



Australian Settlements Limited

ABN: 14 087 822 491

Annual Report

For the year ended 30 June 2018

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Directors' Report

The directors of Australian Settlements Limited (ASL) present their report on the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

The names of the directors of ASL in office at any time during, or since the end of the year to the date of this report, are:

Ms Claudia Jacqueline Bels

Mr Garry Donald Dinnie

Mr Shaun Owen Hassall

Mr David John Lawler

Mr Peter Gerard Lock

Mr Robert James Ryan

Ms Margot Ruth Sweeny

Mr Bruce Kenneth White

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated. None of the directors has any interest in a contract or proposed contract with ASL, with the exception of those identified in note 25 to the financial statements, or have declared such an interest since the date of the last Directors' Report.

Directors

Claudia Jacqueline BELS

Ms Bels is an independent director of ASL with extensive legal, governance, risk management and financial expertise. Ms Bels has over 25 years' experience across the government, member services and international banking and finance sectors. She is currently a non-executive director of Australia and New Zealand Recycling Platform Limited (Techcollect), CBHS Corporate Health Pty Ltd, Australian Physiotherapy Council Ltd and Healthcare Learning Solutions. She also chairs a number of committees for these companies as well as audit and risk committees for two public sector entities. Ms Bels is the Chair of the company's Risk and Contracts & Pricing Committees and is a member of the company's Audit, Governance and Capital Committees.

Garry Donald DINNIE

Mr Dinnie is an independent director of ASL and a director of CareFlight Limited, Integrated Research Limited and a director of a number of private companies. He is also Chair or member of several other audit and risk Committees of NSW public sector and private sector entities. He was previously a partner with Ernst & Young for 25 years specialising in audit, risk, advisory and IT services. Mr Dinnie is the Chair of the company's Audit Committee and is a member of the company's Risk, Governance, Contracts & Pricing, IT and HR & Remuneration Committees.

Shaun Owen HASSALL

Mr Hassall is the Chief Financial Officer of Newcastle Permanent Building Society Limited. He is a Chartered Accountant with over 15 years' experience including ten years in the financial services industry (customer owned banking), four years in chartered accounting firms and experience in the pharmaceuticals industry. Mr Hassall has held several positions within Newcastle Permanent Building Society within risk management and financial services. Mr Hassall is a member of the company's Audit, Risk and Capital Committees.

Directors' Report continued

David John LAWLER (Chair)

Mr Lawler is an independent director of ASL. He has a career spanning nine years with Commonwealth Bank of Australia and nineteen years with Citibank. Mr Lawler has held roles of Executive General Manager, Financial Controller and Group Auditor with Commonwealth Bank of Australia. Mr Lawler is a member of audit committees for six other organisations, primarily in the public sector. He is also a past President of the Institute of Internal Auditors Australia. Mr Lawler was appointed the Chair of the Board on 14 August 2014. Mr Lawler is also Chair of the HR & Remuneration Committee and an alternate member of the Contracts & Pricing Committee.

Peter Gerard LOCK

Mr Lock is the Chief Executive Officer of Heritage Bank Limited. Mr Lock has more than 30 years' experience in the financial services industry spanning insurance, institutional banking, business development, business banking and corporate banking. He has held senior management roles at the Bank of Melbourne, St George Bank, and Commonwealth Bank of Australia, following a career with the National Australia Bank. Mr Lock is a Senior Fellow of the Financial Services Institute of Australasia, and a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He has a keen interest in leadership and community, has been part of numerous capacity-building committees in a mentoring capacity and holds a Bachelor of Business and a Master of Business Administration from the University of South Australia. Mr Lock is a member of the company's IT Committee and Chair of the Capital Committee.

Robert James RYAN

Mr Ryan is the Chief Executive Officer of IMB Limited. Mr Ryan joined IMB Limited in 1999. Mr Ryan is a director of IMB Financial Planning Limited and The Flagstaff Group. Mr Ryan was appointed to the University of Wollongong Council by the NSW Minister for Education and Training in January 2010 and is on the Board of the University of Wollongong in Dubai. Prior to joining IMB, Mr Ryan held the positions of Managing Director, Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary at Australian Resources Limited. Mr Ryan has extensive experience in finance and management at a senior executive and board level, has been involved in the formulation and implementation of strategic business plans, financial restructuring, staff management and development, as well as evaluation of acquisitions and divestments. Mr Ryan is the Chair of the company's Governance Committee and a member of the Capital Committee.

Margot Ruth SWEENEY (OAM)

Ms Sweeney is the CEO of Summerland Credit Union Limited. She has a diverse background in banking, accounting, finance, construction, education and computing within both the public and private sectors. Ms Sweeney is an active community member and public speaker. Her numerous community positions include being the current Chair of Credit Union Foundation Australia (CUFA), the development agency for the Australian Credit Union Movement, and a former member of Southern Cross University Council where she held positions as Chair of the Audit Committee and Finance Committee. Ms Sweeney is also the patron of Friends of the Koala Inc in the far north coast of NSW. Ms Sweeney is a member of the company's HR & Remuneration Committee.

Bruce Kenneth WHITE

Mr White has been working in the finance and manufacturing industries for close to 30 years. He joined Greater Bank Limited in 2010 as Chief Information Officer. Mr White has 16 years exposure to the operation of payment schemes in Australia. In his current role, Mr White has executive management of Greater Bank's payment functions as well as the technology functions. Mr White is the Chair of the company's IT Committee.

Directors' Report continued

Company Secretaries

David Craig JAY

Mr Jay has over 25 years' experience in the financial services industry which has included roles in financial markets, internal audit and retail banking. Mr Jay is the company's Chief Executive Officer. Mr Jay is also a non-executive director of Credit Union Foundation of Australia (CUFA) and the Australian Payments Network (AusPayNet) and a member of AusPayNet's Nominations Committee. Mr Jay is a Fellow of CPA Australia, the Financial Services Institute of Australasia and the Australian Mutuals Institute. Mr Jay is also a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Allan Leslie MCGREGOR

Mr McGregor has over 25 years of experience working in risk management, compliance, project management, governance, company secretarial and internal audit. During this time Mr McGregor has gained extensive experience through roles in the banking, insurance, foreign exchange and energy industries in Australia including broader involvement in the Asia Pacific region. Mr McGregor holds a Bachelor of Science Degree and Master of Commerce in Finance and is a member of the Australian Institute of Risk Management.

