

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC
Form 6-K
February 26, 2015

FORM 6-K
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For February 26, 2015

Commission File Number: 001-10306

The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc

RBS, Gogarburn, PO Box 1000
Edinburgh EH12 1HQ

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F X

Form 40-F ___

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): _____

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): _____

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes ___

No X

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-

The following information was issued as Company announcements in London, England and is furnished pursuant to General Instruction B to the General Instructions to Form 6-K:

The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc
Annual Results 2014

Contents

	Page
Introduction	1
Highlights	2
Chairman's letter to shareholders	5
Chief Executive's message	6
Customer	13
Summary consolidated results	17
Analysis of results	21
Current period segment performance	29
 Statutory results	 68
Condensed consolidated income statement	68
Consolidated statement of comprehensive income	69
Condensed consolidated balance sheet	70
Average balance sheet	71
Condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity	73
Condensed consolidated cash flow statement	76
Notes	77
 Summary risk factors	 123
Statement of directors' responsibilities	127
 Additional information	 128
Share information	128
Statutory results	128
Financial calendar	128
 Appendix 1 Capital and risk management	
 Appendix 2 Income statement reconciliations and balance sheet pre and post disposal groups	
 Appendix 3 Comparative period segment performance	
 Appendix 4 Go-forward business profile	
 Appendix 5 Risk factors	

Forward-looking statements

Certain sections in this document contain 'forward-looking statements' as that term is defined in the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, such as statements that include the words 'expect', 'estimate', 'project', 'anticipate', 'believe', 'should', 'intend', 'plan', 'could', 'probability', 'risk', 'Value-at-Risk (VaR)', 'target', 'goal', 'objective', 'may', 'endeavour', 'outlook', 'optimistic', 'prospects' and similar expressions or variations on these expressions.

In particular, this document includes forward-looking statements relating, but not limited to: The Royal Bank of Scotland Group's (RBS) transformation plan (which includes RBS's 2013/2014 strategic plan relating to the implementation of its new divisional and functional structure and the continuation of its balance sheet reduction programme including its proposed divestments of Williams & Glyn and Citizens, RBS's information technology and operational investment plan, the proposed restructuring of RBS's CIB business and the restructuring of RBS as a result of the implementation of the regulatory ring-fencing regime), as well as restructuring, capital and strategic plans, divestments, capitalisation, portfolios, net interest margin, capital and leverage ratios, liquidity, risk-weighted assets (RWAs), RWA equivalents (RWAE), Pillar 2A, Maximum Distributable Amount (MDA), total loss absorbing capital (TLAC), minimum requirements for eligible liabilities (MREL), return on equity (ROE), profitability, cost:income ratios, loan:deposit ratios, funding and risk profile; litigation, government and regulatory investigations including investigations relating to the setting of interest rates and foreign exchange trading and rate setting activities; costs or exposures borne by RBS arising out of the origination or sale of mortgages or mortgage-backed securities in the US; RBS's future financial performance; the level and extent of future impairments and write-downs; and RBS's exposure to political risks, credit rating risk and to various types of market risks, such as interest rate risk, foreign exchange rate risk and commodity and equity price risk. These statements are based on current plans, estimates, targets and projections, and are subject to inherent risks, uncertainties and other factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from the future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. For example, certain market risk disclosures are dependent on choices relying on key model characteristics and assumptions and are subject to various limitations. By their nature, certain of the market risk disclosures are only estimates and, as a result, actual future gains and losses could differ materially from those that have been estimated.

Other factors that could adversely affect our results and the accuracy of forward-looking statements in this document include the risk factors and other uncertainties discussed in Appendix 5 to this document. These include the significant risks for RBS presented by the execution of the transformation plan; RBS's ability to successfully implement the various initiatives that are comprised in the transformation plan, particularly the balance sheet reduction programme including the divestment of Williams & Glyn and its remaining stake in CFG, the proposed restructuring of its CIB business and the significant restructuring undertaken by RBS as a result of the implementation of the ring fence; whether RBS will emerge from implementing the transformation plan as a viable, competitive, customer-focused and profitable bank; RBS's ability to achieve its capital targets which depend on RBS's success in reducing the size of its business; the cost and complexity of the implementation of the ring-fence and the extent to which it will have a material adverse effect on RBS; the risk of failure to realise the benefit of RBS's substantial investments in its information technology and operational infrastructure and systems, the significant changes, complexity and costs relating to the implementation of the transformation plan, the risks of lower revenues resulting from lower customer retention and revenue generation as RBS refocuses on the UK as well as increasing competition. In addition, there are other risks and uncertainties. These include RBS's ability to attract and retain qualified personnel; uncertainties regarding the outcomes of legal, regulatory and governmental actions and investigations that RBS is subject to and any resulting material adverse effect on RBS of unfavourable outcomes; heightened regulatory and governmental scrutiny and the increasingly regulated environment in which RBS operates; uncertainty relating to how policies of the new government elected in the May 2015 UK election may impact RBS including a possible referendum on the UK's membership of the EU; operational risks that are inherent in RBS's business and that could increase as RBS implements its transformation plan; the potential negative impact on RBS's business of actual or perceived global

economic and financial market conditions and other global risks; how RBS will be increasingly impacted by UK developments as its operations become gradually more focused on the UK; uncertainties regarding RBS exposure to any weakening of economies within the EU and renewed threat of default by certain countries in the Eurozone; the risks resulting from RBS implementing the State Aid restructuring plan including with respect to the disposal of certain assets and businesses as announced or required as part of the State Aid restructuring plan; the achievement of capital and costs reduction targets; ineffective management of capital or changes to regulatory requirements relating to capital adequacy and liquidity; the ability to access sufficient sources of capital, liquidity and funding when required; deteriorations in borrower and counterparty credit quality; the extent of future write-downs and impairment charges caused by depressed asset valuations; the value and effectiveness of any credit protection purchased by RBS; the impact of unanticipated turbulence in interest rates, yield curves, foreign currency exchange rates, credit spreads, bond prices, commodity prices, equity prices; basis, volatility and correlation risks; changes in the credit ratings of RBS; changes to the valuation of financial instruments recorded at fair value; competition and consolidation in the banking sector; regulatory or legal changes (including those requiring any restructuring of RBS's operations); changes to the monetary and interest rate policies of central banks and other governmental and regulatory bodies; changes in UK and foreign laws, regulations, accounting standards and taxes; impairments of goodwill; the high dependence of RBS's operations on its information technology systems and its increasing exposure to cyber security threats; the reputational risks inherent in RBS's operations; the risk that RBS may suffer losses due to employee misconduct; pension fund shortfalls; the recoverability of deferred tax assets by the Group; HM Treasury exercising influence over the operations of RBS; limitations on, or additional requirements imposed on, RBS's activities as a result of HM Treasury's investment in RBS; and the success of RBS in managing the risks involved in the foregoing.

The forward-looking statements contained in this document speak only as of the date of this announcement, and RBS does not undertake to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

The information, statements and opinions contained in this document do not constitute a public offer under any applicable legislation or an offer to sell or solicitation of any offer to buy any securities or financial instruments or any advice or recommendation with respect to such securities or other financial instruments.

Introduction

Presentation of information

The financial information on pages 17 to 67, prepared using the Group's accounting policies, shows the operating performance of RBS on a non-statutory basis which excludes own credit adjustments, gain on redemption of own debt, write-down of goodwill, strategic disposals and RFS Holdings minority interest (RFS MI) and includes the results of Citizens, which are included in discontinued operations in the statutory results. Information is provided in this form to give a better understanding of the results of RBS's operations.

Restatements

On 27 February 2014, RBS announced the reorganisation of the previously reported operating divisions into three franchises. In addition, in order to present a more complete picture of funding, operational and business costs of the franchises and operating segments, certain reporting changes were implemented.

For further information on these changes refer to the Q2 2014 Restatement Document dated 21 July 2014, available on www.investors.rbs.com/restatement

Statutory results

The condensed consolidated income statement, condensed consolidated statement of comprehensive income, condensed consolidated balance sheet, condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity, condensed consolidated cash flow statement and related Notes presented on pages 68 to 122 inclusive are on a statutory basis. Reconciliations between the non-statutory basis and statutory basis are included in Appendix 2.

