this excess.

ii) Global Banking and Markets

The Global Banking and Markets impairment test is based on value in use calculations.

The business and associated clients that were purchased through the State Street acquisition generated a net profit after tax during the year ended 31 December 2014 that exceeded the carrying amounts of the goodwill.

With a carrying goodwill value of $1.3m, discounted cash flow models utilising both two and five year time spans and discount rates of BBSW resulted in a recoverable amount in excess of the carrying amount of the unit.

The recoverable amount exceeds the carrying amount of goodwill of $1.3m, such that management considers that it is not reasonably possible for the assumed future earnings to change so significantly as to eliminate this excess.

	Note	Consolidated		Company	
		2014	2013	2014	2013
		$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
15. OTHER ASSETS					
Prepayments and accrued income		80.5	100.5	79.6	100.2
Receivables from related entities		3,844.5	3,091.8	3,844.5	3,091.8
Other assets		109.6	259.0	109.6	259.0
Assets held for resale		-	2.9	-	2.9
Acceptances and endorsements		129.9	62.0	129.9	62.0
		4,164.5	3,516.2	4,163.6	3,515.9

In both 2014 and 2013, assets held for resale mainly comprised assets acquired by repossession of collateral for realisation.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

16. TAX ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Current tax assets and liabilities

The consolidated entity and the Bank have no current tax assets or liabilities. In accordance with the tax consolidated legislation the immediate parent entity, HSBC Australia Holding Pty Limited (HIHA), as head entity of the Australian tax consolidated group has assumed the current tax liability / (asset) initially recognised by members in the tax consolidated group and in accordance with the Tax Funding Agreement, the members in the tax consolidation group recognise a corresponding intercompany asset / liability to the head entity.

Recognised deferred tax assets and liabilities

a) Deferred tax assets and liabilities are attributable to the following:

Consolidated and Company	Deferred Tax Assets		Deferred Tax Liabilities		Net Deferred Tax Assets	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
Loans and advances to customers	30.7	8.7	-	-	30.7	8.7
Tangible fixed assets	17.5	16.6	-	-	17.5	16.6
Prepayments and accrued income	0.1	0.1	(0.2)	-	(0.1)	0.1
Other liabilities/ accrued expenses	27.0	27.5	(0.2)	(0.2)	26.8	27.3
Accruals and deferred income	8.7	12.0	-	-	8.7	12.0
Provision for liabilities and charges	0.7	14.3	-	-	0.7	14.3
Capital contribution reserve	-	0.6	-	-	-	0.6
Retained Profits	0.3	-	-	-	0.3	-
Cash flow hedging reserve	3.8	0.6	-	-	3.8	0.6
Available for sale securities reserve	-	-	(7.4)	(6.6)	(7.4)	(6.6)
Total tax assets/(liabilities)	88.8	80.4	(7.8)	(6.8)	81.0	73.6

b) Movement in temporary differences during the last year

Consolidated and Company	Balance 1 Jan 14	Recognised in income	Recognised in equity	Balance 31 Dec 14
	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
Loans and advances to customers	8.7	22.0	-	30.7
Tangible fixed assets	16.6	0.9	-	17.5
Prepayments and accrued income	0.1	(0.2)	-	(0.1)
Other assets	-	-	-	-
Other liabilities/accrued expenses	27.3	(0.5)	-	26.8
Accruals and deferred income	12.0	(3.3)	-	8.7
Provision for liabilities and charges	14.3	(13.6)	-	0.7
Capital contribution reserve	0.6	-	(0.6)	-
Retained Earnings	-	-	0.3	0.3
Cash flow hedging reserve	0.6	-	3.2	3.8
Available for sale securities reserve	(6.6)	-	(0.8)	(7.4)
	73.6	5.3	2.1	81.0

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

16. TAX ASSETS AND LIABILITIES (continued)

b) Movement in temporary differences during the prior year

Consolidated and Company	Balance 1 Jan 13	Recognised in income	Recognised in equity	DTA Transfer to HIHA	Balance 31 Dec 13
	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
Loans and advances to customers	5.7	3.0	-	-	8.7
Tangible fixed assets	16.1	0.5	-	-	16.6
Prepayments and accrued income	(0.8)	0.9	-	-	0.1
Other Assets	(3.0)	3.0	-	-	-
Other liabilities/accrued expenses	24.0	3.3	-	-	27.3
Accruals and deferred income	10.5	1.5	-	-	12.0
Provision for liabilities and charges	25.8	(11.5)	-	-	14.3
Capital contribution reserve	-	-	0.6	-	0.6
Cash flow hedging reserve	2.2	-	(1.6)	-	0.6
Available for sale securities reserve	(7.0)	-	0.4	-	(6.6)
	73.5	0.7	(0.6)	-	73.6

	Note	Consolidated 2014	Consolidated 2013	Company 2014	Company 2013
		$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
17. TRADING LIABILITIES & FINANCIAL LIABILITIES DESIGNATED AT FAIR VALUE					
TRADING LIABILITIES					
Bonds and medium-term notes		13.2	12.5	13.2	12.5
Customer accounts		73.1	99.7	73.1	99.7
		86.3	112.2	86.3	112.2
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES DESIGNATED AT FAIR VALUE					
Debt Securities on issue		43.5	38.8	43.5	38.8
		43.5	38.8	43.5	38.8

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
18. SUBORDINATED LIABILITIES					
Subordinated debt due November 2020, callable from November 2015		200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0
		200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0

Regulatory approval is required from the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority ("APRA"), Financial Services Authority ("FSA") and Hong Kong Monetary Authority ("HKMA") before any of the subordinated debt can be repaid.

19. DEBT SECURITIES ON ISSUE

	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
Certificate of deposit	19.9	119.0	19.9	119.0
Bonds and medium-term notes	135.0	674.5	-	500.0
	154.9	793.5	19.9	619.0

20. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
Balance at 1 January	47.7	101.4	47.7	101.4
New provisions	1.9	34.9	1.9	34.9
Release of provision	(4.4)	(43.0)	(4.4)	(43.0)
Provisions utilised	(40.9)	(3.8)	(40.9)	(3.8)
Other	(2.0)	(41.8)	(2.0)	(41.8)
Balance at 31 December	2.3	47.7	2.3	47.7

Final payments on the Bell litigation occurred in 2014.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
21. OTHER LIABILITIES					
Payables to related entities		521.2	1,663.9	657.3	1,838.5
Accruals and deferred income		114.4	136.4	113.2	135.7
Other liabilities		127.9	93.4	128.0	93.6
Acceptances and endorsements		129.9	62.0	129.9	62.0
		893.4	1,955.7	1,028.4	2,129.8
22. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS					
Liability for annual leave		11.6	10.5	11.6	10.5
Payable to related entity with respect to share based payments		8.3	9.0	8.3	9.0
Liability for long service leave		17.5	15.4	17.5	15.4
Total employee benefits		37.4	34.9	37.4	34.9

a) Defined contribution plans

The consolidated entity and company makes contributions to the staff superannuation scheme, a defined contribution plan. The amount recognised as expense was $15.2m for the year ended 31 December 2014 (2013:$14.1m).

b) Share based payments

The consolidated entity's key management personnel and employees participate in both discretionary and voluntary HSBC Holdings plc compensation plans. Discretionary share plans include performance and restricted/achievement share awards. Discretionary options plans are the Executive Share Option Plan and the HSBC Group Share Option Plan (ESOP/GSOP).

Sharesave, a voluntary compensation plan eligible to all employees, is a savings related share option plan.

During 2014, $4.2m (2013:$3.9m) was charged to the Income Statement by the Company and the consolidated entity in respect of share-based transactions settled in equity. This expense was computed from the fair values of the share-based payment transactions when contracted, arising under employee share awards made in accordance with HSBC Holdings plc's reward structures.

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
23. CAPITAL					
Issued Capital					
685,250,305 Ordinary shares fully paid		811.0	811.0	811.0	811.0
		811.0	811.0	811.0	811.0

HSBC

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

23. CAPITAL (Cont'd)

Ordinary shares

The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at shareholder meetings. In the event of winding up of the Company, ordinary shareholders rank after all creditors and are fully entitled to any proceeds of liquidation.

The Company does not have authorised capital or par value in respect of its issued shares.

24. RESERVES AND RETAINED EARNINGS

(a) Reserves

Available for sale securities reserve

The available for sale securities reserve includes the cumulative net change in the fair value of available-for-sale investments until the investment is derecognised.

Cash flow hedging reserve

The hedging reserve comprises the effective portion of the cumulative net change in the fair value of cash flow hedging instruments related to hedged transactions that have not yet occurred.

Capital contribution reserve

This reserve represents the capital contribution received by the consolidated entity from the ultimate parent entity, HSBC Holdings plc, in respect of the various share based payment schemes in operation.

(b) Dividends

Dividends to shareholders of the parent company amounted to $111.8m in 2014 (2013:$128.1m).

	Company 2014		Company 2013	
	$ per Share	Total $'m	$ per share	Total $'m
Ordinary shares				
Dividend 1	0.042	28.8	0.037	24.0
Dividend 2	0.044	30.0	0.037	25.5
Dividend 3	0.042	29.0	0.055	38.0
Dividend 4	0.035	24.0	0.055	37.6
		111.8		125.1
Preference Shares				
Dividend 1			500.000	3.0
				3.0

HSBC

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Consolidated		Company	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
25. COMMITMENTS				
(a) Lease commitments				
Aggregate non-cancellable operating lease expenditure contracted for at balance date, but not provided for in the financial statements:				
Payable not later than 1 year	27.7	27.5	27.7	27.5
Payable between 1 and 5 years	55.9	63.9	55.9	63.9
Payable over 5 years	82.5	22.5	82.5	22.5
	166.1	113.9	166.1	113.9

The consolidated entity leases property under operating leases expiring from one to twelve years. Leases generally provide the consolidated entity with a right of renewal at which time all terms are renegotiated. Lease payments comprise a base amount plus an incremental contingent rental. Contingent rentals are based on either movements in the Consumer Price Index or operating performance criteria.

(b) Other commitments				
Documentary credits and trade related transactions	610.6	688.0	610.6	688.0
Undrawn lending facilities	9,446.3	9,255.4	9,446.3	9,255.4
	10,056.9	9,943.4	10,056.9	9,943.4

26. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

(a) Contingent liabilities in respect of guarantees given	1,035.0	1,242.4	1,035.0	1,242.4
(b) Letters of credit and other contingencies	1,483.9	1,209.9	1,483.9	1,209.9

(c) HSBC Bank Australia Limited and its controlled entities have commitments in respect of foreign exchange contracts, futures and options contracts, forward rate agreements, and currency and interest rate swap contracts. The commitments have been entered into in the normal course of business and it is not envisaged that any irrecoverable liability will arise from these contracts.