Directors' Meetings

The number of directors' meetings (including meetings of committees of directors) and the number of meetings attended by each of the directors of ASL during the financial year is set out below.

Directors	Board		Audit		Risk		HR & Rem		Governance		Contracts & Pricing		I.T.		Capital	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
Ms C J Bels	8	8	5	5	4	4	-	-	2	2	2	2	-	-	2	1
Mr G D Dinnie	8	8	5	5	4	4	4	4	1	1	2	2	4	4	-	-
Mr S Hassall	8	8	5	5	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Mr D J Lawler	8	6	-	-	-	-	4	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mr P Lock	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	2	2
Mr R J Ryan	8	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	2	2
Ms M Sweeny	8	8	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mr B K White	8	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-

A – Number of meetings held during the time the director held office or a place on a committee during the year.

B – Number of meetings attended.

Directors' Report continued

Principal Activities

The principal activities of ASL during the financial year ended 30 June 2018 were providing Members (known as System Participants) with settlement services for ATM/efpos, VISA, direct entry, BPAY, NPP, PEXA and high value transactions, maintaining a risk management system, acting as a focal point for Members to participate in the payments system, and developing payments services and strategies.

Profit for the financial year was \$1,910,829 (2017: \$1,940,151).

Review of Operations

ASL is an Authorised Deposit-taking Institution (ADI) subject to prudential supervision by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) and operates an Exchange Settlement Account (ESA) at the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) which is used for the settlement of payment obligations of System Participants.

ASL is a principal member of AusPayNet, BPAY, VISA, eftpos, Austraclear, PEXA, and NPP, and accepts responsibility for settling the payment system obligations of System Participants that arise within payment streams. System Participants provide ASL with funds which are used to meet their settlement obligations. The ASL Board has set the level of the funds required appropriate to the level of risk.

ASL is committed to maintaining best practice in all its activities, having regard to the size and nature of its operations. In so doing, ASL complies with all applicable prudential standards and guidance notes issued by APRA.

Since inception, ASL has successfully met all its settlement and other obligations as they have fallen due.

ASL has also devoted considerable resources to further develop its risk management systems and to the ongoing strengthening of back-up and recovery resources, which have been successfully tested by independent audit review.

Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

There were no significant changes in the company's state of affairs during the year ended 30 June 2018.

Matters Subsequent to the end of the Financial Year

The Chair of the Board has advised of his intention to resign as a director of the company as at 30 October 2018.

The Directors are giving consideration to the issue of additional share equity and repayment of subordinated debt.

There have been no other matters or circumstances that have arisen since 30 June 2018 that are likely to have affected or to significantly affect in future financial years, the operations of ASL, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of ASL.

Likely Developments and Expected Results of Operations

There are no expected developments that are likely to affect the operations of ASL or the expected results of those operations in financial years subsequent to the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

Directors' Report continued

Insurance of Officers

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

Environmental Regulation

The company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a state or territory.

Dividend

No dividend was declared nor paid during the financial year (2017: nil).

Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out on page 8.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of directors. The directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.



David John Lawler

Director



Garry Donald Dinnie

Director

Dated this ~~26th~~ day of September 2018

Auditor's Independence Declaration

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The Board of Directors
Australian Settlements Limited
Level 11, 275 Alfred Street
North Sydney, NSW 2000

26 September 2018

Dear Board Members,

Australian Settlements Limited


In accordance with section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*, I am pleased to provide the following declaration of independence to the directors of Australian Settlements Limited.

As lead audit partner for the audit of the financial statements of Australian Settlements Limited for the financial year ended 30 June 2018, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- (i) the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Yours sincerely

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU
DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU


Jonathan Perkinson
Partner
Chartered Accountants

Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
Interest revenue	2	5,733,451	5,605,496
Borrowing costs	2	(5,499,328)	(4,583,221)
Net interest revenue		234,123	1,022,275
Non-interest revenue (fees)		12,876,739	12,317,979
Processing costs		(4,978,741)	(5,525,033)
Net non-Interest revenue		7,897,998	6,792,946
Gross profit		8,132,121	7,815,221
Miscellaneous income		325,812	249,061
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(125,551)	(157,354)
Employee benefits expenses		(3,777,776)	(3,406,603)
Administrative expenses		(2,643,777)	(2,560,174)
Profit for the year before income tax		1,910,829	1,940,151
Income tax expense	4	-	-
Profit for the year after income tax		1,910,829	1,940,151
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		1,910,829	1,940,151
Dividends per share		-	-

The above statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2018

	Note	2018	2017
		\$	\$
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	306,912,564	366,797,093
Investments held to maturity		118,981,714	
Trade and interest receivables	7	2,272,832	1,727,324
Other assets	8	690,847	188,944
Plant and equipment	9	4,063,076	3,744,485
Intangibles	10	5,244,410	2,683,885
Available for sale investments		2,000,000	2,000,000
Total assets		440,165,443	377,141,731
Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	11	1,546,720	2,321,632
Provisions	12	519,608	441,876
Borrowings	17	425,524,891	363,382,146
Finance lease liability	14	309,569	642,254
System participant shares	19	27	24
Total liabilities		427,900,815	366,787,932
Net assets		12,264,628	10,353,799
Equity			
Contributed equity	13	2,624,181	2,624,181
Retained earnings		9,640,447	7,729,618
Total equity		12,264,628	10,353,799

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	Contributed Equity \$	Retained Earnings \$	Total Equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2016	2,624,181	5,789,467	8,413,648
Profit for the year	-	1,940,151	1,940,151
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		1,940,151	1,940,151
Transactions with owners in their capacities as owners:			
Dividends provided for or paid	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2017	2,624,181	7,729,618	10,353,799
Profit for the year	-	1,910,829	1,910,829
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		1,910,829	1,910,829
Transactions with owners in their capacities as owners:			
Dividends provided for or paid	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2018	2,624,181	9,640,447	12,264,628