Contacts

For analyst enquiries:

Richard O'Connor Head of Investor Relations +44 (0) 20 7672 1758

For media enquiries:

Group Media Centre +44 (0) 131 523 4205

Analysts and investors presentation

RBS will be hosting a presentation for analysts and investors, also available via live webcast and audio call. The details are as follows:

Date: Thursday 26 February 2015
Time: 9.30 am UK time
Webcast: www.rbs.com/results
Dial in details: International - +44 (0) 1452 568 172
 UK Free Call - 0800 694 8082
 US Toll Free - 1 866 966 8024

Slides

This announcement and background slides are available on www.rbs.com/results

Financial supplement

A financial supplement containing income statement and balance sheet information for the nine quarters ending 31 December 2014 is available on www.rbs.com/results

Highlights

RBS reports an attributable loss of £3.5 billion, following a £4.0 billion write-down on Citizens. Operating profit(1) was £3.5 billion. Significant progress was made towards building a bank that is stronger, simpler and better for both customers and shareholders.

RBS reports an attributable loss of £3,470 million in 2014, compared with a loss of £8,995 million in 2013. The result included a loss from discontinued operations of £3,445 million, which reflected a £3,994 million fair value write-down in relation to the reclassification of Citizens to disposal groups, and a tax charge of £1.9 billion which included a £1.5 billion write-off of deferred tax assets.

Operating profit totalled £3,503 million for 2014, compared with an operating loss of £7,500 million in 2013. This reflected improved operating results from the core domestic businesses together with significant impairment releases in Ulster Bank and RBS Capital Resolution (RCR). These results include £1,257 million of restructuring costs compared with £656 million in 2013, and £2,194 million of litigation and conduct costs compared with £3,844 million

in the prior year.

UK Personal & Business Banking (UK PBB) delivered a good performance built on strong growth from a reinvigorated mortgage business. Commercial Banking's efforts to stimulate demand resulted in a resumption of loan book growth; together with active management of cost and capital, this supported a significant improvement in profitability. Corporate & Institutional Banking (CIB) made good progress towards a lower risk model with a further £40 billion reduction in risk-weighted assets (RWAs) on a fully loaded Basel III basis.

Statutory operating profit before tax, which excludes results from discontinued operations, was £2,643 million compared with an operating loss of £8,849 million in 2013.

2014 was a year of significant progress for the bank, in which we delivered against all our commitments. In line with the new strategy it set out in 2014, RBS has:

Implemented a new organisational design for a more UK-centred bank with focused international capabilities, built around its strongest customer franchises.

Exceeded its 2014 cost reduction targets with savings of £1.1 billion.

Strengthened its Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) ratio by 2.6 percentage points to 11.2% at the end of 2014, assisted by £4.8 billion of net capital release from RCR disposals and run-off.

Successfully listed Citizens as a step towards full divestment by the end of 2016.

Reached agreement with HM Treasury on the restructuring of the Dividend Access Share (DAS) and paid an initial dividend of £320 million.

Completed much of the orderly run-down and closure of the US asset-backed product business, removing £15 billion of RWAs from the balance sheet.

Completed a strategic review of Ulster Bank and the wealth businesses, launching a sales process for the international private banking activities(2).

Continued to rationalise, simplify and strengthen operating systems and processes, with a more secure mobile banking platform, faster overnight batch processing and key services available to customers 99.96% of the time.

Made our products simpler and fairer for customers, ending zero per cent balance transfers, halting teaser rates on savings accounts that penalise existing customers and explaining all charges for personal and business customers on one side of A4 paper.

Notes:

(1) Operating profit before tax, own credit adjustments, gain on redemption of own debt, write-down of goodwill, strategic disposals and RFS Holdings minority interest and includes the results of Citizens on a non-statutory basis, which are included in discontinued operations in the statutory results.

(2)

Private banking and wealth management activities where the primary relationship management is conducted outside the British Isles.

Highlights

Within the overall strategic shape outlined for CIB in 2014, RBS is making further changes to improve its medium-term returns, building a stronger, safer and more sustainable business, focused mainly on UK and Western European customers, both corporates and financial institutions, supported by trading and distribution platforms in the UK, US and Singapore.

These changes will create a more focused corporate and institutional bank built on existing product and service strengths. RBS will have a strong, client-focused product offering in sterling, US dollar and euro, including:

Debt financing, with debt capital markets, structured finance and loans.

Risk management in currency, rates and inflation.

Transaction services, with UK-focused cash, payments and trade.

CIB will reduce its geographical footprint to approximately 13 countries, compared with 38 at the end of 2014, though RBS will also retain its back office operations in Poland and India. In addition to its main distribution and trading hubs in the UK, US and Singapore, RBS will remain present in a number of Western European countries with coverage teams. A small sales team will be retained in Japan. US operations will shrink, while retaining the presence required to support the US dollar needs of RBS's UK and Western European customers. Priority client sectors will be targeted in infrastructure, transportation, financial institutions, energy and resources.

CIB will continue to reduce its balance sheet and risk profile. RWAs will be reduced by 60% from £107 billion at 31 December 2014 to £35-£40 billion in 2019, with a reduction of more than £25 billion targeted in 2015. Third party assets will be reduced from £241 billion at the end of 2014 to £75-£80 billion in 2019.

This CIB strategy leaves RBS well-placed to meet the ring-fencing requirements of the Banking Reform Act 2013. As previously indicated, RBS intends to place most banking services inside the ring fence. CIB's remaining "Markets" activities, the operations of RBS International and some corporate banking activity are expected to remain outside the ring-fenced bank in separate legal entities.

For 2015 RBS intends to:

Move towards a capital target of 13% CET1(1), with risk-weighted assets below £300 billion and £2 billion Additional Tier 1 capital raised.

Deconsolidate Citizens and substantially complete RCR exit.

Improve customer net promoter scores in all UK franchises, in line with the long-term goal of becoming the number 1 bank for trust, service and advocacy.

Reduce costs by a further £800 million(2), taking RBS towards a long term cost:income ratio of under 50%.

Deliver lending growth in strategic segments equal to or higher than UK nominal GDP growth.

Raise employee engagement index to within 8% of the global benchmark so that staff are fully motivated to contribute to RBS's long-term success.

Notes:

(1) During the period of CIB restructuring.

(2) Excluding restructuring, conduct and litigation costs, write off of intangible assets and operating expenses of CFG and Williams & Glyn.

"Last year we identified the areas we needed to improve in order to deliver our strategy - cost, complexity, capital and trust from our customers. The energy and resolve of our people have resulted in significant progress on each, and we have delivered on the goals we set for 2014."

Ross McEwan, Chief Executive

Highlights

Performance measures(1)

	Measure	2013	2014	Long-term
People	Great place to work	78%	72%	Employee engagement index \geq GFS norm(2)
Efficiency	Cost:income ratio	95%	87%	<50%
	Adjusted cost:income ratio(3)	72%	68%	
Returns	Return on tangible equity	Negative	Negative	12%+
Capital strength(4)	Common Equity Tier 1 ratio	8.6%	11.2%	13%(5)

Notes:

- (1) This table contains forecasts with significant contingencies. Please refer to 'Forward-looking statements' and 'Risk factors'.
- (2) Global Financial Services (GFS) norm currently stands at 83%.
- (3) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.
- (4) Based on end-point CRR basis Tier 1 capital and revised 2014 Basel leverage framework.
- (5) During the period of CIB restructuring.

Outlook

We expect our core UK/Irish businesses to continue to perform well, but with some income headwinds.

Income in CIB is likely to decline substantially faster than cost takeout at this point in its restructuring. Income in the year to date is lower than for the comparable period last year.

We will maintain our rigorous cost discipline and are targeting reductions of £800 million in 2015, in our underlying(1) operating expenses.

Our overall credit profile has improved but we do not expect the significant impairment recoveries experienced in 2014 in Ulster Bank and RCR to continue this year.

We continue to deal with various conduct and litigation issues. Whilst we cannot predict when these will be resolved it is possible that the costs relating to settling these could be substantial in 2015.

Our restructuring costs are expected to be materially higher than in 2014 reflecting the costs relating to the core bank transformation, CIB restructuring and preparing for Williams & Glyn exit and for ICB.

We are targeting RWAs to be less than £300 billion by the end of 2015, driven by RCR and CIB run-offs and the partial de-consolidation of Citizens.