(d) Various members of the banking industry are facing a series of class actions over exception fees that were charged to customers. As at the date of this report, only one of these cases has gone to judgment and that judgment has subsequently been appealed by both defendant and plaintiff. HSBC Bank Australia is not subject to any action. Any further disclosures might be prejudicial to the Bank.

27. FIDUCIARY ACTIVITIES

Funds under custody	169,596.3	130,879.6	169,596.3	130,879.6

Consolidated entity provides custody and clearing services to global custodians, fund managers and broker dealers.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES

(a) Risk management

The consolidated entity's activities involve the analysis, evaluation, acceptance and management of financial risks. The principal financial risks are:

- credit risk;
- liquidity risk;
- market risk (including foreign exchange and interest rate risks);
- operational risk; and
- capital management

The HSBC Group Head Office formulates high-level risk management policies for the HSBC Group worldwide. The group's risk management policies and procedures are subject to a high degree of oversight and guidance to ensure that all types of risk are systematically identified, measured, analysed and actively managed. In addition, internal audit is responsible for the independent review of risk management and the control environment.

The Bank's Risk Committee ("RC") of the Board oversees the management of risk within the Bank and the Bank's risk appetite and future risk strategy, including capital and liquidity management strategy. The Bank's Risk Management Committee ("RMC") exercises oversight of the Bank's risk framework.

For the following credit, market and liquidity risk management notes, the disclosures are for the consolidated entity as management monitor risk on a consolidated basis and because the market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk of the Company are not considered materially different for separate disclosure. The exception is capital management where this is separately monitored for both the Company and consolidated entity.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(b) Credit Risk Disclosures

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss if a customer or counterparty fails to meet a payment obligation under a contract. It arises principally from direct lending, trade finance and leasing business, but also from off-balance sheet products such as guarantees and derivatives, and from the Bank's holding of debt and other securities.

Credit risk generates the largest regulatory capital requirement of the risks incurred. The Bank has standards, policies and procedures dedicated to controlling and monitoring risk from all such activities. The Bank's principal credit risk management procedures and policies, which follow policies established by HSBC Group Head Office, include the following:

- Formulating credit policies which are consistent with the HSBC Group credit policy and documenting these in detail in dedicated manuals.
- Establishing and maintaining the Bank's large credit exposure policy. This policy determines the Bank's maximum exposures to individual customers, customer groups and other risk concentrations.
- Establishing and complying with lending guidelines on the HSBC group's attitude towards, and appetite for, lending to specified market sectors and industries.
- Undertaking an objective assessment of risk. All commercial non-bank credit facilities originated by the Bank in excess of designated limits are subject to review prior to the facilities being committed to customers.
- Controlling exposures to banks and other financial institutions. The Bank's credit and settlement risk limits to counterparties in the finance and government sectors are designed to optimise the use of credit availability and avoid excessive risk concentration.
- Managing exposures to debt securities by establishing controls in respect of the liquidity of securities held for trading and setting issuer limits for financial investments. Separate portfolio limits are established for asset-backed securities and similar instruments.
- Controlling cross-border exposures to manage country and cross-border risk through the imposition of country limits with sub-limits by maturity and type of business.
- Controlling exposures to selected industries. When necessary, restrictions are imposed on new business are capped.
- Maintaining and developing risk ratings in order to categorise exposures meaningfully and facilitate focused management of the attendant risks. Rating methodology is based upon a wide range of financial analytics, together with market data-based tools, which are core inputs to the assessment of counterparty risk. Although automated risk-rating processes are increasingly used for the larger facilities, ultimate responsibility for setting risk grades rests in each case with the final approving executive. Risk grades are reviewed frequently and amendments, where necessary, are implemented promptly.

Both the HSBC Group Head Office and the consolidated entity's RMC receive regular reports on credit exposures. These include information on large credit exposures, concentrations, industry exposures, levels of impairment provisioning and country exposures.

RMC has the responsibility for risk approval authorities and approving definitive risk policies and controls. It monitors risk inherent to the financial services business, receives reports, determines action to be taken and reviews the efficacy of the risk management framework.

The Executive Committee ("EXCO") and RMC are supported by a dedicated risk function headed by the Chief Risk Officer, who is a member of both EXCO and RMC and reports to the Chief Executive Officer.

The RC has responsibility for oversight and advice to the Board on risk matters. The key responsibilities of the RC in this regard include preparing advice to the Board on the overall risk appetite tolerance and strategy within the group and seeking such assurance as it may deem appropriate that account has been taken of the current and prospective macroeconomic and financial environment. The RC is also responsible for the periodic review of the effectiveness of the internal control and risk management frameworks and advising the Board on all high level risk matters.

The RC approves the appointment and removal of the consolidated entity's Chief Risk Officer.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(b) Credit Risk Disclosures (continued)

Credit exposure
The Bank's credit exposure is spread across a broad range of asset classes, including derivatives, trading assets, loans and advances to customers, loans and advances to banks and financial investments.

The following table presents the maximum exposure to credit risk from on-balance sheet and off-balance sheet financial instruments, before taking account of any collateral held or other credit enhancements (unless such credit enhancements meet accounting offsetting requirements). For financial assets recognised on the Statement of Financial Position, the maximum exposure to credit risk equals their carrying amount; for financial guarantees and similar contracts granted, it is the maximum amount that would have to be paid if the guarantees were called upon. For loan commitments and other credit-related commitments that are irrevocable over the life of the respective facilities, it is generally the full amount of the committed facilities.

Maximum exposure to Credit Risk

	Consolidated		Company	
	2014 $'m	2013 $'m	2014 $'m	2013 $'m
Cash and balances at central banks	763.8	473.3	763.8	473.3
Items in course of collection from other banks	4.5	3.6	4.5	3.6
Derivatives	98.8	75.7	98.8	75.7
Loans and advances to banks	179.5	225.8	179.5	225.8
Loans and advances to customers	16,850.4	17,412.0	16,850.4	17,412.0
Financial investments - Debt securities	3,418.6	3,806.0	3,418.6	3,806.0
- Treasury and other eligible bill	246.6	169.0	246.6	169.0
Total financial investments	3,665.2	3,975.0	3,665.2	3,975.0
Other assets				
- Acceptances and endorsements	129.9	62.0	129.9	62.0
- Receivables from related parties	3,844.5	3,091.8	3,844.5	3,091.8
- Accrued income	75.7	94.7	75.7	94.7
- Other	109.5	257.2	109.5	257.2
Total other assets	4,159.6	3,505.7	4,159.6	3,505.7
Financial guarantees and contingent liabilities	1,035.0	1,242.4	1,035.0	1,242.4
Loan commitments and other credit related commitments	10,056.9	9,943.4	10,056.9	9,943.4
At 31 December	36,813.7	36,856.9	36,813.7	36,856.9

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(b) Credit Risk Disclosures (continued)

Credit quality of loans and advances

Four broad classifications described the credit quality of the HSBC Group's lending and debt securities portfolios. These classifications each encompass a range of more granular, internal credit rating grades assigned to wholesale and retail lending business, as well as the external ratings attributed by external agencies to debt securities. There is no direct correlation between the internal and external ratings at granular level, except to the extent each falls within a single quality classification.

Quality Classification	Wholesale lending and Derivatives	Retail lending	Debt securities/ Other
Strong	CRR 1 to CRR 2	EL 1 to EL 2	A- and above
Medium	CRR 3 to CRR 5	EL 3 to EL 5	B+ to BBB+, and unrated
Sub-standard	CRR 6 to CRR 8	EL 6 to EL 8	B and below
Impaired	CRR 9 to CRR 10	EL 9 to EL 10	Impaired

CRR ('Customer Risk Rating') fall within the following categories:

- Strong: Exposures demonstrate a strong capacity to meet financial commitments, with negligible or low probability of default and/ or low levels of expected loss. Retail accounts operate within product parameters and only exceptionally show any period of delinquency.

- Medium: Exposures require closer monitoring, with low to moderate default risk. Retail accounts typically show only short periods of delinquency, with losses expected to be minimal following the adoption of recovery processes.

- Sub-standard: Exposures require varying degrees of special attention and default risk of greater concern. Retail portfolio segments show longer delinquency periods of generally up to 90 days past due and/or expected losses are higher due to a reduced ability to mitigate these through security realisation or other recovery processes.

- Impaired: Exposures have been assessed, individually or collectively, as impaired. The HSBC Group observes the conservative disclosure convention, reflected in the quality classification definition above, that all retail accounts delinquent by 90 days or more are considered impaired. Such accounts may occur in any retail EL grade, whereby in the higher quality grades the grading assignment will reflect the offsetting of the impact of delinquency status by credit risk mitigation in one form or another.

The CRR 10-grade scale maps to a more granular underlying 23-grade scale of obligor probability of default. These scales are used Group-wide for all individually significant customers, depending on which Basel II approach is adopted for the assets in question. The EL ('Expected Loss') 10-grade scale for retail business summarises a more granular 29-grade scale combining obligor and facility/product risk factors in a composite measure, used Group-wide. The external ratings cited above have for clarity of reporting been assigned to the quality classifications defined for internally-rated exposures.

The basis of reporting reflects risk rating systems under the HSBC Group's Basel II programme and to extend the range of financial instruments covered in the presentation of portfolio quality.

Impairment is not measured for financial instruments held in trading portfolios or designated at fair value, as assets in such portfolios are managed according to movements in fair value, and the fair value movement is taken directly through the income statement.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(b) Credit Risk Disclosures (continued)

Credit quality of loans and advances (continued)

Collateral and other credit enhancements

Loans and advances
Although collateral can be an important mitigant of credit risk, it is HSBC Group's practice to lend on the basis of the customer's ability to meet their obligations out of their cash flow resources rather than rely on the value of security offered. Depending on the customer's standing and the type of product, facilities may be provided unsecured. However, for other lending a charge over collateral is obtained and considered in determining the credit decision and pricing. In the event of default the Bank may use the collateral as a source of repayment.

Depending on its form, collateral can have a significant financial effect in mitigating the Bank's exposure to credit risk.

The Bank may also manage its risk by employing other types of collateral and credit risk enhancements, such as second charges, other liens and unsupported guarantees, but the valuation of such mitigants is less certain and their financial effect has not been quantified.