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	Note	2018	2017
		\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Interest received		4,984,967	5,758,309
Interest paid		(5,459,409)	(4,527,664)
Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST)		14,400,924	13,619,795
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(13,823,903)	(13,529,260)
Net cash inflows from operating activities	16(b)	102,579	1,321,180
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for financial assets			(1,019,000)
Loans and Investments		(118,981,714)	
Purchase of plant and equipment and intangibles		(2,400,495)	(3,042,339)
Net cash flows (used in) investing activities		(121,382,209)	(4,061,339)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net movement in System Participants deposits		61,727,714	76,810,977
Finance lease payments		(332,613)	(408,338)
Net cash inflows from financing activities		61,395,101	76,402,639
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(59,884,529)	73,662,480
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		366,797,093	293,134,613
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	16(a)	306,912,564	366,797,093

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated. The financial statements have been prepared for ASL as an individual entity.

Basis of preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001. ASL is a for profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements. All amounts are presented in Australian dollars.

(i) Compliance with IFRS

These financial statements also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

(ii) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2018 reporting periods and have not been early adopted by the company. The company's assessment of the impact of these new standards and interpretations is set out below:

Title of standard	Nature of change	Impact	Mandatory application date/date of adoption by ASL
AASB 9 Financial Instruments	AASB 9 addresses the classification, measurement and derecognition of financial assets and financial liabilities and introduces new rules for hedge accounting. In December 2014, the AASB made further changes to the classification and measurement rules and introduced a new impairment model. These latest amendments now complete the new financial instruments standard.	The company does not expect any material impact from the new classification, measurement and derecognition rules on the company's financial assets and financial liabilities. Due to changes to AASB 9, assets listed as held to maturity in the 2018 financial statements will be listed as amortised cost in the 2019 financial statements.	Must be applied for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2018. Based on the transitional provisions in the completed IFRS 9, early adoption in phases was only permitted for annual reporting periods beginning before 1 February 2015. After that date, the new rules must be adopted in their entirety. Expected date of adoption by the company: 1 July 2018.
AASB 15 Revenue From Contracts with Customers	The AASB has issued a new standard for the recognition of revenue. This will replace AASB 118 which covers contracts for goods and services and AASB 111 which covers construction contracts. The new standard is based on the principle that revenue is recognised when control of a good or service transfers to a customer so the notion of control replaces the existing notion of risks and rewards. The standard permits a modified retrospective approach for the adoption. Under this approach entities will recognise transitional adjustments in retained earnings on the date of initial application without restating the comparative period. They will only need to apply the new rules to contracts that are not completed as of the date of initial application.	The company currently recognises revenue for products and services supplied and therefore the standard is not expected to have a material impact.	Mandatory for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2018. Expected date of adoption by the company: 1 July 2018.
AASB 16 Leases	The AASB issued a new standard for the recognition of leases, which will primarily affect the accounting by lessees with the recognition of leases currently classed as operating leases on the balance sheet. The accounting by lessors, however, will not significantly change.	Upon adoption of the standard the company will recognise a right-to-use asset and associated lease liability. The resulting charge to the profit and loss is not expected to differ materially from the rental payments implicit in lease agreements.	The new standard is not effective until 1 January 2019, however early adoption is available where an entity also early adopts AASB15. Expected date of adoption by the company: 1 July 2019.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

(iii) Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for available-for-sale financial assets, financial assets and liabilities (including derivative instruments), and certain classes of property, plant and equipment and investment property, which are measured at fair value.

Income Tax

The income tax expense or revenue for the period is the tax payable on the current period's taxable income based on the applicable income tax rate for each jurisdiction adjusted by changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities attributable to temporary differences and to unused tax losses. Under the concept of mutuality, ASL is only assessed for income tax on the portion of income derived from non-member services, including interest income.

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of the tax laws enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period. Management periodically evaluates positions taken in tax returns with respect to situations in which applicable tax regulation is subject to interpretation. It establishes provisions where appropriate on the basis of amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

Deferred income tax is provided in full, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. However, deferred tax liabilities are not recognised if they arise from the initial recognition of goodwill. Deferred income tax is also not accounted for if it arises from initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction other than a business combination that at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the end of the reporting period and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised or deferred income tax liability is settled.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for deductible temporary differences and unused tax losses only if it is probable that future taxable amounts will be available to utilise those temporary differences and losses.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets and liabilities and when the deferred tax balances relate to the same taxation authority.

Current tax assets and tax liabilities are offset where the entity has a legally enforceable right to offset and intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Current and deferred tax is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In this case, the tax is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually to ensure it is not stated above its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

Subsequent costs are included in the assets' carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the company and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to profit and loss during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including leased assets, is depreciated on a straight line basis over the asset's useful life commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are:

Class of asset	2018	2017
Motor vehicle	8 years	8 years
Computer hardware and software	3 to 10 years	3 to 5 years
Office equipment	3 to 15 years	3 to 15 years
Furniture and fittings	5 to 15 years	5 to 15 years
Intangible assets	5 to 15 years	5 to 15 years

Assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted if appropriate at the end of each reporting period.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in profit or loss.

During the financial year ended 30 June 2018 the depreciation rate for computer hardware and software was changed to 3 to 10 years (previously 3 to 5 years). This is to ensure the financial statements provide more reliable and relevant information and depreciation amounts reflect the expected useful life of the computer hardware and software. This has had no material impact on the profit and loss for the year ended 30 June 2018.

Intangible assets

Internally generated intangible assets include costs incurred in developing products or systems that are expected to contribute to future financial benefits through the generation of revenue and/or cost reduction. The costs are only capitalised if they can be reliably measured during the development of the asset. Recognition of an internally generated intangible asset will only take place if it can be demonstrated that it is technically feasible to complete the asset and the company has the intention and ability to complete the asset so that it can be made available for sale or use.