Note:

(1) Excluding restructuring, conduct and litigation costs, write off of intangible assets and operating expenses of CFG and Williams & Glyn.

Chairman's letter to shareholders

2014 was a year of significant progress for RBS, with a much improved operating profit and major achievements in terms of business reorganisation, cost reduction, capital build and improved IT capability. As Ross McEwan has set out in his letter, the business continues to simplify and improve, focusing on putting its customers at the heart of its activities.

The bank has delivered a good operating profit of £3.5 billion for 2014, but the costs associated with completing the restructuring of RBS mean we are still reporting a bottom line attributable loss. Although the huge changes to the size, shape and risk profile of the business since the financial crisis are largely complete or in hand, the further substantial restructuring of our markets operations and international spread will require careful management in 2015.

Of course your Board is pleased to see the improved operating performance, which in our view reflects the underlying strength of the business. Looking back, however, we must acknowledge that we did not fully recognise the scale of the challenge that awaited us in 2009. At the time, we assumed that a Core Tier 1 capital ratio of more than 8% by 2013 would be sufficient to constitute undoubted financial strength in the minds of markets and regulators; today we have increased our capital target to 13%. We must also acknowledge that we did not anticipate the more than £9 billion of regulatory fines and customer redress we have borne so far as we paid, and will continue to pay, the price for our past conduct failings. These conduct issues have delayed the re-build of our capital and directly reduced shareholder value. They have also caused continuing reputational damage. I hope as we move beyond these issues we can fully rebuild the trust of our customers, and by doing so win more of their business.

The need to continue to rebuild capital strength means it has taken longer than we had expected to reach a point at which the Government could be in a position to start selling down its stake in RBS. The decision on timing rests with the Government, through UK Financial Investments, which manages its shareholding, but our task is to create the conditions in which it can do so. In working towards that end we are also furthering the interests of RBS's other shareholders, as we believe that the beginning of the sell-down will be welcomed by investors.

As announced previously I will be leaving RBS in 2015. The Board is pleased to announce today that Howard Davies will succeed me as Chairman, and we welcome him to RBS. He will join the Board at the end of June and take over from me on 1 September. On the day I joined the Board in January 2009, the shares traded at 9p, equivalent to 90p today, and the implications of the bank's financial distress were unknowable. RBS has transformed itself over the last several years and continues to do so. The renewed focus on customer and customer service will make this a better organisation for all stakeholders, most especially customers, staff and shareholders.

I would like to thank my colleagues on the RBS Board for their support and dedication in dealing with the unusual challenges of being a majority government-owned listed company. In particular, I would like to thank Nathan Bostock, Tony Di Iorio and Philip Scott, who all stepped down from the Board in 2014 after providing valuable

service, and to welcome Morten Friis and Ewen Stevenson, who have joined the Board.

It has been a privilege to serve as Chairman of RBS and I am confident that the Board and the many outstanding people in the bank will continue to work with dedication to restore the bank's standing.

Philip Hampton
Chairman

Chief Executive's message

This is my first letter to you since we launched a new strategy for RBS last year. It is a strategy that sets out to deliver one very simple aim. To make this a great bank for our customers; a bank that will earn back their trust, and in turn win more of their business.

It's a strategy that provides the fundamental building blocks to make RBS an attractive investment, a great place to work for our people, and a UK focused bank that the country can be proud of.

Last year we identified the areas we needed to improve in order to deliver our strategy - cost, complexity, capital, and trust from our customers. The energy and resolve of our people has resulted in significant progress on these, and we have delivered on the goals we set for 2014.

We said we would reduce waste and inefficiency and reorganise ourselves around the needs of our customers, moving from seven operating divisions to three customer businesses. This reorganisation is complete and we have removed £1.1 billion of cost from the business.

We outlined a programme to rationalise, simplify and bolster our operating systems and processes to make them less complex, more resilient and easier to use. Significant progress has been made in this area with our key services available to customers 99.96% of the time during 2014.

We set out a plan to place the bank on a sure capital footing targeting a CET1 ratio of 11% by the end of 2015, and 12% or greater by the end of 2016, so as to remove any doubts about our fundamental strength and stability. This capital plan is on track and we have reached our 2015 target one year ahead of schedule. This improvement was driven by a 52% reduction in risk-weighted assets in RCR.

We said we would undertake the biggest bank initial public offering in US history. Citizens Financial Group was successfully floated on the New York Stock Exchange. At the same time we substantially completed the orderly run-down and closure of our US asset-backed product business, removing £15 billion of risk-weighted assets from our balance sheet.

We made a commitment to fairness with our customers. We said that RBS would no longer compete with other banks in a number of areas and we would use less technical language that our customers find easier to understand. We stopped offering zero per cent balance transfers on credit cards that trap

customers in spirals of ever increasing debt, we ended teaser rates that penalise existing customers, and we now explain all of our fees and charges on one side of A4 paper for both our personal and business customers.

As well as being a stronger, simpler and fairer bank, I said that we would also be a very different bank. No longer chasing global market share, but instead focusing squarely on our core strength, namely our home market places in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (RoI).

Our 2014 performance shows a strategy that is working. It demonstrates the forensic approach we have taken to evaluate our businesses against the returns they provide to shareholders. The strong execution against the targets we set now gives us a platform to go further, faster.

Chief Executive's message

Today, as well as a review of our current performance I will set out exactly what this bank will become, what we will do and what we will not do as we seek to improve shareholder value and secure our market leading positions. It involves an acceleration of our strategy to build on our domestic strengths and a further reshaping of our CIB business as we seek to address its unacceptable returns.

We have five ambitious new goals for the second year of our plan and new financial targets so that you, our shareholders, can hold us to account for our performance.

2014 financial performance

The earning power of our key customer businesses lies at the heart of the strong financial progress RBS made during 2014. What you can see from these results is that underneath all the noise of conduct, litigation and restructuring charges, we have strong performing customer businesses that are geared towards delivering sustainable returns for investors.

We made an operating profit of £3.5 billion in 2014, the highest since 2010 and a vast improvement on 2013. Great progress on cost reduction countered a fall in total income - which primarily reflected a smaller risk profile and lower income from trading activities in CIB - and led to an overall improvement in operating efficiency.

Our attributable loss of £3.5 billion, includes £1.3 billion of restructuring charges, £2.2 billion in litigation and conduct provisions, a £1.5 billion net deferred tax asset write-off, the initial £320 million dividend for the Dividend Access Share and a write-down of £4 billion anticipating the disposal of Citizens.

It is increasingly clear what is driving underlying performance at RBS - PBB and CPB. PBB and CPB are now more important to RBS's performance than at any time in the past decade. This year they generated 61% of our income, compared with c.37% for equivalent businesses in 2009. And they have been at the forefront of progress towards our goal of increased operating efficiency, reducing adjusted operating expense by 2.6% over the year whilst income was up 2.3%. ROEs of 17.5% and 11.9% respectively demonstrate their value to RBS today.

These franchises are also the custodians of our core strengths - serving the everyday banking needs of over 18 million personal and business customers in the UK and RoI, and helping these customers meet their ambitions. We're investing in these franchises with a view to exceeding customers' expectations and generating sustainable returns.

The performance of CIB reflects the big changes this business is going through, and the tough macro-economic conditions and increasingly high costs of regulation it faces. Income decreased alongside lower adjusted operating expenses as we reduced CIB's risk profile in accordance with our strategy, with restructuring, litigation and conduct

costs pushing the business to an operating loss. But CIB has a strong customer franchise serving our leading UK and Western European clients; increasingly it is these clients we intend to focus on. I will set out later in this letter the steps we will take to do this.

Chief Executive's message

An overarching part of delivering sustainable returns is controlling operating costs. When I announced our cost target last year it was described by some as the most ambitious cost target in Europe. Well, through our drive across the bank for greater simplicity we have over-delivered, and surpassed our target of £1 billion of operating cost savings for the bank. With a cost:income ratio for the year of 68% on an adjusted basis, we are still behind our peers on cost efficiency; and there is work to do to fulfil our desire to take it below 50%. But we have a strong track record on delivery, and there is resolve across this bank to get this done.