The collateral types are as follows:
- in the personal sector, mortgages over residential properties (mortgage loans where the loan has a greater than 80% loan to value, the level at which lender mortgage insurance is required on origination, represent 6.2% (2013: 6.2%) of total mortgage loan portfolio);
- in the commercial and industrial sector, charges over business assets such as premises, stock and debtors;
- in the commercial real estate sector, charges over the properties being financed and personal guarantees; and
- in the financial sector, charges over financial instruments such as debt securities and equities in support of trading facilities.

Collateral held on impaired assets as at 31 December 2014 was $77.8m (2013: $62.4m).

Derivatives
The International Swaps and Derivatives Association ('ISDA') Master Agreement is the Bank's preferred agreement for documenting derivatives activity. It provides the contractual framework within which dealing activity across a full range of over the counter ('OTC') products is conducted, and contractually binds both parties to apply close-out netting across all outstanding transactions covered by an agreement if either party defaults or another pre-agreed termination event occurs. It is common, and the Bank's preferred practice, for the parties to execute a Credit Support Annex ('CSA') in conjunction with the ISDA Master Agreement. Under a CSA, collateral is passed between the parties to mitigate the counterparty risk inherent in outstanding positions. The majority of the Bank's CSAs are with financial institution clients.

Other credit risk exposures
In addition to collateralised lending described above, other credit enhancements are employed and methods used to mitigate credit risk arising from financial assets. These are described in more detail below.

Government, bank and other financial institution issued securities may benefit from additional credit enhancement, notably through government guarantees that reference these assets. Corporate issued debt securities are primarily unsecured. Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions include asset-backed securities ('ABS's) and similar instruments, which are supported by underlying pools of financial assets.

The group's maximum exposure to credit risk includes financial guarantees and similar arrangements that it issues or enters into, and loan commitments to which it is irrevocably committed. Depending on the terms of the arrangement, the bank may have recourse to additional credit mitigation in the event that a guarantee is called upon or a loan commitment is drawn and subsequently defaults.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(b) Credit Risk Disclosures (continued)

Distribution of financial instruments by credit quality

	Neither past due or impaired			Past due but not impaired	Impaired	Total
	Strong $'m	Medium $'m	Sub - Standard $'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
At 31 December 2014						
Cash and balances at central banks	763.8	-	-	-	-	763.8
Items in the course of collection from other banks	4.5	-	-	-	-	4.5
Derivatives	66.8	32.0	-	-	-	98.8
Loans and advances held at amortised cost - gross						
- loans and advances to banks	159.9	19.6	-	-	-	179.5
- loans and advances to customers	12,112.3	4,019.9	124.2	537.9	157.9	16,952.2
	12,272.2	4,039.5	124.2	537.9	157.9	17,131.7
Financial investments						
- treasury and other eligible bills	246.6	-	-	-	-	246.6
- debt securities	3,418.6	-	-	-	-	3,418.6
	3,665.2	-	-	-	-	3,665.2
Other assets						
- endorsements and acceptances	0.3	129.6	-	-	-	129.9
- receivables from related parties	3,844.5	-	-	-	-	3,844.5
- other	107.7	77.3	0.2	-	-	185.2
	3,952.5	206.9	0.2	-	-	4,159.6
Total	20,725.0	4,278.4	124.4	537.9	157.9	25,823.6
At 31 December 2013						
Cash and balances at central banks	473.3	-	-	-	-	473.3
Items in the course of collection from other banks	3.6	-	-	-	-	3.6
Derivatives	55.7	20.0	-	-	-	75.7
Loans and advances held at amortised cost - gross						
- loans and advances to banks	224.5	1.3	-	-	-	225.8
- loans and advances to customers	12,087.1	4,678.7	107.6	452.6	231.1	17,557.1
	12,311.6	4,680.0	107.6	452.6	231.1	17,782.9
Financial investments						
- treasury and other eligible bills	169.0	-	-	-	-	169.0
- debt securities	3,806.0	-	-	-	-	3,806.0
	3,975.0	-	-	-	-	3,975.0
Other assets						
- endorsements and acceptances	-	62.0	-	-	-	62.0
- receivables from related parties	3,091.8	-	-	-	-	3,091.8
- other	233.9	118.0	-	-	-	351.9
	3,325.7	180.0	-	-	-	3,505.7
Total	20,144.9	4,880.0	107.6	452.6	231.1	25,816.2

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(b) Credit Risk Disclosures (continued)

Financial instruments which were past due but not impaired aging analysis

The amounts in the following table reflect exposures designated as past due but not impaired. Examples of exposures designated past due but not impaired include loans that have missed the most recent payment date but on which there is no evidence of impairment; corporate loans fully secured by cash collateral; short-term trade facilities past due more than 90 days for technical reasons such as delays in documentation, but where there is no concern over the creditworthiness of the counterparty.

	Up to 29 days $'m	30-59 days $'m	60-89 days $'m	90-180 days $'m	Over 180 days $'m	Total $'m
At 31 December 2014						
Loans and advances held at amortised cost						
- loans and advances to customers	492.8	32.4	11.7	1.0	-	537.9
	492.8	32.4	11.7	1.0	-	537.9
At 31 December 2013						
Loans and advances held at amortised cost						
- loans and advances to customers	395.3	37.1	18.5	-	1.6	452.6
	395.3	37.1	18.5	-	1.6	452.6

Concentration of exposure

Concentrations of credit risk exist when a number of counterparties are engaged in similar activities, or operate in the same geographical areas or industry sectors and have similar economic characteristics so that their ability to meet contractual obligations is similarly affected by changes in economic, political or other conditions.

Loans and Advances by Industry

	2014 $'m	2013 $'m
2014		
Class of Asset		
Personal		
- Mortgages	11,171.5	10,591.3
- Other Personal lending	974.4	1,359.4
Corporate and commercial	4,528.0	5,283.8
Financial (non-bank financial institutions)	176.5	177.5
Total gross credit risks	16,850.4	17,412.0

HSBC

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(b) Credit Risk Disclosures (continued)

Renegotiated loans

Restructuring activity is designed to manage customer relationships, maximise collection opportunities and, if possible, avoid foreclosure or repossession. Such activities include extended payment arrangements, approved external debt management plans, deferring foreclosure, modification, loan rewrites and/or deferral of payments pending a change in circumstances. Following restructuring, an overdue consumer account is normally reset from delinquent to current status. Restructuring policies and practices are based on indicators or criteria which, in the judgements of local management, indicate that repayment will probably continue. These policies are required to be kept under continual review and their application varies according to the nature of the market, the product, and the availability of empirically based data. When empirical evidence indicates an increased propensity to default on restructured accounts, the use of roll rate methodology ensures this factor is taken into account when calculating impairment allowances. The value of renegotiated loans in 2014 was $22.3m (2013:$31.0m).

Collateral and Other Credit Enhancements Obtained

The consolidated entity obtained assets by taking possession of collateral held as security, or calling upon other credit enhancements. The carrying amount outstanding as at the year end was as follows:

	Consolidated Carrying amount obtained in:	
	2014 $'m	2013 $'m
Nature of Assets		
Residential property	-	2.9
	-	2.9

Repossessed assets are non-financial assets acquired in exchange for loans in order to achieve an orderly realisation, and are reported in the statement of financial position within 'Other assets' at the lower of fair value (less costs to sell) and the carrying amount of the loan (net of any impairment allowance).

Repossessed properties are made available for sale in an orderly fashion, with the proceeds used to reduce or repay the outstanding indebtedness. Where excess funds are available after the debt has been repaid, they are available either for other secured lenders with lower priority or are returned to the customer. HSBC does not generally occupy repossessed properties for its business use.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(c) Liquidity and Funding Management Disclosures

Liquidity risk is the risk that the consolidated entity does not have sufficient financial resources to meet its obligations as they fall due or will have to do so at an excessive cost. This risk arises from mismatches in the timing of cash flows. Funding risk (a form of liquidity risk) arises when the liquidity needed to fund illiquid asset positions cannot be obtained at the expected terms and when required.

The objective of the consolidated entity's liquidity and funding management framework is to ensure that all foreseeable funding commitments can be met when due, and that access to the wholesale markets is co-ordinated and cost-effective. To this end, the consolidated entity maintains a diversified funding base comprising core retail and corporate customer deposits and institutional balances. This is complemented with external wholesale and intra-group term funding along with a portfolio of highly liquid assets diversified by maturity which are held to enable us to respond quickly and smoothly to unforeseen liquidity requirements.

HSBC Group requires the consolidated entity to maintain strong liquidity positions and manage the liquidity profiles of its assets, liabilities and commitments with the objective of ensuring that its cash flows are balanced appropriately and that all its anticipated obligations can be met when due.

It is the responsibility of local management to ensure compliance with local regulatory requirements and limits set by the HSBC Group/regional head office. Liquidity is managed on a daily basis by local treasury functions.

Compliance with liquidity and funding requirements is monitored by the Asset and Liability Management Committee ('ALCO') which report to the HSBC Group's regional Office on a regular basis. This process includes:

- projecting cash flows under various stress scenarios (including APRA "Name Crisis") and considering the level of liquid assets necessary in relation thereto;
- monitoring balance sheet liquidity and advances to core funding ratios against internal and regulatory requirements;
- maintaining a diverse range of funding sources with adequate back-up facilities;
- managing the concentration and profile of debt maturities;
- managing contingent liquidity commitment exposures within pre-determined limits;
- maintaining debt financing plans;
- monitoring of depositor concentration in order to avoid undue reliance on large individual depositors and ensuring a satisfactory overall funding mix; and
- maintaining liquidity and funding contingency plans. These plans identify early indicators of stress conditions and describe actions to be taken in the event of difficulties arising from systemic or other crises, while minimising adverse long-term implications for the business.

Core deposits

A key assumption of the internal framework is the categorisation of customer deposits into core and non-core based on the Bank's expectation of the behaviour of these deposits during a liquidity stress. This characterisation takes into account the inherent liquidity risk categorisation of the operating entity originating the deposit plus three filters around the nature of the customer, the size and pricing of the deposit. No deposit is considered to be core in its entirety unless it is contractually collateralising a loan. The core deposit base in each operating entity is considered to be a long-term source of funding and therefore is assumed not to be withdrawn in the liquidity stress scenario that the Bank uses to calculate its principal liquidity risk metrics. The inherent liquidity risk categorisation of the operating entity is determined by the HSBC Group considering political, economic and regulatory factors within the operating entities' host country, and factors specific to the entity itself, such as the local market, market share and balance sheet strength.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(c) Liquidity and Funding Management Disclosures (continued)

The three filters considered in assessing whether a deposit is core are:

- price: any deposit priced significantly above market or benchmark rates is generally treated as entirely non-core;
- size: depositors with total funds above certain monetary thresholds are excluded. Thresholds are established by considering the business line and inherent liquidity risk categorisation; and
- line of business: the element of any deposit remaining after the application of the price and size filter is assessed on the basis of the line of business to which the deposit is associated. The proportion of any customer deposit that can be considered core under this filter is between 45% and 85%.