Intangible assets are amortised from the point in time that they are available for sale or use as intended by management. Amortisation is calculated on a straight line basis, over a period ranging from 5 to 15 years (2017: 5 to 15 years)

Leases

Leases of property, plant and equipment where the company, as lessee, has substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised at the lease's inception at the fair value of the leased property or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding rental obligations, net of finance charges, are included in other short-term and long-term payables. Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and finance cost. The finance cost is charged to profit or loss over the lease period to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. The property, plant and equipment acquired under finance leases is depreciated over the asset's useful life or over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term if there is no reasonable certainty that the company will obtain ownership at the end of the lease term.

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are not transferred to the company as lessee are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Investment and other financial assets

Classification

The company classifies its financial assets in the following categories: financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, held-to-maturity investments and available-for-sale financial assets. The classification depends on the purpose for which the investments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its investments at initial recognition and, in the case of assets classified as held-to-maturity, re-evaluates this designation at the end of each reporting date.

(i) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are financial assets held for trading. A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term. Derivatives are classified as held for trading unless they are designated as hedges. Assets in this category are classified as current assets if they are expected to be settled within 12 months, otherwise they are classified as non-current.

(ii) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the reporting period which are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are included in trade and other receivables and receivables in the balance sheet.

(iii) Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities that management has the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity. If the company were to sell other than an insignificant amount of held-to-maturity financial assets, the whole category would be tainted and reclassified as available-for-sale. Held-to-maturity financial assets are included in non-current assets, except for those with maturities less than 12 months from the end of the reporting period, which are classified as current assets.

(iv) Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets, comprising principally marketable equity securities, are non-derivatives that are either designated in this category or not classified in any of the other categories. They are included in non-current assets unless the investment matures or management intends to dispose of the investment within 12 months of the end of the reporting period. Investments are designated as available-for-sale if they do not have fixed maturities and fixed or determinable payments and management intends to hold them for the medium to long term.

Financial assets – reclassification

The company may choose to reclassify a non-derivative trading financial asset out of the held-for-trading category if the financial asset is no longer held for the purpose of selling it in the near term. Financial assets other than loans and receivables are permitted to be reclassified out of the held-for-trading category only in rare circumstances arising from a single event that is unusual and highly unlikely to recur in the near term. In addition, the company may choose to reclassify financial assets that would meet the definition of loans and receivables out of the held-for-trading or available-for-sale categories if the company has the intention and ability to hold these financial assets for the foreseeable future or until maturity at the date of reclassification.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Reclassifications are made at fair value as of the reclassification date. Fair value becomes the new cost or amortised cost as applicable, and no reversals of fair value gains or losses recorded before reclassification date are subsequently made. Effective interest rates for financial assets reclassified to loans and receivables and held-to-maturity categories are determined at the reclassification date. Further increases in estimates of cash flows adjust effective interest rates prospectively.

Recognition and derecognition

Regular purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade date, the date on which the company commits to purchase or sell the asset. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the company has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

When securities classified as available-for-sale are sold, the accumulated fair value adjustments recognised in other comprehensive income are reclassified to profit or loss as gains and losses from investment securities.

Measurement

At initial recognition the company measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset. Transaction costs of financial assets carried at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in profit or loss.

Loans and receivables and held to maturity investments are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Available for sale financial assets and financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are subsequently carried at fair value. Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the 'financial assets at fair value through profit or loss' category are presented in profit or loss within other income or other expenses in the period in which they arise. Dividend income from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is recognised in profit or loss as part of revenue from continuing operations when the company's right to receive payments is established. Interest income from these financial assets is included in the net gains/(losses).

Changes in the fair value of monetary securities denominated in a foreign currency and classified as available-for-sale are analysed between translation differences resulting from changes in amortised cost of the security and other changes in the carrying amount of the security. The translation differences related to changes in the amortised cost are recognised in profit or loss, and other changes in carrying amount are recognised in other comprehensive income. Changes in the fair value of other monetary and non-monetary securities classified as available-for-sale are recognised in other comprehensive income.

Impairment

The company assesses at the end of each reporting period whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. A financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired and impairment losses are incurred only if there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset (a 'loss event') and that loss event (or events) has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or group of financial assets that can be reliably estimated. In the case of equity investments classified as available-for-sale, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of the security below its cost is considered an indicator that the assets are impaired.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

(i) Assets carried at amortised cost

For loans and receivables, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows (excluding future credit losses that have not been incurred) discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate. The carrying amount of the asset is reduced and the amount of the loss is recognised in profit or loss. If a loan or held-to-maturity investment has a variable interest rate, the discount rate for measuring any impairment loss is the current effective interest rate determined under the contract. As a practical expedient, the company may measure impairment on the basis of an instrument's fair value using an observable market price.

If, in a subsequent period, the amount of the impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised (such as an improvement in the debtor's credit rating), the reversal of the previously recognised impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

(ii) Assets classified as available-for-sale

If there is objective evidence of impairment for available-for-sale financial assets, the cumulative loss – measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in profit or loss – is removed from equity and recognised in profit or loss.

Impairment losses on equity instruments that were recognised in profit or loss are not reversed through profit or loss in a subsequent period. If the fair value of a debt instrument classified as available-for-sale increases in a subsequent period and the increase can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised in profit or loss, the impairment loss is reversed through profit or loss.

Impairment of assets

At each reporting date the company reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets may be impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to profit or loss.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Employee benefits

(i) Short-term obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits and annual leave expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service, are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

(ii) Other long-term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long service leave and annual leave which is not expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service.

Notes to the Financial Statements *continued*

For the year ended 30 June 2018

(ii) Other long-term employee benefit obligations (continued)

Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

The obligations are presented as current liabilities if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

Provisions

Provisions for legal claims, service warranties and make good obligations are recognised when the company has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and the amount has been reliably estimated. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period. The discount rate used to determine the present value is a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as interest expense.

Contributed equity

Ordinary shares and non-voting shares are classified in equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares or options are shown in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds.

Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of presentation in the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and includes interest income on short term monetary investments and proceeds from system fees. Revenue is recognised for the primary business activities as follows:

- Interest income is recognised on a time proportion basis using the effective interest method.
- Fee income is recognised in the period in which the services are rendered.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

Goods and Services Tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority are presented as operating cash flows

Trade receivables

Trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days. They are presented as current assets unless collection is not expected for more than 12 months after the reporting date.