I am very pleased with the progress we have made in 2014 against our stated objectives. While that progress is evident in the operating profit line of the results announced today, we are still posting an attributable loss to our shareholders. This is an accounting consequence of one of our 2014 achievements - the successful flotation of Citizens on the New York Stock Exchange.

Now the deconsolidation of Citizens is finally within sight, accounting rules require us to write it down to its estimated disposal value. This write-down substantially represents the goodwill previously attached to Citizens. While I realise that the headlines this generates are disappointing it is important to emphasise that this particular accounting loss does not change our regulatory capital or tangible net asset value.

Safety remains a cornerstone of our strategy

A core question for any bank seeking the trust of its customers is whether it's safe and strong and focused and able to support customers and the economy. The progress we have made should mean that it is no longer in any doubt. The CET1 ratio has improved by 260 basis points to 11.2% over the course of the year, up from 8.6% as at 31 December 2013. We reached our full year 2015 CET1 target of 11% one year ahead of schedule, and we are on track to achieve a revised CET1 target of 13%, which we have set in place for the period of the CIB restructuring.

We now have considerably more high quality capital than we had when the financial crisis hit and this bank was bailed out by the taxpayer. But we need to meet and exceed the expectations of the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) and of our shareholders and bondholders. Stress test results show it's not just how much capital you have, but how your balance sheet behaves under extreme economic scenarios.

This year our team in RBS Capital Resolution has managed to accelerate the removal of some of our most capital intensive assets, and we are on track to complete our 2014-2016 RCR run-down targets by the end of 2015, one year ahead of the original target we set for ourselves. Our capital strength will be bolstered further when Citizens Financial Group in the USA is deconsolidated from our balance sheet. This is also expected in 2015.

In 2015, we also plan to start a programme of issuing Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 capital instruments.

Chief Executive's message

Conduct

It has taken far longer than anyone realised to root out all the past problems, practices and related fines, and we still have challenges on the horizon. We are changing the culture of this bank; our aim is that shareholders are not exposed to this scale of conduct risk again.

What you will have seen from me over the last year is the way I will be open and honest with you and our customers when dealing with these issues; the way we continue to approach FX is a good example of this. I will not hide. I will talk openly about the hurt this wrongdoing causes me and the many thousands of people within this bank. I will detail the things we are doing to put things right for our customers, and the challenge and change we are driving through the culture and conduct of our staff.

We are determined to learn the lessons from the wrongdoings of the past and ensure that those responsible are held to account.

Building on our strengths

I said this time last year that the days when global domination mattered more to RBS than great customer service are well and truly over. Well, we are not just talking about being a UK-centred bank; we are a UK-centred bank. 80% of our revenues are generated in the UK. At the time of the 2008 financial crisis this number was 48%. Seven years after the crisis we still have top 3 market positions in the following UK segments:

- large corporates and financial institutions (FIs);
- Sterling provider in wholesale banking;
- SME banking;
- Private banking;
- Financing for UK infrastructure projects; and
- Personal banking.

We are building on this strength to manage value for shareholders and deliver the most resilient future returns.

In last year's letter, I told you that where a business can't deliver value to our shareholders in a reasonable time period we will take decisive action. We have put international private banking activities⁽¹⁾ up for sale and we are now going further, faster in reshaping parts of our CIB business.

The investment bank was over-stretched both in range of product and geography. There was too much risk for too little return. Given the increasing regulatory requirements on this business, it was a strategy that now has little hope of delivering acceptable returns to shareholders.

Note:

- (1) Private banking and wealth management activities where the primary relationship management is conducted outside the British Isles.

Chief Executive's message

To be a number 1 bank means providing a full service offering to UK and Western European corporate and financial institution clients. It means providing a first class platform to process payments in the UK and Europe. And it means having the expertise to help customers raise finance on the debt capital markets and manage the high level risks they face. Serving customers in these areas is an undisputed area of strength for us - they are our core capabilities, and are essential to us providing a first class service. In addition, trading and distribution hubs in Singapore and the US will ensure the corridors of commerce remain open to allow our customers access to investors in those regions.

We plan to fully exit our Markets businesses in Central and Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and substantially reduce our presence in Asia Pacific and the US. We will exit our cash management services outside the

UK and RoI. These businesses are not essential to our go-forward client franchise, and their standalone returns are not sufficient to justify an exception.

In doing so we will be free to grow and improve the services our customers value most. And by serving customers better this franchise can reinforce its competitive position and deliver sustainable returns above the cost of equity for our shareholders.

This is a plan for a smaller, more focused, but ultimately more valuable bank with the vast majority of its assets in the UK, and for RBS marks the end of the standalone global investment bank model.

What I have just outlined will require an enormous amount of effort from our people. And I do not for one second take that for granted. We have a proven track record of delivering change in our business.

A better bank for customers

Much has been written and discussed about the root causes of the financial crisis. For me it came down to one big problem - a failure to put the customers' interest at the heart of our business and its culture. For too long market share mattered more than customer care.

It is why over the last year our people have worked hard to embed this 'customer first' mentality into everything we do as a bank.

There are some concrete achievements we can call out for 2014 including: faster account opening times, a simplified product range and a clearer pricing structure. And we went against the rest of the industry and took a calculated risk by ending teaser rates, and we now offer our best rates to new and existing customers across our product range. We may have lost customers and income as a result, but we still believe that this was the right thing to do and will deliver long term value for shareholders.

I want to assure our customers that the positive changes we made in 2014 are not one-off. We strive to do better for our customers every day, and when we spot an opportunity to serve customers better, we will act. For example, customers shouldn't be penalised because they lose track of the date and are hit with an unexpected overdraft charge for the first time. And if we can do more to help customers through both the ups and downs in their finances, it is absolutely our responsibility to do so.

Chief Executive's message

But we recognise that these are chipping away at the edges, and more radical change is needed if we are to establish real upward momentum and achieve our targets. We have to be constantly asking ourselves what a really good bank for customers would look like, and to be constantly improving what we do to take us towards that goal. In our financial reporting we will include full details of the progress we have made as well as providing clear, independent measures of the bank's customer trust and advocacy scores.

We may have started from further back than some, but we are determined to reach our aspiration of being number 1 for customer service, trust and advocacy. It won't be easy, but I firmly believe it is doable.

A better bank for shareholders

Critical though it is that we build a bank that is safe, in capital strength, in structure and on behaviour, it must also be profitable.

There are good businesses within RBS that are capable of delivering real value to their customers. If we do that, our customers will be happy for us to make a fair and sustainable profit.

Without sustainable profitability we cannot ensure our future safety; profit is the best form of self-replenishing capital.

We remain acutely conscious of how much was invested to ensure our continued survival by our private shareholders and, critically, by the Government. As we reduce the tail risks our bank is exposed to, repair our overall profitability and reshape CIB we are creating the potential to build up excess capital, paving the way for distributions to the Government and other shareholders.

Our strategy envisages a capital benefit net of restructuring costs from 2016. We intend to return all capital to shareholders above a CET1 ratio of 13%. This capital return, which remains subject to regulatory approval at the time, will only be made once the significant legacy conduct hurdles are behind us. We see this as another important step towards repaying the support of our shareholders, including the UK tax payer.

2015 Goals and revised targets

I have set out in the table below five new ambitious business goals for the second year of our strategic plan to simplify and restructure this bank, achieving them will stand us in good stead to reach our goals. We have also published a revised set of financial and business targets. These are consistent with the other changes set out in this letter, and will enable you, our shareholders, to continue to track our progress and hold us to account.

Chief Executive's message

By 2019 RBS intends to be a low cost business focused on effective, efficient delivery for our customers. It will be a bank based in the UK and RoI, with a presence in Western Europe, the US and Singapore. It intends to be a bank with leading market positions in each of our chosen business areas, and a bank that can generate attractive returns for shareholders on a sustainable basis.

	Our long-term targets	Our 2015 goals
Strength and sustainability	CET1 ratio = 13% during the period of CIB restructuring	Reduce RWAs to <£300bn
Customer experience	No. 1 for service, trust and advocacy	Improve NPS in every UK franchise
Simplifying the bank	Cost: income ratio of <50%	Reduce costs by £800m(1)
Supporting growth	Leading market positions in every franchise	Lending growth in strategic segments ≥ nominal UK GDP growth
Employee engagement	Employee engagement index ≥ GFS norm(2)	Raise employee engagement index to within 8% of GFS norm(2)

Notes:

(1) Excludes restructuring, conduct and litigation costs, intangible write-off charges as well as the operating costs of Citizens Financial Group and Williams & Glyn.