Repo transactions and bank deposits cannot be categorised as core deposits.

The exclusion of deposits, as non-core, due to deposit size or through line of business filters, is referred to as “haircutting”.

A number of principal measures are used to manage liquidity risk, as described below.

Advances to core funding ratio
The HSBC Group liquidity and funding risk management framework (“LFRF”) employs two key measures to define, monitor and control the liquidity and funding risk of each of the HSBC Group’s operating entities. The advances to core funding ratio is used to monitor the structural long-term funding position, and the stressed coverage ratio, incorporating HSBC Group-defined stress scenarios, is used to monitor the resilience to severe liquidity stresses.

Core customer deposits are an important source of funds to finance lending to customers, and mitigate against reliance on short-term wholesale funding. Limits are placed on operating entities to restrict their ability to increase loans and advances to customers without corresponding growth in core customer deposits or long-term debt funding with a residual maturity beyond one year. This measure is referred to as the ‘advances to core funding’ ratio.

Advances to core funding ratio limits are set by the HSBC Group Risk Management Meeting for the most significant operating entities, and by the HSBC Group ALCO for smaller operating entities, and are monitored by Asset Liability & Capital Management (“ALCM”) teams. The ratio describes current loans and advances to customers as a percentage of the total of core customer deposits and term funding with a remaining term to maturity in excess of one year. In general, customer loans are assumed to be renewed and are included in the numerator of the advances to core funding ratio, irrespective of the contractual maturity date. Reverse repurchase arrangements are excluded from the advances to core funding ratio.

Stressed coverage ratios
Stressed coverage ratios, using localised assumptions based on the HSBC Group approach to forecasting under various “stress” scenarios, are tabulated below and derived from stressed cash flow scenario analyses and express the stressed cash inflows as a percentage of stressed cash outflows over one-month and three-month time horizons.

The stressed cash inflows include:

- inflows (net of assumed haircuts) expected to be generated from the realisation of liquid assets; and
- contractual cash inflows from maturing assets that are not already reflected as a use of liquid assets.

In line with the approach adopted for the advances to core funding ratio, customer loans are, in general, assumed not to generate any cash inflows under stress scenarios and are therefore excluded from the numerator of the stressed coverage ratios, irrespective of the contractual maturity date.

A stressed coverage ratio of 100% or higher reflects a positive cumulative cash flow under the stress scenario being monitored. HSBC Group operating entities are required to maintain a ratio of 100% or greater out to three months under the combined market-wide and HSBC-specific stress scenario defined by the inherent risk categorisation of the operating entity concerned.

Advances to core funding ratios and the stressed one-month and three-month coverage ratios for the consolidated entity are provided in the following table based on month end figures:

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(c) Liquidity and Funding Management Disclosures (continued)

	Advances to core funding		Stressed one month coverage		Stressed three month coverage	
	Year Ended 31 December		Year Ended 31 December		Year Ended 31 December	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Year End	**99.0%**	**103.2%**	**113.2%**	**113.7%**	**110.4%**	**109.8%**
Maximum	105.7%	106.5%	113.7%	116.4%	110.4%	113.4%
Minimum	99.0%	101.4%	108.6%	107.0%	102.6%	104.5%
Average	102.0%	103.7%	111.3%	110.9%	107.0%	109.8%

Stressed scenario analysis

We use a number of standard HSBC group stress scenarios designed to model:

- combined market-wide and HSBC-specific liquidity crisis scenarios; and
- market-wide liquidity crisis scenarios.

The appropriateness of the assumptions for each scenario is reviewed regularly and formally approved by the HSBC Group Risk Management Meeting and the Board annually as part of the liquidity and funding risk appetite approval process.

Stressed cash outflows are determined by applying a standard set of prescribed stress assumptions to the group's cash flow model. The HSBC Group's framework prescribes the use of two market-wide scenarios and three further combined market-wide and HSBC-specific stress scenarios of increasing severity. In addition to the HSBC Group standard stress scenarios, individual operating entities are required to design their own scenarios to reflect specific local market conditions, products and funding bases.

The three combined market-wide and HSBC-specific scenarios model a more severe scenario than the two market-wide scenarios. The relevant combined market-wide and HSBC-specific stress scenario that an operating entity manages to is based upon its inherent liquidity risk categorisation.

Liquid assets

The table below shows the estimated liquidity value (after assumed haircuts) of assets categorised by the Bank as liquid that are used for the purposes of calculating the three-month stressed coverage ratios, as defined under the LFRF.

Any unencumbered asset held as a consequence of a reverse repo transaction with a residual contractual maturity within the stressed coverage ratio time period and unsecured interbank loans maturing within three months are not included in liquid assets, as these assets are reflected as contractual cash inflows.

Liquid assets are held and managed by the Balance Sheet Management function, primarily for the purpose of managing liquidity risk, in line with the LFRF.

	2014	2013
	$m	$m
Liquid assets		
Level 1	4,920.9	4,131.1
Level 2	1,819.3	2,129.7
Level 3	1,223.4	1,223.6
	7,963.6	7,484.4

All assets held within the liquid asset portfolio are unencumbered.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(c) Liquidity and Funding Management Disclosures (continued)

The funding position as measured by the ACF ratio improved throughout 2014. This was achieved due to the growth in Loans and Advances being outpaced by growth in core deposits across all Global Businesses. 36% of external wholesale funding had a residual maturity beyond 1 year.

Stressed scenario analysis and the numerator of the coverage ratio include the assumed cash inflows that would be generated from the realisation of liquid assets, after applying the appropriate stressed haircut. These assumptions are made based on management's expectation of when an asset is deemed to be realisable.

Liquid assets are unencumbered assets that meet the Bank's definition of liquid assets and are either held outright or as a consequence of a reverse repo transaction with a residual contractual maturity beyond the time horizon of the stressed coverage ratio being monitored.

The Bank's framework defines the asset classes that can be assessed as high quality and realisable within one month and between one month and three months. ALCO has to be satisfied that any asset which may be treated as liquid in accordance with the Bank's liquid asset policy will remain liquid under the stress scenario being managed to.

Inflows from the utilisation of liquid assets within one month can generally only be based on confirmed withdrawable central bank deposits or the sale or repo of government and semi-government exposures generally restricted to those denominated in the sovereign's domestic currency. High quality ABSs and covered bonds are also included but inflows assumed for these assets are capped.

Inflows after one month are also reflected for high quality non-financial and non-structured corporate bonds and equities within the most liquid indices.

Internal categorisation	***Cash inflow recognised***	***Asset classes***	***Eligibility criteria***
Level 1	• *Within one month*	• *Central government* • *State and Territory government* • *Central bank (including confirmed withdrawable reserves)* • *Supranationals* • *Multilateral Development Banks*	• *0% and 20% risk weighted*
Level 2	• *Within one month but capped*	• *Public sector entities* • *Secured covered bonds and pass-through ABSs* • *Unsecured financial entity securities*	• *20% risk weighted*
Level 3	• *From one to three months*	• *Class A notes from the Lion 2009-1 Residential mortgage backed securitisation*	• *Eligible for rep with the Reserve Bank of Australia*

Any entity owned and controlled by central or local/regional government but not explicitly guaranteed is treated as a public sector entity.

Any exposure explicitly guaranteed is reflected as an exposure to the ultimate guarantor.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(c) Liquidity and Funding Management Disclosures (continued)

Sources of funding

The Bank's primary sources of funding are customer current accounts and customer savings deposits payable on demand or at short notice. The Bank issues wholesale securities (secured and unsecured) to supplement customer deposits and change the currency mix, maturity profile or location of the Bank's liabilities.

The level of customer accounts continued to exceed the level of loans and advances to customers. The positive funding gap was predominantly deployed into liquid assets; cash and balances with central banks and financial investments, as required by the LFRF.

The Bank also accesses wholesale funding markets by issuing senior secured and unsecured debt securities (publically and privately) and borrowing from the secured repo markets against high quality collateral, in order to align asset and liability maturities and currencies and to maintain a presence in local wholesale markets.

Liquidity behaviouralisation

Liquidity behaviouralisation is applied to reflect the Bank's assessment of the expected period for which the Bank is confident that it will have access to its liabilities, even under a severe liquidity stress scenario, and the expected period for which the Bank must assume that it will need to fund its assets. Behaviouralisation is applied when the contractual terms do not reflect the expected behaviour. Liquidity behaviouralisation is reviewed and approved by ALCO in compliance with policies set by the HSBC Group Risk Management Meeting.

Contingent liquidity risk

The Bank provides customers with committed and standby facilities. These facilities increase the funding requirements of the Bank when customers drawdown. The liquidity risk associated with the potential drawdown on non-cancellable committed facilities is factored into the Bank's stressed scenarios and limits are set for these facilities.

Management of cross-currency liquidity and funding risk

The liquidity and funding risk framework also considers the ability of the Bank to continue to access foreign exchange markets under stress when a surplus in one currency is used to meet a deficit in another currency, for example, by the use of the foreign currency swap markets. The Bank also monitors stressed coverage ratios and advances to core funding ratios for non-local currencies.