Collectability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off by reducing the carrying amount directly. An allowance account (provision for impairment of trade receivables) is used when there is objective evidence that the company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation and default or delinquency in payments (more than 30 days overdue) are considered indicators that the trade receivable is impaired. The amount of the impairment allowance is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. Cash flows relating to short term receivables are not discounted if the effect of discounting is immaterial.

The amount of the impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss within other expenses. When a trade receivable for which an impairment allowance had been recognised becomes uncollectible in a subsequent period, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against other expenses in profit or loss.

Trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the company prior to the end of financial year which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition. Trade and other payables are presented as current liabilities unless payment is not due within 12 months from the reporting date. They are recognised initially at their fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Borrowings

Borrowings represent the funds lodged by System Participants, held to cover their settlements obligations, and excess funds deposited. For further information refer to note 17.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless ASL has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period.

Foreign currency translation

The company has expenses payable in foreign currencies. Payments of these expenses are translated into Australian dollars at the time of remittance. The exposures of these foreign currency payments is not material against the company's overall expenses.

Rounding of amounts

The company is of a kind referred to in Class Order 2016/191, issued by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, relating to the 'rounding off' of amounts. All amounts are shown to the nearest dollar, except where indicated.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 2: Interest Revenue and Borrowing Costs

The following tables show the average balance for each of the main categories of interest-bearing assets and liabilities, the amount of interest revenue or borrowing cost and the average interest rate.

	Average Balance \$	Amount \$	Average Rate
2018			
Interest revenue			
Cash and cash equivalents	382,654,913	5,174,118	1.35%
Investments held to maturity	30,383,562	559,333	1.84%
Total interest revenue		5,733,451	
Borrowing costs			
Borrowings	417,649,464	5,491,955	1.31%
Subordinated debt – Tranche 1	331,733	7,373	2.22%
Subordinated debt – Tranche 2	2,090,000	-	0.00%
Total borrowing costs		5,499,328	
2017			
Interest revenue			
Cash and cash equivalents	335,713,467	5,605,496	1.67%
Total interest revenue		5,605,496	
Borrowing costs			
Borrowings	330,906,611	4,575,726	1.38%
Subordinated debt – Tranche 1	331,733	7,495	2.26%
Subordinated debt – Tranche 2	2,090,000	-	0.00%
Total borrowing costs		4,583,221	

Note 3: Auditor's Remuneration

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Deloitte (2017: PwC Australia)		
Audit & other assurance activities		
Financial statement audit	32,200	36,100
Other assurance services	18,200	21,800
	50,400	57,900

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 4: Income Tax Expense

(a) Income tax expense

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Deferred tax assets	-	-
Current income tax payable	-	-
Total income tax expense reported in the statement of comprehensive income	-	-

(b) Numerical reconciliation of income tax expense to prima facie tax payable

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Accounting profit before Income tax	1,910,829	1,940,151
Tax at the Australian tax rate @ 27.5% (2017: 30%)	525,478	582,045
Tax effect of:		
Non-deductible expenditure	9,693	57,450
Member related expenses not deductible under the mutuality principle	2,903,909	3,050,138
Member related income not assessable under the mutuality principle	(3,786,003)	(3,932,012)
Tax losses not recognised as a deferred tax asset	346,923	242,379

(c) Deferred tax assets not recognised

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Unused tax losses – Net interest income	2,750,186	2,741,721
Property, plant and equipment	28,375	5,312
Employee provisions and accruals	203,037	109,554

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 5: Key Management Personnel Disclosures

The Directors of ASL during the year were:

Ms Claudia Jacqueline Bels
Mr Garry Donald Dinnie
Mr Shaun Owen Hassall
Mr David John Lawler
Mr Peter Gerard Lock
Mr Robert James Ryan
Ms Margot Ruth Sweeny
Mr Bruce Kenneth White

Directors were in office for the duration of the financial year unless otherwise stated.

The executives of ASL during the year include:

Mr David Jay (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr Geoff Campbell (Acting Chief Financial Officer), until 1 August 2017
Mr Mathew Crichton (Chief Information Officer)
Mr Iain Giles (Head of Strategy), until 23 March 2018
Mr Bruce Potter (Chief Member Officer)
Mr Anthony Roberts (Chief Financial Officer), from 2 August 2017
Mr Mark Tibbles (Chief Strategy, Innovation & Partnerships Officer), from 30 April 2018

Executives have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Compensation for key management personnel

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Short term employee benefits	2,087,099	2,064,801
Other long-term employee benefits	21,497	64,425
Total compensation for key management personnel	2,108,596	2,129,226

Compensation in 2017 and 2018 includes consultant fees for acting executive role.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 6: Cash and Cash Equivalents

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
Cash on hand		111	800
Exchange Settlement Account (RBA) (a)		277,297,320	258,437,275
Deposits with Australian ADIs (b)		25,910,133	104,559,018
Deposits with other financial institutions (ADIs) (c)		3,705,000	3,800,000
	16(a)	306,912,564	366,797,093

(a) Exchange Settlement Account

ASL holds funds from System Participants to cover settlement obligations. Part of these funds are held in an Exchange Settlement Account in accordance with the RBA's requirement.

(b) Deposits with Australian ADIs

These cash balances represent part of the System Participants' funds held for settlement obligations and excess funds System Participants hold above the settlement funding requirements determined by ASL as a tool of their own short-term liquidity management. These funds are held in deposit and at call accounts with Australian ADIs. Interest is calculated and earned on these balances at prevailing market rates. It also includes liquid assets of ASL.

(c) Deposits with other financial institutions (ADIs)

These balances represent term deposits of varying lengths with Australian ADIs.

Note 7: Trade and Interest Receivables

	2018 \$	2017 \$
<i>Current</i>		
Interest receivable – RBA (a)	276,846	241,767
Interest receivable – ADIs	65,866	245,659
Interest receivable – Government investments	893,198	-
Trade receivables (b)	1,036,922	1,239,898
Total trade and interest receivables	2,272,832	1,727,324

(a) Interest receivable – RBA

Interest receivable represents interest yet to be received from the RBA on funds held in ASL's Exchange Settlement Account.