(2) Global Financial Services (GFS) norm currently stands at 83%.

Conclusion

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Chairman, Sir Philip Hampton, as he takes part in his final Annual Results with the bank. Philip joined in 2009 amid the global financial crisis and immediately brought a clear sense of

purpose and direction for the bank at a time of incredible uncertainty, both for the UK and RBS. His dedication to making this a great bank for the country served him well through the tremendous, but positive, change that RBS has undergone during his tenure. I want to express my personal gratitude to Philip for guiding me during my first year as CEO, and playing a key role in implementing the strategy that will take us forward. There is still work to do, but Philip will leave on a positive note, with RBS firmly focussed on serving its customers, and shareholders.

What you see today is a bank on track and delivering on its plan. A bank that is determined to earn the trust of its customers every day. A bank that helps the smallest enterprises through to the largest companies grow and prosper. A bank that is determined to reward its shareholders for their support. And a bank that is able to deliver on our ambition to be number one for customer service and advocacy in the UK and RoI.

Customer

Building the number one bank for customer service, trust and advocacy in the UK

We use independent surveys to measure our customers' experience and track our progress against our goal in each of our markets.

Net Promoter Score (NPS)

Customers are asked how likely they would be to recommend their bank to a friend or colleague, and respond based on a 0-10 scale with 10 indicating 'extremely likely' and 0 indicating 'not at all likely'. Customers scoring 0 to 6 are termed detractors and customers scoring 9 to 10 are termed promoters. The Net Promoter Score (NPS) is established by subtracting the proportion of detractors from the proportion of promoters.

In 2014, we have seen some positive NPS movements in some of our franchises and our plans for 2015 will help to gather momentum across the bank.

		Year end 2013	Year end 2014	Year end 2015 target
Personal Banking	NatWest (England & Wales)(1)	5	6	9
	RBS (Scotland)(1)	-16	-13	-10
	Ulster Bank (Northern Ireland)(2)	-31	-24	-21
	Ulster Bank (Republic of Ireland)(2)	-20	-18	-15
	NatWest (England & Wales)(3)	-11	-11	-7
Business Banking	RBS (Scotland)(3)	-38	-23	-21
	Ulster Bank (Northern Ireland)(4)	-47	-44	-34
	Ulster Bank (Republic of Ireland)(4)	-21	-17	-15
Commercial Banking(5)		-1	12	15

Suitable measures for Private Banking and Corporate & Institutional Banking are in development.

Notes:

The only NPS improvements in 2014 that are statistically significant are for Business Banking (RBS Scotland) and Commercial Banking.

(1) Source: GfK FRS 6 month rolling data. Latest base sizes: NatWest England & Wales (3,511) RBS Scotland (547). Based on the question: "How likely is it that you would recommend (brand) to a relative, friend or colleague in the next 12 months for current account banking?"

- (2) Source: Coyne Research 12 month rolling data. Question: "Please indicate to what extent you would be likely to recommend (brand) to your friends or family using a scale of 0 to 10 where 0 is not at all likely and 10 is extremely likely".
- (3) Source: Charterhouse Research Business Banking Survey, based on interviews with businesses with an annual turnover up to £2 million. 12 month rolling data. Latest base sizes: NatWest England & Wales (529), RBS Scotland (399). Weighted by region and turnover to be representative of businesses in England & Wales/Scotland.
- (4) Source: PwC Business Banking Tracker. Question: "I would like you to continue thinking about your main business bank and the service they provide. Can you tell me how likely or unlikely would you be to do the following? Again please use a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is very unlikely and 10 is very likely. How likely are you to recommend them to another business?"
- (5) Source: Charterhouse Research Business Banking Survey, based on interviews with businesses with annual turnover between £2 million and £1 billion. Latest base size: RBSG Great Britain (972). Weighted by region and turnover to be representative of businesses in Great Britain.

Customer

Customer trust

We also use independent experts to measure our customers' trust in the bank. Each quarter we ask customers to what extent they trust or distrust their bank to do the right thing. The score is a net measure of those customers that trust their bank (a lot or somewhat) minus those that distrust their bank (a lot or somewhat).

		Year end 2013	Year end 2014	Year end 2015 target
Customer Trust(6)	NatWest (England & Wales)	35%	41%	46%
	RBS (Scotland)	-16%	2%	11%

(6)Source: Populus (2014) and PSB (2013). Latest quarter's data. Measured as a net of those that trust RBS/NatWest to do the right thing, less those that do not. Latest base sizes: NatWest England & Wales (927), RBS Scotland (206).

The year-on-year improvement in RBS customer trust is largely a reversion to its longer-term trend: there were issues in late 2013 that impacted the bank's reputation and customer trust. There are early signs that customer trust in RBS is stabilising and starting to improve. NatWest has consistently performed competitively, and has shown early signs of improvement.

We will continue to aim for improvement through a secure, consistent and reliable service, and an unrelenting focus on our customers.

Improving Customer Service

In February 2014, we made a series of commitments to our RBS and NatWest customers.

Customer

Customer commitment

We will stop offering deals to new customers that we are not prepared to offer to our existing customers.

Progress

We now offer our best rates to new and existing customers across our product range. There is now no Personal Banking or Business Banking deal that is not available to existing customers.

We will also ban teaser rates, including zero per cent balance transfers in our credit card business. We have banned teaser rates. We run a fair and transparent credit card business for our customers.

We will stop offering different rates to customers who apply online, in branch or by phoning our call centres. Across our RBS and NatWest brands, pricing is consistent.

We will use simple language in our customer letters, on our websites and in our branches. Customer letters and emails have been simplified for our personal and business customers so they are straightforward and transparent. We have reduced the number of pages on our personal banking website by over 60%. In branches we have fewer, shorter brochures making it easier for customers to find information.

By the end of 2014 we will cut in half the number of personal and SME products on offer. We have reduced the number of Personal and SME products on offer by 50%. We are becoming a smaller, simpler bank to do business with.

We will improve the clarity of our language to customers. By the end of 2014 we will be able to explain all of our personal and SME charges on one side of A4. Fees and charges are explained on one side of A4 for both our personal and business customers and will be communicated via our internet sites by the end of February 2015. We have a duty to our customers to provide a straightforward breakdown of all charges.

We will speed up our account opening process for personal customers. We will cut how long it takes to open a personal current account from five days to next day. All customers applying for a personal current account who have the required ID and pass our fraud and credit checks can now open their account the next working day.

We will also improve the process to open a personal current account online so customers can upload their identification, such as their passport, and open their entire account from home. All customers applying for a personal current account who have the required ID and pass our fraud and credit checks can complete their application online and, where required, are able to upload key ID documents from home.

Customer

Customer commitment

By the end of 2014, customers will have access to Mobile Banking and Online Banking within one day.

We will put Business Bankers back on the high street. We will have hundreds of Business Bankers help small business people open accounts, apply for loans and get the help they need.

Progress

All Personal and Business Banking customers now have access to online banking by the next working day. Existing customers with a debit card now have access to mobile banking the next working day.

82% of Business Banking frontline staff are immediately above/next to our branches. This equates to 1,335 Business Banking specialists in branch today. We are simplifying processes so that Business Bankers can spend more time with customers,

We will start making small business lending decisions in five days. We are processing lending decisions quicker. In almost all cases, lending decisions are made and communicated to the customer in five days or less with two-thirds of business lending decisions made locally and/or by sector specialists.