Regulatory Reform

The APRA liquidity standard, APS210, was updated in 2014 to include Basel III requirements. These included the introduction of two new liquidity measures to assess liquidity risk (the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) in 2015 and the Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR), expected implementation in 2018). The Bank remains well placed to meet the Basel III funding and liquidity requirements.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(c) Liquidity and Funding Management Disclosures (continued)

Cash flows payable by the consolidated entity under financial liabilities by remaining contractual maturities

	On demand	Due within 3 months	Due between 3 and 12 months	Due between 1 and 5 years	Due after 5 years
	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
At 31 December 2014					
Deposits by banks	342.3	-	-	-	-
Customer accounts	17,063.1	4,120.6	1,171.3	47.5	12.2
Items in the course of transmission to other banks	-	26.2	-	-	-
Debt securities on issue	-	10.1	69.3	99.2	-
Financial liabilities designated at fair value	-	0.5	1.6	8.8	46.1
Subordinated liabilities	-	2.8	208.3	-	-
Other financial liabilities	741.0	141.2	12.9	31.2	-
	18,146.4	4,301.4	1,463.4	186.7	58.3
Financial guarantee contracts	1,004.3	-	-	-	-
Loan commitments	7,763.7	2,293.3	-	-	-
	26,914.4	6,594.7	1,463.4	186.7	58.3
At 31 December 2013					
Deposits by banks	341.2	-	-	-	-
Customer accounts	14,954.9	4,111.9	1,640.4	52.5	9.4
Items in the course of transmission to other banks	-	32.2	-	-	-
Debt securities on issue	-	6.2	605.0	39.2	222.4
Financial liabilities designated at fair value	-	0.5	1.5	8.2	47.0
Subordinated liabilities	-	2.7	8.1	210.8	-
Other financial liabilities	714.0	384.7	862.0	20.4	-
	16,010.1	4,538.2	3,117.0	331.1	278.8
Financial guarantee contracts	1,220.2	-	-	-	-
Loan commitments	7,934.7	2,008.7	-	0.1	-
	25,165.0	6,546.9	3,117.0	331.2	278.8

*Financial Guarantees are recognised in the earliest period in which payment is due from the entity.

The balances in the above table will not agree directly to the balances in the consolidated Statement of Financial Position as the table incorporates all cash flows, on an undiscounted basis, related to both principal as well as those associated with all future coupon payments. Liabilities in trading portfolios have not been analysed by contractual maturity because trading assets and liabilities are typically held for short periods of time.

Cash flows payable in respect of customer accounts are primarily contractually repayable on demand or at short notice. In practice, however, short-term deposit balances remain stable as inflows and outflows broadly match and a significant portion of loan commitments and guarantee contracts expire without being drawn upon. The Bank's approach to managing liquidity risk is set out above.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(d) Market Risk Disclosures

Market risk is the risk that movements in foreign exchange rates, interest rates, credit spreads, or equity and commodity prices will result in profits or losses to the Bank. Market risk arises on financial instruments which are measured at fair value and those which are measured at amortised cost. The objective of market risk management is to control market risk exposures to achieve an optimal return while maintaining risk at acceptable levels.

The Bank monitors market risk separately for trading portfolios and non-trading portfolios. Trading portfolios include positions arising from market-making in exchange rate, interest rate, credit and equity derivative instruments, as well as in debt and equity securities. Trading risks arise either from customer-related business or from proprietary position-taking.

The management of market risk is principally undertaken in Global Markets through risk limits approved by the HSBC group's Executive Committee. Wholesale and Market Risk, a unit within the Risk function, develops risk management policies and measurement techniques.

Risk limits are determined for each location and, within location, for each portfolio. Limits are set by product and risk type with market liquidity being a principal factor in determining the level of limits set. Limits are set using a combination of risk measurement techniques, including position limits, sensitivity limits, as well as value at risk limits at a portfolio level. Similarly, option risks are controlled through full revaluation limits in conjunction with limits on the underlying variables that determine each option's value.

Value at risk ("VaR")
VaR is a technique which estimates the potential losses that could occur on risk positions taken due to movements in market rates and prices over a specified time horizon and to a given level of confidence (99% for the Bank). The use of VaR is integrated in the risk management of market risk in the Bank and VaR is calculated for all trading-intent positions regardless of how those exposures are capitalised. Where there is not an approved internal model, the appropriate local rules to capitalise exposures are used. The Bank's models are based predominantly on historical simulation. VaR is calculated at a 99% confidence level for a one-day holding period. Although a valuable guide to risk, VaR should always be viewed in the context of its limitations. For example:

- the use of historical data as a proxy for estimating future events may not encompass all potential events, particularly those which are extreme in nature;
- the use of a 1-day holding period assumes that all positions can be liquidated or hedged in one day. This may not fully reflect the market risk arising at times of severe illiquidity, when a 1-day holding period may be insufficient to liquidate or hedge all positions fully;
- the use of a 99% confidence level, by definition, does not take into account losses that might occur beyond this level of confidence; and
- VaR is calculated on the basis of exposures outstanding at the close of business and therefore does not necessarily reflect intra-day exposures.

The Bank recognises these limitations by augmenting the VaR limits with other position and sensitivity limit structures, as well as with stress testing, both on individual portfolios and on a consolidated basis. The Bank's stress testing regime provides senior management with an assessment of the impact of extreme events on the market risk exposures of the Bank.

Total and trading VaR for the consolidated entity was as follows:

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(d) Market Risk Disclosures (continued)

	Total VaR Year Ended 31 December		**Trading VaR Year Ended 31 December**	
	2014 $'m	**2013 $'m**	**2014 $'m**	**2013 $'m**
At 31 December	1.7	2.7	0.1	0.1
Average	2.7	3.4	0.1	0.0
Maximum	5.4	5.8	0.2	0.2
Minimum	1.5	1.2	0.0	0.0

Total VaR at 31 December 2014 was $1.7m which decreased by $1.0m from the VaR observed as at 31 December 2013. The decrease in VaR was due to the reduction in AUD interest rate PVBP exposure from $121k to $67k as at 31 December 2014. As a result of the decrease in interest rate PVBP exposure through the course of 2014, the average VaR utilisation was $0.7m lower at $2.7m average Total VaR utilisation.

Total Trading VaR at 31 December 2014 remained steady at $0.1m year on year.

Market risk linkages to the accounting Statement of Financial Position

Trading assets and liabilities
The Bank's trading assets and liabilities are in substantially all cases originated by GB&M. As described in note 3(g), the assets and liabilities are classified as held for trading if they have been acquired or incurred principally for the purpose of selling or repurchasing in the near term, or form part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that are managed together and for which there is evidence of a recent pattern of short-term profit- taking. These assets and liabilities are treated as traded risk for the purposes of market risk management, other than a limited number of exceptions, primarily in Global Banking where the short-term acquisition and disposal of the assets are linked to other non-trading related activities such as loan origination.

Financial liabilities designated at fair value
Financial liabilities designated at fair value are primarily fixed-rate securities issued by for funding purposes. As described in note 3(h), an accounting mismatch would arise if the debt securities were accounted for at amortised cost because the derivatives which economically hedge market risks on the securities would be accounted for at fair value with changes recognised in the income statement. The market risks of these liabilities are treated as non-traded risk, the principal risks being interest rate and/or foreign exchange risks.

Derivative assets and liabilities
As described in note 10, the Bank undertakes derivative activity for three primary purposes; to create risk management solutions for clients, to manage the portfolio risks arising from client business and to manage and hedge the Bank's own risks. Most of the Bank's derivative exposures arise from sales and trading activities within GB&M and are treated as traded risk for market risk management purposes. Within derivative assets and liabilities there are portfolios of derivatives which are not risk managed on a trading intent basis and are treated as non-traded risk for VaR measurement purposes. These arise when the derivative was entered into in order to manage risk arising from non-traded exposures. These include non-qualifying hedging derivatives, and derivatives qualifying for fair value and cash flow hedge accounting. The use of on-qualifying hedges whose primary risks relate to interest rate and foreign exchange exposure is described in note 3(l). Details of derivatives in fair value and cash flow hedge accounting relationships are given in Note 10 on the Financial Statements. The Bank's primary risks in respect of these instruments relate to interest rate and foreign exchange risks.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(d) Market Risk Disclosures (continued)

Loans and advances to customers

The primary risk on assets within loans and advances to customers is the credit risk of the borrower. The risk of these assets is treated as non-trading risk for market risk management purposes.

Financial investments

Financial investments include assets held on an available-for-sale and held-to-maturity basis. An analysis of the Bank's holdings of these securities by accounting classification and issuer type is shown in note 11. The majority of these securities are mainly held within Balance Sheet Management in GB&M. The positions which are originated in order to manage structural interest rate and liquidity risk are treated as non-trading risk for the purposes of market risk management.

Trading

The Bank's control of market risk is based on restricting individual operations to trading within a list of permissible instruments authorised for each site by Wholesale and Market Risk, and enforcing rigorous new product approval procedures. In particular, trading in the more complex derivative products is concentrated in offices with appropriate levels of product expertise and robust control systems.

In addition, at both portfolio and position levels, market risk in trading portfolios is monitored and controlled using a complementary set of techniques such as VaR and present value of a basis point, together with stress and sensitivity testing and concentration limits. These techniques quantify the impact on capital of defined market movements.

Non-trading portfolios

Market risk in non-trading portfolios arises principally from mismatches between the future yield on assets and their funding cost as a result of interest rate changes. Analysis of this risk is complicated by having to make assumptions on optionality in certain product areas, for example mortgage prepayments, and from behavioural assumptions regarding the economic duration of liabilities which are contractually repayable on demand, for example current accounts. In order to manage this risk optimally, market risk in non-trading portfolios is transferred to Global Markets or to separate books managed under the supervision of the local Asset and Liability Management Committee ('ALCO').

The transfer of market risk to books managed by Global Markets or supervised by ALCO is usually achieved by a series of internal deals between the business units and these books. When the behavioural characteristics of a product differ from its contractual characteristics, the behavioural characteristics are assessed to determine the true underlying interest rate risk. Local ALCOs regularly monitor all such behavioural assumptions and interest rate risk positions, to ensure they comply with interest rate risk limits established by senior management.

As noted above, in certain cases, the non-linear characteristics of products cannot be adequately captured by the risk transfer process. For example, both the flow from customer deposit accounts to alternative investment products and the precise prepayment speeds of mortgages will vary at different interest rate levels. In such circumstances, simulation modelling is used to identify the impact of varying scenarios on valuations and net interest income.

Once market risk has been consolidated in Global Markets or ALCO-managed books, the net exposure is typically managed through the use of interest rate swaps within agreed limits.

The Bank also monitors the sensitivity of projected net interest income under varying interest rate scenarios. The Bank aims, through its management of market risk in non-trading portfolios, to mitigate the impact of prospective interest rate movements which could reduce future net interest income, whilst balancing the cost of such hedging activities on the current net revenue stream.