(b) Trade receivables

Trade receivables are non-interest bearing and are generally on 30 day terms. A provision for doubtful debts is made when there is objective evidence that a trade receivable is impaired. No allowance has been recognised as an expense for the current year as there is no difference between the carrying amount of the trade receivables and the estimated future cash flows expected to be received from the relevant debtors.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 8: Other Assets

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Prepayments and deposits	553,491	183,096
Accrued Income	137,356	5,848
Total other assets	690,847	188,944

Note 9: Plant and Equipment

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Motor vehicle		
At cost	32,686	32,686
Accumulated depreciation	(16,343)	(12,257)
	16,343	20,429
Computer hardware and software		
At cost (a)	5,336,803	4,706,900
Accumulated depreciation and amortisation	(1,340,000)	(1,049,613)
	3,996,803	3,657,287
Office equipment		
At cost	72,498	67,752
Accumulated depreciation	(66,951)	(60,723)
	5,547	7,029
Furniture and fittings		
At cost	172,973	170,449
Accumulated depreciation	(128,590)	(110,709)
	44,383	59,740
Total plant and equipment	4,063,076	3,744,485

(a) includes \$1,930,310 of assets under finance leases and \$2,674,383 work-in-progress (not depreciated)

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 9: Plant and Equipment (continued)

Movements in carrying amounts

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Motor vehicle		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	20,429	24,514
Depreciation expense	(4,086)	(4,085)
	16,343	20,429
Computer hardware and software		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	3,657,287	2,943,180
Additions	629,903	1,226,963
Depreciation expense	(290,387)	(512,856)
	3,996,803	3,657,287
Office equipment		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	7,029	16,279
Additions	4,746	1,331
Disposals	-	(995)
Depreciation expense	(6,228)	(9,586)
	5,547	7,029
Furniture and fittings		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	59,740	42,005
Additions	2,524	34,614
Depreciation expense	(17,881)	(16,879)
	44,383	59,740
Total plant and equipment	4,063,076	3,744,485

Note 10: Intangible Assets

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Software licences at cost	610,915	400,000
Internally generated intangible at cost	4,633,495	2,283,885
Accumulated depreciation and amortisation	-	-
Total intangible assets	5,244,410	2,683,885

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 10: Intangible Assets (continued)

Movements in carrying amounts

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Carrying amount at beginning of year	2,683,885	200,000
Additions	2,560,525	2,483,885
Amortisations	-	-
Carrying amount at end of year	5,244,410	2,683,885

Note 11: Trade and Other Payables

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<i>Current</i>		
Trade payables (a)	225,623	628,936
Other payables	840,120	1,123,014
Income received in advance	38,750	160,000
Interest payable (b)	442,227	409,682
Total trade and other payables	1,546,720	2,321,632

(a) Trade payables

Trade payables are non-interest bearing and are generally on 30 day terms.

(b) Interest payable

This represents the interest payable on funds placed by System Participants with ASL. Interest is normally paid monthly in arrears.

Note 12: Provisions

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<i>Current</i>		
Employee benefits provisions		
Annual leave	310,905	258,463
Long service leave	181,935	166,306
Total current provisions	492,840	424,769
<i>Non-current</i>		
Employee benefits provisions		
Long service leave	26,768	17,107
Total provisions	519,608	441,876

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 13: Contributed Equity

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
54,627 fully paid ordinary shares (2017: 54,627 shares)	54,627	54,627
2,569,554 fully paid non-voting shares (2017: 2,569,554 shares)	2,569,554	2,569,554
Total contributed equity	2,624,181	2,624,181

(a) Ordinary shares

Fully paid ordinary shares carry one vote per share and carry the rights to dividends.

(b) Non-voting shares

Fully paid non-voting shares do not carry any voting rights but do carry the rights to dividends.

(c) Capital management

The company manages its capital in order to maintain a sound debt to equity ratio, provide the shareholders with adequate returns and ensure that the company can fund its operations and continue as a going concern.

The company's debt and capital includes ordinary share capital and financial liabilities, supported by financial assets.

There is an externally imposed minimum capital requirement placed on the company by APRA calculated under Basel III (refer note 18).

The company effectively manages its capital by assessing the company's financial risks and adjusting its capital structure in response to changes in these risks and in the market. These responses include management of debt levels, distributions to shareholders and share issues.

There have been no changes in the strategy adopted by the company to manage its capital since the prior year.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 14: Commitments

(a) Operating lease commitments

Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements:

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Payable within one year	268,536	58,532
Payable later than one year but not later than five years	195,039	
Minimum lease payments	463,575	58,532

ASL leases various business premises under non-cancellable operating leases which expire no later than five years from 30 June 2018. The leases have varying terms, escalation clauses and renewal rights. On renewal the terms of the leases are renegotiated.

(b) Finance leases

Non-cancellable finance leases contracted and capitalised in the financial statements:

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Minimum lease payments	340,256	707,974
Interest	(30,687)	(65,720)
Present value of lease liability	309,569	642,254
Payable within one year	191,853	367,718
Payable later than one year but not later than five years	148,403	340,256
Minimum lease payments	340,256	707,974

Finance lease commitments require annual payments, extend to 1 April 2020 and are non-cancellable. There are no further obligations on the company at the end of the lease term.