Summary consolidated income statement
for the period ended 31 December 2014

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Net interest income	11,274	10,992	2,915	2,863	2,767
Non-interest income	6,923	8,450	945	1,496	1,173
Total income	18,197	19,442	3,860	4,359	3,940
Operating expenses	(15,849)	(18,510)	(4,858)	(3,883)	(6,881)
Profit/(loss) before impairment losses	2,348	932	(998)	476	(2,941)
Impairment releases/(losses)	1,155	(8,432)	623	801	(5,112)
Operating profit/(loss) (1)	3,503	(7,500)	(375)	1,277	(8,053)
Own credit adjustments	(146)	(120)	(144)	49	-
Gain on redemption of own debt	20	175	-	-	(29)
Write down of goodwill	(130)	(1,059)	-	-	(1,059)
Strategic disposals	191	161	-	-	168
Citizens discontinued operations	(771)	(606)	(175)	(170)	(104)
RFS Holdings minority interest	(24)	100	11	(56)	(10)
Operating profit/(loss) before tax	2,643	(8,849)	(683)	1,100	(9,087)
Tax (charge)/credit	(1,909)	(186)	(1,040)	(277)	403
Profit/(loss) from continuing operations	734	(9,035)	(1,723)	823	(8,684)
(Loss)/profit from discontinued operations, net of tax					
- Citizens (2)	(3,486)	410	(3,885)	114	78
- Other	41	148	3	3	15
(Loss)/profit from discontinued operations, net of tax	(3,445)	558	(3,882)	117	93
(Loss)/profit for the period	(2,711)	(8,477)	(5,605)	940	(8,591)
Non-controlling interests	(60)	(120)	(71)	53	3

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Other owners' dividends	(379)	(398)	(115)	(97)	(114)
Dividend access share	(320)	-	-	-	-
(Loss)/profit attributable to ordinary and B shareholders	(3,470)	(8,995)	(5,791)	896	(8,702)

Memo:

Operating expenses - adjusted (3)	(12,398)	(14,010)	(3,131)	(2,923)	(3,826)
Operating profit/(loss) - adjusted (3)	6,954	(3,000)	1,352	2,237	(4,998)

Key metrics and ratios	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014	31 December 2013	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013
Net interest margin	2.23%	2.01%	2.32%	2.26%	2.08%
Cost:income ratio	87%	95%	126%	89%	175%
- adjusted (3)	68%	72%	81%	67%	97%
Earnings/(loss) per share from continuing operations (4)					
- basic	0.5p	(85.0p)	(16.2p)	6.9p	(78.0p)
- adjusted (5)	0.8p	(77.7p)	(15.1p)	6.5p	(69.9p)
Return on tangible equity (6)	(8.0%)	(18.7%)	(49.6%)	8.2%	(76.3%)
Average tangible equity (6)	43,357	48,179	46,720	43,536	45,640
Average number of ordinary shares and equivalent B shares outstanding during the period (millions)	11,356	11,196	11,422	11,384	11,256

Notes:

- (1) Operating profit/(loss) before tax, own credit adjustments, gain on redemption of own debt, write down of goodwill, strategic disposals and RFS MI, and includes the results of Citizens, which is classified as a discontinued operation.
- (2) Included within Citizens discontinued operations are the results of the reportable operating segment Citizens Financial Group (CFG), the loss provision for CFG on transfer to disposal groups, certain Citizens related activities in Central items and related one-off and other items.
- (3) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.
- (4) Refer to Note 10 on page 90.
- (5) Adjusted earnings excludes own credit adjustments, gain on redemption of own debt, write down of goodwill, strategic disposals and RFS MI.
- (6) Tangible equity is equity attributable to ordinary and B shareholders less intangible assets.

Details of other comprehensive income are provided on page 69.

Summary consolidated balance sheet at 31 December 2014

	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Cash and balances at central banks	74,872	67,900	82,659
Net loans and advances to banks (1,2)	23,027	29,090	27,555
Net loans and advances to customers (1,2)	334,251	392,969	390,825
Reverse repurchase agreements and stock borrowing	64,695	75,491	76,413
Debt securities and equity shares	92,284	115,078	122,410
Intangible assets	7,781	12,454	12,368
Assets of disposal groups (3)	82,011	1,153	3,017
Other assets	18,252	37,954	24,592
Funded assets	697,173	732,089	739,839
Derivatives	353,590	314,021	288,039
Total assets	1,050,763	1,046,110	1,027,878
Bank deposits (2,4)	35,806	38,986	35,329
Customer deposits (2,4)	354,288	405,367	414,396
Repurchase agreements and stock lending	62,210	75,101	85,134
Debt securities in issue	50,280	53,487	67,819
Subordinated liabilities	22,905	24,412	24,012
Derivatives	349,805	310,361	285,526
Liabilities of disposal groups (3)	71,320	272	3,378
Other liabilities	43,957	73,286	53,069
Total liabilities	990,571	981,272	968,663
Non-controlling interests	2,946	2,747	473
Owners' equity	57,246	62,091	58,742
Total liabilities and equity	1,050,763	1,046,110	1,027,878

Notes:

- (1) Excludes reverse repurchase agreements and stock borrowing.
- (2) Excludes disposal groups.
- (3) Primarily Citizens at 31 December 2014 - refer to Note 12 on page 97.
- (4) Excludes repurchase agreements and stock lending.

	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013
Key metrics and ratios			
Tangible net asset value per ordinary and B share (1)	387p	388p	363p
Tangible equity (2)	£44,368m	£44,345m	£41,082m
Common Equity Tier 1 ratio	11.2%	10.8%	8.6%

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Risk-weighted assets (3)	£355.9bn	£381.7bn	£429.1bn
Loan:deposit ratio (4)	95%	97%	94%
Short-term wholesale funding (5)	£28bn	£31bn	£32bn
Wholesale funding (5)	£90bn	£94bn	£108bn
Liquidity portfolio	£151bn	£143bn	£146bn
Liquidity coverage ratio (6)	112%	102%	102%
Net stable funding ratio (7)	121%	111%	120%
Number of ordinary shares and equivalent B shares in issue (millions) (8)	11,466	11,421	11,303

Notes:

- (1) Tangible net asset value per ordinary and B share represents tangible equity divided by the number of ordinary shares and equivalent B shares in issue.
- (2) Tangible equity is equity attributable to ordinary and B shareholders less intangible assets.
- (3) Risk-weighted assets for all periods are based on a Basel III basis.
- (4) Includes disposal groups.
- (5) Excludes derivative collateral.
- (6) In January 2013, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) issued its revised final guidance for calculating the liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) with a proposed implementation timeline of 1 January 2015. Within the EU, the LCR is currently expected to come into effect from the later date of 1 October 2015 on a phased basis; subject to the finalisation of the EU Delegated Act, which RBS expects to replace the current Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) regime. Pending guidance from the PRA, RBS monitors the LCR based on the EU Delegated Act, and its internal interpretations of the rules. Consequently, RBS's ratio may change over time and may not be comparable with those of other financial institutions.
- (7) BCBS issued its final recommendations for the implementation of net stable funding ratio (NSFR) in October 2014, proposing an implementation date of 1 January 2018. Pending further guidelines from the EU and the PRA, RBS uses definitions and proposals from the BCBS paper, and internal interpretations, to calculate the NSFR. Consequently, RBS's ratio may change over time and may not be comparable with those of other financial institutions.
- (8) Includes 28 million Treasury shares (30 September 2014 - 33 million; 31 December 2013 - 34 million).

Key points

FY 2014 performance

Loss attributable to ordinary and B shareholders was £3,470 million, compared with a loss of £8,995 million in 2013. The result included a loss from discontinued operations of £3,445 million, which reflected an accounting write-down of £3,994 million taken in relation to Citizens, which has been written down to fair value less costs to sell as a consequence of it being reclassified as 'held-for-sale' in the statutory results. This write-down does not affect RBS's capital position.

The tax charge included a net write-off of deferred tax assets of £1.5 billion relating to the UK (£850 million) and the US (£775 million), reflecting the impact of the decision to scale back the CIB operations. This was partially offset by write-backs relating to Ulster Bank.

Operating profit improved to £3,503 million for 2014 compared with an operating loss of £7,500 million in 2013, benefiting from improved operating results in core businesses together with significant impairment releases in Ulster Bank and RCR.

Restructuring costs of £1,257 million were up 92% from 2013 but conduct and litigation costs were 43% lower at £2,194 million and included charges relating to foreign exchange trading, Payment Protection Insurance (PPI), customer redress associated with interest rate hedging products, IT incident in 2012 and other costs including packaged accounts and investment products. Excluding restructuring, conduct and litigation costs, operating profit was £6,954 million, compared with a loss of £3,000 million in 2013.

Income totalled £18,197 million, down 6% from 2013, with improvements in net interest income in PBB and CPB offset by lower income from trading activities in CIB, in line with its smaller balance sheet and reduced risk profile. Net interest margin was 2.23%, up from 2.01% in 2013, with improved liability margins partially offset by pressure on mortgage and corporate lending margins and by the continuing shift in mix towards lower margin secured lending.