A large part of the Bank's exposure to changes in net interest income arising from movements in interest rates relates to its core deposit franchise. The Bank's core deposit franchise is exposed to changes in the value of the deposits raised and spreads against wholesale funds. The value of core deposits increases as interest rates rise and decreases as interest rates fall. This risk is, however, asymmetrical in a very low interest rate environment as there is limited room to lower deposit pricing in the event of interest rate reductions.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

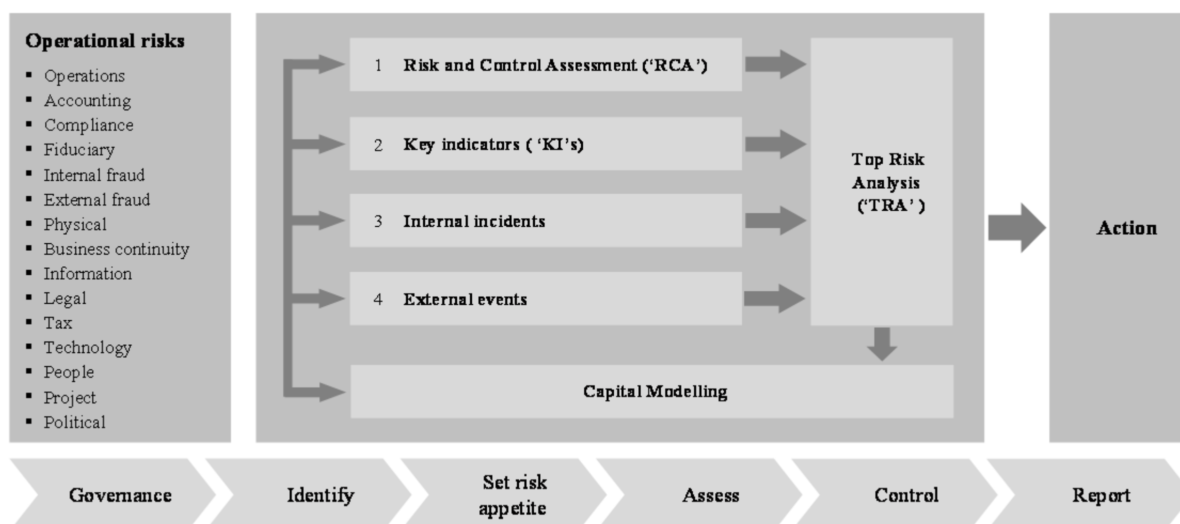
28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(e) Operational Risk Disclosures

Operational risk is the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events, including legal risk (along with accounting, tax, security and fraud, people, systems, projects, operations and organisational change risk). It arises from day to day operations or external events, and is relevant to every aspect of our business.

Operational risk management framework

The HSBC Group Operational Risk function and the operational risk management framework ('ORMF') assist business management in discharging their responsibilities. The ORMF defines minimum standards and processes, and the governance structure for operational risk and internal control across the HSBC Group.



- RCAs are used to inform the evaluation of the effectiveness of controls over top risks.
- KIs are used to help monitor the risks and controls.
- TRAs (scenarios) provide management with a quantified view of our top and emerging operational risks.
- Internal incidents are used to forecast expected losses.
- External sources (e.g. IBM/Algo and ORX databases) are used to inform the assessment of extreme TRAs.

Articulating our risk appetite for material operational risks helps business understand the level of risk our organisation is willing to accept. Monitoring operational risk exposure against risk appetite on a regular basis and implementing our risk acceptance process drives risk awareness in a more forward-looking manner. It assists management in determining whether further action is required.

In addition, an enhanced Top Risk Analysis process is being implemented across the HSBC Group to improve the quantification and management of material risks through scenario analysis.

The incidence of regulatory proceedings and other adversarial proceedings against financial service firms is increasing. Proposed changes relating to capital and liquidity requirements, remuneration and/or taxes could increase our cost of doing business, reducing future profitability. Various regulators and competition authorities around the world are also investigating and reviewing certain past submissions made by panel banks and the process for making submissions in connection with the setting of benchmark interest and foreign exchange rates. In response, we have undertaken a number of initiatives which seek to address the issues identified, including creating a global management structure, enhancing our governance and oversight, increasing our compliance function resource, emphasising HSBC Values and designing and implementing new global standards.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(f) Capital Management

The Bank's approach to capital management is driven by its strategic and organisational requirements, taking into account the regulatory, economic and commercial environment in which it operates.

It is the Bank's objective to maintain a strong capital base to support the development of its business and to meet regulatory capital requirements at all times.

There is an annual Bank capital plan which is approved by the Board. The plan is drawn up with the objective of maintaining both an appropriate amount of capital and an optimal mix between the different components of capital. In accordance with HSBC Group's Capital Management Framework, capital generated in excess of planned requirements is returned to the shareholder, normally by way of dividends.

The principal forms of capital are included in the following balances on the consolidated Statement of Financial Position: share capital, retained profits, other reserves, and subordinated liabilities. Capital also includes the general reserve for credit losses.

Externally imposed capital requirements
The Bank, is an Authorised Deposit Taking Institution ("ADI") and is subject to APRA regulation under the authority of the Banking Act 1959.

The local regulator sets and monitors the Bank and consolidated entity's capital requirements under a tiered approach to the measurement of the entity's capital adequacy covering:

- Level 1 – Bank; and
- Level 2 – consists of the consolidated group, excluding non-controlled subsidiaries and subsidiaries with non financial operations and securitisation special purpose vehicles.

The group uses the standardised approach to credit risk, operational risk and market risk.

During the year, the Bank and the consolidated entity complied with all of the externally imposed capital requirements by APRA.

Basel III
In December 2010, the Basel Committee issued two documents: 'A global regulatory framework for more resilient banks and banking systems' and 'International framework for liquidity risk measurement, standards and monitoring', which together are commonly referred to as 'Basel III'. In June 2011, the Basel Committee issued a revision to the former document setting out the finalised capital treatment for counterparty credit risk in bilateral trades.

The Basel III rules set out the minimum common equity tier 1 (CET1) requirement of 4.5% and additional capital conservation buffer requirement of 2.5%, to be phased in sequentially from 1 January 2013, becoming fully effective on 1 January 2019. Any additional countercyclical capital buffer requirements will also be phased in, starting in 2016 to a maximum level of 2.5% effective on 1 January 2019, although individual jurisdictions may choose to implement larger countercyclical capital buffers. In addition to the criteria detailed in the Basel III proposals, the Basel Committee issued further minimum requirements in January 2011 to ensure that all classes of capital instruments fully absorb losses at the point of non-viability before taxpayers are exposed to loss. Instruments issued on or after 1 January 2013 may only be included in regulatory capital if the new requirements are met. The capital treatment of securities issued prior to this date will be phased out over a 10-year period commencing on 1 January 2013.

APRA announced final Basel III capital reforms in September 2013, and in the main adopted the core principals and transitional guidelines announced by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) to strengthen the capital framework whilst maintaining its supervisory discretion on specific capital adjustments. APRA revised Capital prudential standards incorporating Basel III capital reforms came into effect from 1 January 2013, electing to accelerate implementation timetable in some requirements in recognition that Australian ADIs capital levels are sound and above the revised thresholds.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

28. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT DISCLOSURES (continued)

(f) Capital Management (continued)

Leverage Ratio
Basel III introduces a simple non risk-based leverage ratio as a complementary measure to the risk-based capital requirements to limit excessive leverage on the part of banks. The Basel Committee's implementation timetable provides for a "parallel run" of the leverage ratio from 2014 until 2017, with the ratio becoming a binding requirement from 2018. APRA's current proposal is to follow the Basel Committee suggestion of using 3% as a "testing minimum" ratio, subject to review during the parallel run period.

Capital adequacy at 31 December 2014
The following table shows the consolidated entity's capital ratios, and capital base as contained in the 'Capital Adequacy Ratio' return required to be submitted to APRA.

	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m
	(Basel III basis)	**(Basel III basis)**
Common Equity Tier 1 ("CET1") Capital		
Paid Up Capital	811.0	811.0
Retained profits for regulatory purposes*	756.1	634.7
Available for sale reserve	17.2	15.4
Gains and (losses) on derivatives held as cash flow hedges	(9.9)	(1.3)
Regulatory Adjustments		
Goodwill and Intangible assets	(63.6)	(59.0)
Deferred tax assets net of deferred tax liabilities	(81.0)	(73.6)
Unrealised losses in respect of own credit spread on fair valued liabilities	2.0	1.7
Net unrealised fair value gains (losses) on effective cash flow hedges	10.0	1.3
TOTAL CET1 CAPITAL	**1,441.8**	**1,330.2**
ADDITIONAL TIER 1 CAPITAL	**-**	**-**
TOTAL TIER 1 CAPITAL	**1,441.8**	**1330.2**
TIER 2		
Subordinated debt (subject to transitional arrangements under Basel III)	160.0	180.0
General reserve for credit loss	97.4	110.0
Available for sale reserve (profit)	-	-
TOTAL TIER 2 CAPITAL	**257.4**	**290.0**
TOTAL CAPITAL BASE	**1,699.2**	**1,620.2**
TOTAL RISK WEIGHTED ASSETS	**14,079.4**	**14,448.8**
CET1 capital ratio	**10.24%**	**9.21%**
Tier 1 capital ratio	**10.24%**	**9.21%**
Total capital ratio	**12.07%**	**11.21%**

* Retained profits for regulatory purposes differ to retained profits per the Statement of Financial Position. A full reconciliation can be found in the Regulatory Disclosures section of the Bank's website at www.hsbc.com.au.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

29. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Fair values of financial instruments carried at fair value

Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction.

Financial instruments measured at fair value on an ongoing basis include trading assets and liabilities, instruments designated at fair value, derivatives, and financial investments classified as available-for-sale (including treasury and other eligible bills, debt securities, and equity securities).

Control framework

Fair values are subject to a control framework that aims to ensure that they are either determined, or validated, by a function independent of the risk-taker.

For all financial instruments where fair values are determined by reference to externally quoted prices or observable pricing inputs to models, independent price determination or validation is used. In inactive markets, direct observation of a traded price may not be possible. In these circumstances, the Bank will source alternative market information to validate the financial instrument's fair value, with greater weight given to information that is considered to be more relevant and reliable. The factors that are considered in this regard are, inter alia:

- the extent to which prices may be expected to represent genuine traded or tradable prices;
- the degree of similarity between financial instruments;
- the degree of consistency between different sources;
- the process followed by the pricing provider to derive the data;
- the elapsed time between the date to which the market data relates and the balance sheet date; and
- the manner in which the data was sourced.

For fair values determined using a valuation model, the control framework may include, as applicable, development or validation by independent support functions of: (i) the logic within valuation models; (ii) the inputs to those models; (iii) any adjustments required outside the valuation models; and (iv) where possible, model outputs. Valuation models are subject to a process of due diligence and calibration before becoming operational and are calibrated against external market data on an on-going basis.