Note 15: Segment Reporting

The company operates predominantly in one business and one geographical segment. The company's operations are confined to Australia and involve providing members with settlement services for ATM/efpos, VISA, Direct Entry, BPAY, PEXA, NPP and high value transactions, maintaining risk management systems, acting as a focal point for financial institutions to participate in payment systems, and developing payments services and strategies.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 16: Cash Flow Information

(a) Reconciliation of cash

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash at bank and on hand and short term deposits. Cash at the end of the year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
Cash and cash equivalents	6	306,912,564	366,797,093

(b) Reconciliation of profit after Income tax to cash flows from operations

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Profit for the year	1,910,829	1,940,151
Non-cash flows in profit		
Depreciation and amortisation	125,551	157,354
Capitalised employee benefits	(604,245)	(317,478)
Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and interest receivables	(547,588)	4,360
(Increase)/decrease in other assets	(499,823)	(135,897)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(359,877)	(448,832)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	77,732	121,522
Net cash Inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	102,579	1,321,180

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 17: Borrowings

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
System Participant funds (a)	230,915,521	170,303,329
Other member funds (b)	192,187,637	190,657,084
Perpetual subordinated debt (c)	2,421,733	2,421,733
Total borrowings	425,524,891	363,382,146
Maturity		
At call	423,103,158	360,960,413
No maturity specified	2,421,733	2,421,733
Total borrowings	425,524,891	363,382,146

Concentration of borrowings

Except for lease liabilities (when applicable), borrowings are from System Participants who utilise the company's exchange settlement function with the RBA.

(a) System Participant funds

ASL holds funds from System Participants to cover settlement obligations.

(b) Other member funds

These funds represent System Participants voluntary excess funds held with ASL.

(c) Perpetual subordinated debt

Perpetual subordinated debt was issued by ASL. The debt is subordinated to all other creditors of ASL, is perpetual, and the lenders cannot claim repayment of the debt or offset the debt other than in very narrow circumstances.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 18: Capital Adequacy

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Risk weighted assets	36,465,965	48,860,031
Tier 1 capital	13.77%	11.60%
Tier 2 capital	2.65%	2.48%
Total capital	16.42%	14.08%

The Prudential Standards issued by APRA require ADIs to maintain a risk-based capital ratio in excess of a Prudential Capital Ratio (PCR). Eligible capital is assessed in two tiers:

- Tier 1 - includes the highest quality elements; and
- Tier 2 - consisting of other elements which, to varying degrees, fall short of the quality of Tier 1 capital but nonetheless contribute to the overall strength of the ADI.

Note 19: System Participant Shares

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Fully paid system participant shares at \$1	27	24

Each System Participant of ASL must hold one fully paid system participant share. The effect of holding the share is to bind the System Participant to ASL's By-Laws including the settlement procedures and rules. These shares are redeemable and do not carry any voting rights or the right to dividends.

Note 20: Settlement Obligations

ASL is liable to settle the liabilities of any System Participant which cannot meet their settlement obligations. ASL holds funds from each System Participant specifically for this purpose. At 30 June 2018 all System Participants within the settlements system met their settlement obligations.

The company may be liable to bear some proportion of the loss in the event that a non-ASL counterparty in the Bulk Electronic Clearing Stream fails to meet their settlement obligations. At 30 June 2018 there was no such liability.

Note 21: Dividends

No dividend was declared nor paid during the financial year (2017: nil).

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 22: Financial Risk Management

The company's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks, including but not limited to, liquidity risk, credit risk and market risk.

The company's principal financial instruments comprise deposits from System Participants, perpetual subordinated debt, cash, short-term deposits and government securities. The main purpose of these financial instruments is to fund the company's settlement operations. The company has other financial assets and liabilities, such as trade receivables and payables, which arise directly from its operations.

The company holds the following financial instruments:

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
Financial assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	306,912,564	366,797,093
Investments held to maturity		118,981,714	-
Trade and interest receivables	7	2,272,832	1,727,324
Available for sale investments*		2,000,000	2,000,000
Total financial assets		430,167,110	370,524,417
<i>*Unlisted equities</i>			
Financial liabilities			
Trade and other payables	11	1,546,720	2,321,632
Finance leases	14	309,569	642,254
Borrowings	17	425,524,891	363,382,146
Total financial liabilities		427,381,180	366,346,032

(a) Financial risk management policies

The Risk Committee meets on a regular basis to analyse financial risk exposures and to evaluate treasury management strategies in the context of the most recent economic conditions and forecasts.

The Committee's overall risk management strategies seek to assist the company in meeting its financial targets, whilst minimising potential adverse effects on financial performance.

The Committee operates under policies approved by the Board of Directors. Risk management policies including credit risk policies, are approved and reviewed by the Board on a regular basis.

(b) Specific financial risk exposures and management

The main risks the company is exposed to through its financial instruments are liquidity, credit and market risks (foreign exchange, price and interest rate risks). The Risk Committee monitors these risks through internal reports and takes action where appropriate to minimise the impact and likelihood of adverse events.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 22: Financial Risk Management (continued)

Liquidity risk

The company's primary liquidity risk is derived from its function of settling payments system obligations on behalf of System Participants who provide ASL with funds which are used to meet their settlement obligations. The Board has set the level of the funds required appropriate to the level of risk. The amount of funds required is recalculated as at the last business day each calendar month to reflect changes in the settlement obligations. System Participants cannot withdraw settlement funds when ASL has a settlement exposure to that System Participant, but reduction in funds required can be accessed annually, most usually in January.

The tables below detail the undiscounted cash flows of financial liabilities based on the earliest date the company can be required to pay. The tables include both interest and principal payable and as a result may not reconcile to items on the balance sheet.

Maturity analysis for financial liabilities as at 30 June 2018

	Less than 6 months	6 – 12 months	1 – 5 years	5+ years	At call	No maturity specified	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade and other	1,546,720	-	-	-	-	-	1,546,720
Borrowings	-	-	-	-	423,103,158	2,421,733	425,524,891
Lease liabilities	-	191,853	148,403	-	-	-	340,256
Total financial liabilities	1,546,720	191,853	148,403	-	423,103,158	2,421,733	427,411,867

Maturity analysis for financial liabilities as at 30 June 2017

	Less than 6 months	6 – 12 months	1 – 5 years	5+ years	At call	No maturity specified	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade and other	2,321,632	-	-	-	-	-	2,321,632
Borrowings	-	-	-	-	360,960,413	2,421,733	363,382,146
Lease liabilities	-	367,718	340,256	-	-	-	707,974
Total financial liabilities	2,321,632	367,718	340,256	-	360,960,413	2,421,733	366,411,752

The nature and terms of borrowings are detailed at note 17.

Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty will default on its contractual obligations resulting in the company suffering a financial loss.