Operating expenses, excluding restructuring, conduct and litigation costs, were down £1,612 million or 12%. Adjusting for currency movements and intangible assets write-offs, cost savings totalled £1.1 billion, in excess of the bank's £1 billion target for the year.

Net impairment releases of £1,155 million were recorded in 2014 compared with impairment losses of £8,432 million in 2013, which included £4,490 million of charges recognised in connection with the creation of RCR. Provision releases arose principally in Ulster Bank and in the Irish portfolios managed by RCR, which benefited from improving Irish economic and property market conditions and proactive debt management.

Statutory operating profit before tax was £2,643 million compared with an operating loss of £8,849 million in 2013.

Tangible net asset value per ordinary and B share was 387p at 31 December 2014 compared with 363p at end 2013. Positive movements in cash flow hedge reserves (+9p) and available-for-sale reserves (+5p) were offset by the attributable loss for the year (-30p). The attributable loss is adjusted for a loss provision attributed to Citizens' intangible assets (+35p) and goodwill and other intangible assets (+5p).

Q4 2014 performance

Loss attributable to ordinary and B shareholders was £5,791 million, compared with a profit of £896 million in Q3 2014 and a loss of £8,702 million in Q4 2013. The Q4 2014 loss was driven by the write-downs of Citizens and deferred tax assets, higher restructuring, litigation and conduct costs.

An operating loss of £375 million was recorded compared with a profit of £1,277 million in Q3 2014, with lower net impairment releases and significantly higher restructuring, conduct and litigation costs than in Q3, together

with weak income in CIB. The improvement compared with a loss of £8,053 million in Q4 2013 was due to lower impairments and litigation and conduct charges.

Key points

Q4 2014 performance (continued)

Restructuring costs were £383 million higher at £563 million while conduct and litigation costs were 49% higher than in Q3 at £1,164 million and included PPI, charges relating to foreign exchange trading, interest rate hedging products redress and other costs including provisions relating to packaged accounts and investment products. Excluding restructuring, conduct and litigation costs, operating profit was £1,352 million, £885 million lower than in Q3 but a substantial improvement from the loss of £4,998 million recorded in Q4 2013.

Total income was 2% lower than in Q4 2013, with increases of 2% in PBB and 1% in CPB more than offset by a disappointing performance in CIB together with a loss in Centre relating to IFRS volatility of £323 million and trading activity losses of £207 million in RCR.

Operating expenses, excluding restructuring, conduct and litigation costs, were up 7% from Q3 2014, reflecting a charge of £250 million for the UK bank levy.

Net impairment releases totalled £623 million, slightly lower than in Q3 2014. Underlying bad debt flow remained low.

Tangible net asset value per ordinary and B share was 387p at 31 December 2014 compared with 388p at 30 September 2014. Positive movements in cash flow hedge reserves (+6p), foreign exchange reserves (+3p) and other reserve movements (+3p) were offset by the attributable loss for the period (-51p). The attributable loss is adjusted for a loss provision attributed to Citizens' intangible assets (+35p) and goodwill and other intangible assets (+3p).

Balance sheet and capital

Funded assets totalled £697 billion at 31 December 2014, down £35 billion in the quarter and £43 billion over the course of the year, principally reflecting continued risk and balance sheet reduction in CIB and disposals and run-off in RCR.

Including Citizens, which has been reclassified to disposal groups, net loans and advances to customers totalled £394 billion at the end of 2014, up £3.0 billion from the end of 2013, despite a significant reduction in RCR.

UK PBB lending rose by £2 billion, with net new mortgage lending of £3.9 billion partially offset by reduced unsecured balances.

Commercial Banking balances rose by £1 billion, with a planned reduction in real estate finance offset by good growth in lending to other sectors.

Gross new lending to SMEs totalled £10.3 billion, exceeding RBS's £9.3 billion target by 10%.

Total net lending flows reported within the scope of the Funding for Lending Scheme were minus £2.28 billion in Q4 2014, of which net lending to SMEs was minus £567 million.

Including Citizens, which has been reclassified to disposal groups, customer deposits totalled £415 billion at the end of 2014, up £0.4 billion from the end of 2013.

RWAs declined to £356 billion from £429 billion at the end of 2013, primarily driven by risk and balance sheet reduction in CIB coupled with disposals and run-off in RCR. This contributed to the strengthening of the bank's capital ratios, with the CET1 ratio strengthening by 260 basis points to 11.2% at the end of 2014 compared with

8.6% at the end of 2013.

Analysis of results

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Net interest income					
Net interest income	11,274	10,992	2,915	2,863	2,767
Average interest-earning assets					
- RBS	502,830	543,881	495,546	501,383	523,946
- Personal & Business Banking	155,352	159,159	156,002	155,818	157,838
- Commercial & Private Banking	93,256	93,115	93,184	93,021	92,264
- Citizens Financial Group	69,895	64,935	74,302	69,520	64,336
Net interest margin (1,2)					
- RBS	2.23%	2.01%	2.32%	2.26%	2.08%
- Personal & Business Banking	3.42%	3.21%	3.46%	3.47%	3.30%
- Commercial & Private Banking	2.93%	2.81%	2.96%	2.96%	2.95%
- Citizens Financial Group	2.88%	2.91%	2.86%	2.82%	2.91%

Notes:

For the purposes of net interest margin calculations the following adjustments have been made.

- (1) Net interest income has been decreased by £47 million in 2014 (2013 - £79 million) and by £12 million in Q4 2014 (Q3 2014 - £7 million; Q4 2013 - £22 million) in respect of interest on financial assets and liabilities designated as at fair value through profit or loss.
- (2) Net interest income has been decreased by £7 million in the year ended 31 December 2013 in respect of non-recurring adjustments.

Key points

2014 compared with 2013

- Net interest income increased by 3% to £11,274 million with improvements in deposit margins in PBB and CPB supported by a larger balance sheet in CFG through purchased portfolios, increased investments and organic growth.
- Net interest margin (NIM) increased by 22 basis points to 2.23%, supported by deposit re-pricing in PBB and CPB. CFG's NIM remained broadly stable.

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

- Net interest income increased by 2% to £2,915 million supported by higher lending in CFG.

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

NIM increased by 6 basis points to 2.32%, with improvements in UK PBB, CFG and RCR. CPB's NIM remained stable.

Q4 2014 compared with Q4 2013

- Net interest income increased by 5% to £2,915 million supported by improvements in deposit margins in UK PBB, and CFG's balance sheet growth.
- NIM increased by 24 basis points to 2.32% benefitting from deposit re-pricing in UK PBB and Private Banking.

Analysis of results

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Non-interest income					
Net fees and commissions	4,248	4,518	1,036	1,094	1,126
Income/(loss) from trading activities	1,422	2,651	(295)	235	162
Other operating income	1,253	1,281	204	167	(115)
Total non-interest income	6,923	8,450	945	1,496	1,173

Key points

2014 compared with 2013

- Non-interest income declined by £1,527 million or 18%, principally reflecting a 46% reduction in income from trading activities in line with CIB's smaller balance sheet and reduced risk profile.
- A net gain of £170 million (\$283 million) was recorded on CFG's sale of its Illinois branch network in Q2 2014.
- Gains on the disposal of available-for-sale securities in RBS Treasury were down £575 million to £149 million for 2014.

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

- Non-interest income declined by £551 million or 37%, principally reflecting lower income in RCR and CIB and higher risk management costs.

Q4 2014 compared with Q4 2013

- Non-interest income declined by £228 million or 19% primarily due to lower income from trading activities, reflecting risk and balance sheet reductions in CIB and weaker trading performance in Rates and Credit.
- Gains on the disposal of available-for-sale securities in RBS Treasury were down £108 million to £6 million.