To this end, ultimate responsibility for the determination of fair values lies within Product control, which reports functionally to the Chief Financial officer. Finance establishes the accounting policies and procedures governing valuation, and is responsible for ensuring that these comply with all relevant accounting standards.

Determination of fair value of financial instruments carried at fair value

Fair values are determined according to the following hierarchy:

(a) Level 1 - Quoted market price

Financial instruments with quoted prices for identical instruments in active markets.

(b) Level 2 - Valuation technique using observable inputs

Financial instruments with quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets or quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in inactive markets and financial instruments valued using models where all significant inputs are observable.

(c) Level 3 - Valuation technique with significant non-observable inputs

Financial instruments valued using models where one or more significant inputs are not observable.

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price in an actively traded market. In the event that the market for a financial instrument is not active, a valuation technique is used.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

29. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES (continued)

The majority of valuation techniques employ only observable market data, and so the reliability of the fair value measurement is high. However, certain financial instruments are valued on the basis of valuation techniques that feature one or more significant market inputs that are not observable. For these instruments, the fair value derived is more judgemental.

'Not observable' in this context means that there is little or no current market data available from which to determine the level at which an arm's length transaction would likely occur, but it generally does not mean that there is absolutely no market data available upon which to base a determination of fair value (historical data may, for example, be used). Furthermore, the assessment of hierarchy level is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value of the financial instrument. Consequently, the level of uncertainty in the determination of the unobservable inputs will generally give rise to valuation uncertainty that is less than the fair value itself.

The valuation models used where quoted market prices are not available incorporate certain assumptions that the HSBC Group anticipates would be used by a market participant to establish fair value. Where the HSBC Group anticipates that there are additional considerations not included within the valuation model, adjustments may be adopted outside the model. Examples of such adjustments are:

- Credit risk adjustment: an adjustment to reflect the credit worthiness of the over-the-counter derivatives counterparties.
- Market data/ model uncertainty: an adjustment to reflect uncertainties in fair values based on uncertain market data inputs (e.g. as a result of illiquidity) or in areas where the choice of valuation model is particularly subjective

Transaction costs are not included in the fair value calculation. Trade origination costs such as brokerage, fee expenses, and post-trade costs are included in operating expenses. The future cost of administering the over-the-counter derivative portfolio is also not included in fair value, but is expensed as incurred.

A detailed description of the valuation techniques applied to instruments of particular interest follow:

- Debt securities, Treasury and eligible bills (level 1, level 2): These instruments are valued based on quoted market prices from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group or pricing service, where available. When they are unavailable, the fair value is determined by reference to quoted market prices for similar instruments, adjusted as appropriate for the specific circumstances of the instruments.
- Derivatives (level 2): Over-the-counter (i.e. non-exchange traded) derivatives are valued using valuation models. Valuation models calculate the present value of expected future cash flows, based upon 'no-arbitrage' principles. For many vanilla derivatives products, such as interest rate swap and European options, the modelling approaches used are standard across the industry. For more complex derivative products, there may be some discrepancy in practice. Inputs to valuation models are determined from observable market data wherever possible, including prices available from exchanges, dealers, brokers or providers of consensus pricing. Certain inputs may not be observable in the market directly, but can be determined from observable prices via model calibration procedures. Finally, some inputs are not observable, but can generally be estimated from historic data or other sources. Examples of inputs that are generally observable include foreign exchange spot and forward rates, benchmark interest rate curves and volatility surfaces for commonly traded option products. Examples of inputs that may be unobservable include volatility surfaces, in whole or in part, for less commonly traded option products, and correlations between market factors.
- Debt securities in issues (level 2) – designated at fair value: In certain circumstances, the Bank applies the fair value option to own debt in issue. Where available, the fair value will be based upon quoted prices in an active market for the specific instrument concerned. Where not available, the fair value will be based upon an Own Issuance Curve constructed from HSBC Bank Australia Limited funding grid as well as the credit gradient grid which is based on Credit Default Swap Spreads for HSBC Holdings plc. The fair value of their instruments therefore includes the effect of own credit spread. Gains and losses arising from changes in the credit spread of liabilities issued by the Bank reverse over the contractual life of the debt.
- Issued structured notes and certain hybrid instrument liabilities are included within trading liabilities (level 3), and marked at fair value. The credit spread applied to these instruments is derived from the spreads at which the Bank issues structured notes. These market spreads are significantly tighter than credit spreads observed in vanilla debt or credit default swap markets

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

29. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES (continued)

Consolidated		Valuation techniques				
	Level 1 $'m	Level 2 $'m	Level 3 $'m	Total Third Party $'m	Amount with HSBC* $'m	Total $'m
At 31 December 2014						
Assets						
Trading assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Derivatives	0.5	36.5	0.7	37.7	61.1	98.8
Available for sale investments	1,691.7	1,973.5	-	3,665.2	-	3,665.2
Liabilities						
Trading liabilities	-	71.4	14.9	86.3	-	86.3
Financial liabilities designated at fair value	-	43.5	-	43.5	-	43.5
Derivatives	0.4	42.2	0.8	43.4	79.7	123.1
At 31 December 2013						
Assets						
Trading assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Derivatives	-	28.0	-	28.0	47.7	75.7
Available for sale investments	2,008.0	1,967.0	-	3,975.0	-	3,975.0
Liabilities						
Trading liabilities	-	82.2	30.0	112.2	-	112.2
Financial liabilities designated at fair value	-	38.8	-	38.8	-	38.8
Derivatives	-	40.5	-	40.5	57.3	97.8

*Transactions with HSBC are predominantly instruments based on observable inputs. As described below the risk associated instruments with significant unobservable inputs are all backed out to other HSBC entities.

The Level 3 trading liabilities that are valued using a valuation technique with significant unobservable inputs relate to certain structured notes issued by the Company. The embedded derivatives contained within these notes are 'back to back' with an identical but offsetting inter-company derivative transaction with a HSBC 'Risk Taking' site. Accordingly there will be no net change to the Company or the consolidated entity of changes in significant non observable assumptions to reasonably possible alternatives as any change in market value of trading liabilities will be exactly offset by the change in value of the offsetting inter-company derivatives.

Fair value of financial instruments not carried at fair value

Aside from the assets outlined in the table above, the carrying values are a reasonable approximation of fair values.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Note	Consolidated		Company	
		2014	2013	2014	2013
		$'m	$'m	$'m	$'m
30. NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS					
(a) Reconciliation of net cash flows provided by operating activities to operating profit after income tax					
Profit for the period		230.6	259.8	229.6	259.1
Depreciation and amortisation		8.3	8.8	8.3	8.8
Decrease in interest receivable		14.3	10.3	14.3	10.3
Decrease in interest payable		(2.1)	(29.1)	(2.1)	(29.1)
Loan impairment charges		54.1	49.0	55.6	51.4
Loss on the sale of investments		(0.1)	(3.1)	(0.1)	(3.1)
(Increase) / decrease in deferred taxes		(7.7)	0.2	(7.7)	0.2
Increase / (decrease) in provisions		(44.4)	(10.2)	(44.4)	(10.2)
Increase / (decrease) in provision for employee entitlements		3.2	1.6	3.2	1.6
Increase / (decrease) in intercompany payable account		(18.9)	46.0	(19.3)	43.6
Increase / (decrease) in sundry creditors		76.4	3.4	76.0	3.2
Changes in operating assets and liabilities					
Net (Increase) / decrease in trading assets		2.2	(32.5)	2.2	(32.5)
Net increase / (decrease) in trading liabilities		(25.9)	(188.7)	(25.9)	(188.7)
Cash inflows / (outflows) from movements in other assets/liabilities		80.5	35.0	80.5	35.0
Net (Increase) / decrease in Loans and bills advanced		2.3	(1,601.5)	0.8	(1,622.0)
Net increase in deposits and other borrowings		560.8	1,819.0	522.7	1,786.7
Net Cash provided by operating activities		933.6	368.0	893.7	314.3

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Note	Consolidated 2014 $'m	Consolidated 2013 $'m	Company 2014 $'m	Company 2013 $'m
30. NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (continued)					
(b) Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents					
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows are reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:					
Cash and balances at central banks		763.8	473.3	763.8	473.3
Placings with banks with remaining maturity 1 month or less		0.3	1.8	0.3	1.8
Securities purchased from related entities under agreements to resell		3,503.5	2,958.6	3,503.5	2,958.6
Total cash and cash equivalents		4,267.6	3,433.7	4,267.6	3,433.7

(c) Financing facilities

At 31 December 2014, the consolidated entity had a committed standby facility of $1,705.0m (2013:$1,556.3m) from a related corporation. At 31 December 2014 and 31 December 2013, the facility was unused.

The total external subordinated liabilities on issue at 31 December 2014 were $200.0m (2013:$200.0m).

31. ASSETS PLEDGED AS SECURITY FOR LIABILITIES AND COLLATERAL ACCEPTED AS SECURITY FOR ASSETS

Collateral accepted as security for assets
In respect of reverse repurchase agreements, the fair value of collateral held by the consolidated entity which was permitted to be sold or repledged amounted to $3,519.6m (2013:$2,929.4m), and by the Company of $3,519.6m (2013:$2,929.4m). The fair value of such collateral actually sold or repledged by the consolidated entity amounted to $0.0m (2013:$0.0m) and by the Company of $0.0m (2013:$0.0m).

No debt securities have been pledged as collateral to secure liabilities as a result of sale and repurchase agreements.

These transactions are conducted under terms that are usual and customary to collateralised transactions, including, where relevant, standard repurchase agreements.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

32. SECURITISATIONS AND OTHER STRUCTURED TRANSACTIONS

The consolidated entity enters into transactions from time to time by which it transfers recognised financial assets directly to third parties or to special purpose entities. These transfers may give rise to the full or partial derecognition of the financial assets concerned.

Full derecognition occurs when the consolidated entity transfers its contractual right to receive cash flows from the financial assets, or retains the right but assumes an obligation to pass on the cash flows from the assets, and transfers substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. The risks include credit, interest rate, currency, prepayment and other price risks.

Partial derecognition occurs when the Bank sells or otherwise transfers financial assets in such a way that some but not substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership are transferred but control is retained. These financial assets are recognised on the Statement of Financial Position to the extent of the bank's continuing involvement.