The company's primary credit risk relates to cash and cash equivalents and investments held to maturity which is mitigated by the fact that these assets are held exclusively with the RBA, Australian ADIs and Australian governments, and in accordance with the company's Large Exposures Policy. Other receivable balances are monitored on an on-going basis, resulting in the company not having a significant exposure to bad debts. At the reporting date, the carrying value of all classes of financial assets best represents the maximum credit risk exposure, without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security, in the event other parties fail to perform their obligations under financial instruments. Concentrations of credit risk, where applicable, are identified in the notes to the respective financial assets.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 22: Financial Risk Management (continued)

There were no material amounts of collateral held as security at 30 June 2018 (2017: nil).

Market risk

Foreign exchange risk

The company is not exposed to any material fluctuations in foreign currencies.

Price risk

The company is not exposed to any material commodity price risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that variable interest rates may change or the risk that the company may be required to sell assets with a fixed interest rate. Financial instruments that expose the company to these risks are set out in the following tables.

2018		\$	Weighted Average Interest Rate
<i>Cash and cash equivalents</i>			
Within one year	Non-interest bearing	3,705,000	0.00%
Within one year	Floating Rate	303,207,564	1.31%
<i>Investments held to maturity</i>			
Within one year	Fixed Rate	108,977,977	1.94%
Within one year	Floating Rate	10,003,737	2.13%
<i>Trade and other receivables</i>			
Within one year	Non-interest bearing	2,272,832	0.00%
<i>Available for sale investments*</i>			
No maturity date	No return specified	2,000,000	0.00%
Total financial assets		430,167,110	
<i>Borrowings</i>			
Within one year	Floating Rate	423,103,158	1.25%
No maturity specified	Floating Rate	331,733	2.50%
No maturity specified	Non-interest bearing	2,090,000	0.00%
<i>Finance leases</i>			
More than one year	Fixed rate	313,072	6.00%
<i>Trade and other payables</i>			
Within one year	Non-interest bearing	1,546,720	0.00%
Total financial liabilities		427,384,683	

*Unlisted equities

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 22: Financial Risk Management (continued)

2017		\$	Weighted Average Interest Rate
<i>Cash and cash equivalents</i>			
Within one year	Non-Interest bearing	3,800,000	0.00%
Within one year	Floating Rate	362,997,093	1.41%
<i>Trade and other receivables</i>			
Within one year	Non-interest bearing	1,727,324	0.00%
<i>Available for sale Investments*</i>			
No maturity date	No return specified	2,000,000	0.00%
Total financial assets		370,524,417	
<i>Borrowings</i>			
Within one year	Floating Rate	360,960,413	1.43%
No maturity specified	Floating Rate	331,733	2.50%
No maturity specified	Non-interest bearing	2,090,000	0.00%
<i>Finance leases</i>			
More than one year	Fixed rate	642,254	6.00%
<i>Trade and other payables</i>			
Within one year	Non-interest bearing	2,321,632	0.00%
Total financial liabilities		366,346,032	
<i>*Unlisted equities</i>			

The company's exposure to the risk of changes in market interest rates relates primarily to the funds placed on deposit with the company by System Participants. This risk is mitigated as these deposits are subject to variable interest rates.

Sensitivity analysis

The company has performed a sensitivity analysis relating to its exposures to interest rate risk at balance date. This sensitivity analysis demonstrates the effect on the current year results and equity which could result from a change in interest rates. At 30 June 2018, the effect on profit and equity as a result of changes in interest rates, with all other variables remaining constant, would be as follows:

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Change in profit		
Increase in interest rates by 0.5%	(8,699)	9,535
Decrease in interest rates by 0.5%	8,699	(9,535)
Change in equity		
Increase in interest rates by 0.5%	(8,699)	9,535
Decrease in interest rates by 0.5%	8,699	(9,535)

The above interest rate sensitivity analysis has been performed on the assumption that all other variables remain unchanged, and has been calculated on net interest revenue.

No sensitivity analysis has been performed on foreign exchange risk, as the company has only minor exposure to foreign currency fluctuations.

Notes to the Financial Statements *continued*

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 23: Contingent Liabilities/Assets

The company had no contingent liabilities or assets as at 30 June 2018 (2017: nil).

Note 24: Events Occurring After the Reporting Period

The Chair of the Board has advised of his intention to resign as a director of the company as at 30 October 2018.

The Directors are giving consideration to the issue of additional share equity and repayment of subordinated debt.

There have been no other matters or circumstances that have arisen since 30 June 2018 that are likely to have affected or to significantly affect, in future financial years, the operations of the company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the company.

Note 25: Related Party Transactions

The following directors have interests in contracts pursuant to which the company provides services to their organisations.

Mr SO Hassall as CFO of Newcastle Permanent Building Society Limited

Mr PG Lock as CEO of Heritage Bank Limited

Mr RJ Ryan as CEO of IMB Limited

Ms MR Sweeny CEO of Summerland Credit Union Limited

Mr BK White as CIO of Greater Bank Limited

Note 26: Company Details

Australian Settlements Limited (ASL) is an unlisted public company limited by shares and incorporated in Australia. The company is an Authorised Deposit-taking Institution (ADI) and operates an Exchange Settlement Account (ESA) at the Reserve Bank of Australia. The ESA is used for the settlement of payment obligations between system participants, and other clearers. The registered office and principal place of business of the company is:

Australian Settlements Limited

ASL House

6 Geils Court

Deakin ACT 2600

Directors' Declaration

In the directors' opinion:

- (a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 9 to 37 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
 - i. complying with Accounting Standards, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements, and
 - ii. giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance for the year ended on that date, 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.

Note 1a. confirms that the financial statements also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.



David John Lawler

Director



Garry Donald Dinnie

Director

Dated this 26th day of September 2018

Independent Auditor's Report to Members

Deloitte.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Australian Settlements Limited

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australian Settlements Limited (the "Company"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

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

Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2018 but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

Responsibilities of the Directors 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 gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of

accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU



Jonathan Perkinson

Partner

Chartered Accountants

Sydney, 26 September 2018