The carrying amount of the assets not derecognised and their associated liabilities are:

	Consolidated				Company			
	Carrying amount of asset		Carrying amount of related liability		Carrying amount of asset		Carrying amount of related liability	
	2014 $'m	2013 $'m	2014 $'m	2013 $'m	2014 $'m	2013 $'m	2014 $'m	2013 $'m
Loans and advances to customers (1)	**132.2**	**170.3**	**132.2**	**170.3**	**132.2**	**170.3**	**132.2**	**170.3**
Total	**132.2**	**170.3**	**132.2**	**170.3**	**132.2**	**170.3**	**132.2**	**170.3**

(1) The Bank has performed two mortgage loan securitisations, whereby it has sold mortgage loans to the Lion Series 2007-1 Trust (launched in April 2007) and the Lion Series 2009-1 Trust (launched in July 2009) who funded their purchases through the issue of securities to external investors (Lion Series 2007-1 Trust) and the Bank (Lion Series 2009-1 Trust) respectively. The Bank provides swaps and services (including servicing and trust management) to the Trusts on an arms length basis in accordance with the APRA Prudential Guidelines (APS120 "Securitisation") and is entitled to the residual income from each of the Trusts. In addition the Bank provides a liquidity facility to the Lion Series 2009-1 Trust.

As outlined in Note 13 b) the purpose of the Lion Series 2009-1 securitisation was to create instruments that were eligible to be repoed with the Reserve Bank of Australia. Since none of the instruments have been repoed with the Reserve Bank of Australia, no assets have been deemed to be transferred to the Lion Series 2009-1 Trust.

The mortgage loans within the Lion Series 2007-1 Trust are not considered to meet the criteria for derecognition in AASB 139 for both the pass through tests and the transfer of risks and rewards tests. To reflect the cash flows that have occurred, a loan between the Trust and the Bank is recognised at an interest rate that reflects the combined contractual arrangements between the Trust and the Bank ("the imputed loan"). The implied interest rate represents the flows from the imputed loan, the interest rate swaps and the residual distribution payable to the Bank.

No assets (2013: $0m) were transferred in the year that did not qualify for derecognition.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

33. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Controlling Entities

The ultimate chief entity of the wholly owned group is HSBC Holdings plc, a company incorporated in England and Wales.

Ownership interest in related parties

Interests held in related parties are set out in Note 13.

	Consolidated		Company	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	$	$	$	$
Amounts receivable from or payable to related parties				
Aggregate amounts receivable:				
Other related entities	3,844,505,217	3,091,780,136	3,844,505,217	3,091,780,136
Aggregate amounts payable:				
Other related entities	512,600,102	1,663,943,161	648,686,279	1,838,483,816
Aggregate of amounts received or receivable from or paid or payable to related parties during the year				
Interest revenue:				
Other related entities	79,554,449	74,637,716	79,554,449	74,637,716
Key management personnel	451,633	345,513	451,633	345,513
Interest expense:				
Other related entities	12,267,877	19,416,237	19,725,881	29,803,522
Management fees paid:				
Other related corporations	87,132,508	72,454,687	87,132,508	72,454,687
Management fees received:				
Other related corporations	74,346,514	64,495,828	74,346,514	64,495,828
Fee income:				
Other related corporations	13,460,867	5,589,784	13,460,867	5,589,784
Fee expense:				
Other related corporations	4,310,217	4,946,984	4,310,217	4,946,984
Dividend income:				
Wholly owned subsidiaries	-	-	-	1,645,609
Dividend paid:				
Controlling entities	111,850,000	128,100,000	111,850,000	128,100,000

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

33. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES (continued)

Transactions with related parties

All transactions with related parties during the financial year were conducted on normal commercial terms and conditions.

Various related entities were counterparties in respect of certain foreign exchange contracts, swap contracts and forward rate agreements undertaken by the consolidated entity. All such contracts are undertaken at arms length under normal commercial terms and conditions.

Loans and lease receivables outstanding as at balance date included $53,615,355 (Consolidated) (2013:$48,337,490), which were guaranteed by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited and other related corporations under normal commercial terms and conditions.

Management accounting and administrative services were provided by the Company to certain related entities free of charge within the HSBC Group. Otherwise these services are charged on a time and cost basis.

34. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL DISCLOSURES

The following were key management personnel of the consolidated entity at any time during the reporting period and unless otherwise indicated were key management personnel for the entire period:

Executive Directors:

Anthony W Cripps (Chief Executive Officer)
Michael J Arnold (Chief Financial Officer)

Non-Executive Directors:

Graham J Bradley (Chairman)
Carol J Austin
Guy D Harvey-Samuel
Mark G Johnson
Richard G Humphry
Jayant Rikhye

Company Secretary:

Robert Agati (Company Secretary)
Bridget Powell (Company Secretary and General Counsel)

Executives:

Francine Biddulph (Head of Human Resources)
Kate Epworth (Head of Communications)
John Fogarty (Head of Regulatory and Financial Crime Compliance)
Graham Heunis (Head of Retail Banking and Wealth Management)
Sean Henderson (Head of Capital Financing)
James Hogan (Head of Commercial Banking)
Brenton Hush (Chief Operating Officer)
Charlotte Middleton (Chief Risk Officer)
Gavin Powell (Head of Global Markets)
Chris Russell (Head of Global Banking)
Vic Wolff (Head of Marketing)

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

	Consolidated		Company	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	$	$	$	$

34. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL DISCLOSURES (continued)

Transactions with key management personnel

The key management personnel compensations included in ‘staff costs’(see note 6) are as follows:

	Consolidated 2014 $	Consolidated 2013 $	Company 2014 $	Company 2013 $
Short term employee benefits				
Cash salary, fees and short-term compensated absences	6,387,514	5,073,964	6,387,514	5,073,964
Short-term cash profit-sharing and other bonuses	3,510,499	2,378,631	3,510,499	2,378,631
Non-monetary benefits	827,559	642,020	827,559	642,020
Other short-term employee benefits	587,464	580,251	587,464	580,251
	11,313,036	8,674,866	11,313,036	8,674,866
Post employment benefits				
Pension and superannuation benefits	552,255	452,220	552,255	452,220
Other post-employment benefits	57,189	47,916	57,189	47,916
	609,444	500,136	609,444	500,136
	11,922,480	9,175,002	11,922,480	9,175,002
Share based payments granted during the year	1,024,648	1,764,246	1,024,648	1,764,246

Other transactions with key management personnel

In addition to their salaries, the consolidated entity also provides non-cash benefits to its key management personnel, and contributes to a post-employment defined contribution plan on their behalf.

Executive officers are eligible to participate in the ultimate chief entity’s share option programme (see note 22).

Apart from the details disclosed in this note, no Director has entered into a material contract with the company or the consolidated entity since the end of the previous financial year and there were no material contracts involving Directors’ interests existing at year-end.

Loans to key management personnel and their related parties

	Consolidated 2014 $	Consolidated 2013 $	Company 2014 $	Company 2013 $
The aggregate amount of loans to key management personnel of any entity in the consolidated entity*	9,818,304	10,400,514	9,818,304	10,400,514
Loan repayments received	507,102	3,379,680	507,102	3,379,680

* These amounts are included in loans and advances to customers to the accounts.
Fringe Benefits Tax (“FBT”) is paid on all subsidised interest loans to Directors and this, together with the FBT benchmark interest rate, is included as part of those Directors’ remuneration.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

35. MATURITY ANALYSIS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The following is an analysis, by remaining contractual maturities at balance date, of selected asset and liability accounts and represents the actual obligation date expected for the asset or liability to be recovered or settled within one year, and greater than one year.

Consolidated	2014 Due within one year $'m	2014 Due after one year $'m	2014 Total $'m	2013 Due within one year $'m	2013 Due after one year $'m	2013 Total $'m
Assets						
Cash and balances at central bank	763.8	-	763.8	473.3	-	473.3
Items in the course of collection from other banks	4.5	-	4.5	3.6	-	3.6
Loan and advances to banks	19.8	159.7	179.5	1.7	224.1	225.8
Loans and advances to customers	2,567.1	14,283.3	16,850.4	5,550.3	11,861.7	17,412.0
Financial investments	2,056.6	1,608.6	3,665.2	2,274.7	1,700.3	3,975.0
Other assets	4,163.9	0.6	4,164.5	3,326.0	190.2	3,516.2
Liabilities						
Deposits by banks	342.3	-	342.3	341.2	-	341.2
Customer accounts	22,295.2	53.0	22,348.2	20,610.5	53.5	20,664.0
Items in the course of transmission to other banks	26.2	-	26.2	32.2	-	32.2
Debt securities on issue	55.9	99.0	154.9	599.2	194.3	793.5
Financial liabilities designated at fair value	-	43.5	43.5	-	38.8	38.8
Other liabilities	891.3	2.1	893.4	1,953.9	1.7	1,955.6
Employee benefits	37.4	-	37.4	32.1	2.8	34.9
Subordinated liabilities	200.0	-	200.0	-	200.0	200.0

36. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Directors of the Company, to affect significantly the operations of the consolidated entity, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the consolidated entity, in future financial years.

Directors Declaration

In the opinion of the Directors of HSBC Bank Australia Limited:

(a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 6 to 82 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

(i) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company and the consolidated entity as at 31 December 2014, and of their performance, as represented by the results of their operations and their cash flows, for the year ended on that date; and

(ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and

(b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and

(c) the financial report also complies with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed in Note2(a).

Dated at Sydney this 11th day of February 2015.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors:

Graham J Bradley
Chairman

Anthony W Cripps
Director

Independent auditor's report to the members of HSBC Bank Australia Limited

Report on the financial report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of HSBC Bank Australia Limited (the Company), which comprises the statements of financial position as at 31 December 2014, and income statements and statements of comprehensive income, statements of changes in equity and statements of cash flows for the year ended on that date, notes 1 to 36 comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the directors' declaration of the company and the Group comprising the Company and the entities it controlled at the year's end or from time to time during the financial year.

Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error. In note 2(a), the directors also state, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, that the financial statements of the Group comply with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We performed the procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and Australian Accounting Standards, a true and fair view which is consistent with our understanding of the Company's and the Group's financial position and of their performance.

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We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Auditor's opinion

In our opinion:

(a) the financial report of HSBC Bank Australia Limited is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

(i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's and the Group's financial position as at 31 December 2014 and of their performance for the year ended on that date; and

(ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

(b) the financial report also complies with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed in note 2(a).

KPMG

Peter Russell
Partner

Sydney

11 February 2015

Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

To: the directors of HSBC Bank Australia Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit for the financial year ended 31 December 2014 there have been:

(i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and

(ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

KPMG

Peter Russell
Partner

Sydney

11 February 2015

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