Analysis of results

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Operating expenses					
Staff expenses	6,406	6,882	1,455	1,611	1,539
Premises and equipment	2,094	2,233	525	490	614
Other	2,635	3,147	827	516	985
Restructuring costs*	1,257	656	563	180	180
Litigation and conduct costs	2,194	3,844	1,164	780	2,875
Administrative expenses	14,586	16,762	4,534	3,577	6,193
Depreciation and amortisation	1,107	1,404	250	306	344
Write down of intangible assets	156	344	74	-	344
Operating expenses	15,849	18,510	4,858	3,883	6,881
Memo item					
Adjusted operating expenses (1)	12,398	14,010	3,131	2,923	3,826
*Restructuring costs comprise:					
- staff expenses	409	280	134	79	1
- premises and equipment	280	115	31	53	86
- other	568	261	398	48	93
Restructuring costs	1,257	656	563	180	180
Staff costs as a % of total income (1)	35%	35%	38%	37%	39%
Cost:income ratio	87%	95%	126%	89%	175%
Cost:income ratio - adjusted (1)	68%	72%	81%	67%	97%
Employee numbers (FTE - thousands)	108.7	118.6	108.7	110.8	118.6
Note:					

(1) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.

Key points

2014 compared with 2013

- Operating expenses decreased by £2,661 million or 14% to £15,849 million. Adjusted operating expenses declined by £1,612 million or 12% to £12,398 million. Excluding the impact of foreign exchange movements and intangible assets write-offs, adjusted operating expenses reduced by £1.1 billion, exceeding the bank's £1 billion cost saving target.
- Staff expenses declined by 7%, and by 1% on a per capita basis against average full time employees(1).
- Litigation and conducts costs totalled £2,194 million compared with £3,844 million in 2013. This included additional provisions for PPI redress (£650 million) in PBB, provisions relating to investigations into the foreign exchange market (£720 million) in CIB, Interest Rate Hedging Product redress (£185 million), the fine relating to the 2012 IT incident (£59 million) booked in Centre and other costs (£580 million) including provisions relating to packaged accounts and investment products.

- Restructuring costs increased by £601 million to £1,257 million, including £378 million in relation to Williams & Glyn and a £247 million write-off of intangible IT assets.

Note:

- (1) Average full time employees, rounded to the nearest hundred, for continuing operations was 95,600 (2013 - 102,000).

Analysis of results

Key points (continued)

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

- Operating expenses increased by £975 million or 25% to £4,858 million. Litigation and conduct costs were up 49% to £1,164 million and included provisions for PPI redress (£400 million), provisions relating to investigations into the foreign exchange market (£320 million), Interest Rate Hedging Product redress (£85 million) and other costs (£359 million) including provisions relating to certain packaged accounts and investment products. Adjusted operating expenses increased by £208 million or 7% to £3,131 million primarily reflecting a UK bank levy charge of £250 million. Restructuring costs increased by £383 million to £563 million, including a £247 million write-off of intangible assets and £174 million in relation to Williams & Glyn.

Q4 2014 compared with Q4 2013

- Operating expenses decreased by £2,023 million or 29%. Litigation and conduct costs were down 60% to £1,164 million and included provisions for PPI redress (£400 million), provisions relating to investigations into the foreign exchange market (£320 million), Interest Rate Hedging Product redress (£85 million) and other costs (£359 million). Adjusted operating expenses decreased by £695 million or 18% primarily reflecting reductions in operating expenses across a number of businesses, principally CIB.

Analysis of results

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014	31 December 2013	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Impairment (releases)/losses					
Loans	(1,170)	8,412	(638)	(803)	5,131
Securities	15	20	15	2	(19)
Total impairment (releases)/losses	(1,155)	8,432	(623)	(801)	5,112
Loan impairment (releases)/losses					
- individually assessed	(799)	6,919	(502)	(410)	4,867
- collectively assessed	315	1,464	(85)	52	443
- latent	(676)	44	(51)	(445)	(173)
Customer loans	(1,160)	8,427	(638)	(803)	5,137

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Bank loans	(10)	(15)	-	-	(6)
Loan impairment (releases)/losses	(1,170)	8,412	(638)	(803)	5,131
RBS excluding RCR/Non-Core	150	3,766	53	(193)	1,924
RCR	(1,320)	n/a	(691)	(610)	n/a
Non-Core	n/a	4,646	n/a	n/a	3,207
RBS	(1,170)	8,412	(638)	(803)	5,131
Customer loan impairment (releases)/charge as a % of gross loans and advances (1)					
RBS	(0.3%)	2.0%	(0.6%)	(0.8%)	4.9%
RBS excluding RCR/Non-Core	-	1.0%	0.1%	(0.2%)	2.0%
RCR	(6.0%)	n/a	(12.6%)	(9.5%)	n/a
Non-Core	n/a	12.8%	n/a	n/a	35.3%

	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013
Loan impairment provisions			
- RBS	£18.0bn	£20.0bn	£25.2bn
- RBS excluding RCR/Non-Core	£7.1bn	£7.4bn	£11.4bn
- RCR	£10.9bn	£12.6bn	n/a
- Non-Core	n/a	n/a	£13.8bn
Risk elements in lending			
- RBS	£28.2bn	£30.5bn	£39.4bn
- RBS excluding RCR/Non-Core	£12.8bn	£13.1bn	£20.4bn
- RCR	£15.4bn	£17.4bn	n/a
- Non-Core	n/a	n/a	£19.0bn
Provisions as a % of REIL			
- RBS	64%	66%	64%
- RBS excluding RCR/Non-Core	55%	57%	56%
- RCR	71%	72%	n/a
- Non-Core	n/a	n/a	73%
REIL as a % of gross customer loans			
- RBS	6.8%	7.4%	9.4%
- RBS excluding RCR/Non-Core	3.3%	3.4%	5.3%
- RCR	70.3%	67.6%	n/a
- Non-Core	n/a	n/a	51.8%

Note:

(1) Excludes reverse repurchase agreements and includes disposals groups.

Analysis of results

Key points

2014 compared with 2013

- Net impairment releases of £1,155 million were recorded in 2014 compared with a net impairment charge of £8,432 million in the prior year, which included £4,490 million provisions related to the creation of RCR. Releases were recorded principally in RCR (£1,306 million) and in Ulster Bank (£365 million), which benefited from favourable economic and market conditions, supported by rising Irish property values and proactive debt management. Excluding these releases, the underlying charge was low at just over £500 million.

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

- Net impairment releases totalled £623 million, down £178 million, again principally in RCR and Ulster Bank. Underlying bad debt flows remained low.

Q4 2014 compared with Q4 2013

- Net impairment releases totalled £623 million compared with a net impairment charge of £5,112 million in Q4 2013, which included £4,290 million related to the creation of RCR.

Analysis of results

Capital and leverage ratios

	End-point CRR basis (1)			PRA transitional basis (1)		
	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013 (2)	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013 (2)
Risk asset ratios	%	%	%	%	%	%
CET1	11.2	10.8	8.6	11.1	10.8	8.6
Tier 1	11.2	10.8	8.6	13.2	12.7	10.3
Total	13.7	13.1	10.6	17.1	16.3	13.6
Capital	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn
Tangible equity	44.4	44.3	41.1	44.4	44.1	41.1
Expected loss less impairment provisions	(1.5)	(1.6)	(1.7)	(1.5)	(1.6)	(1.7)
Prudential valuation adjustment (PVA)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.8)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.8)
Deferred tax assets	(1.2)	(1.6)	(2.3)	(1.2)	(1.6)	(2.3)
Own credit adjustments	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6
Pension fund assets	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)
Other deductions	(1.7)	0.1	0.1	(2.0)	0.2	0.1
Total deductions	(4.5)	(3.1)	(4.3)	(4.8)	(3.0)	(4.3)
CET1 capital	39.9	41.2	36.8	39.6	41.1	36.8
AT1 capital	-	-	-	7.5	7.5	7.5
Tier 1 capital	39.9	41.2	36.8	47.1	48.6	44.3
Tier 2 capital	8.7	8.8	8.7	13.6	13.6	13.9
Total regulatory capital	48.6	50.0	45.5	60.7	62.2	58.2

Risk-weighted assets	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn
Credit risk						
- non-counterparty	264.7	277.0	317.9	264.7	277.0	317.9
- counterparty	30.4	38.2	39.1	30.4	38.2	39.1
Market risk	24.0	29.7	30.3	24.0	29.7	30.3
Operational risk	36.8	36.8	41.8	36.8	36.8	41.8
Total RWAs	355.9	381.7	429.1	355.9	381.7	429.1
Leverage (3)	£bn	£bn	£bn			
Derivatives	354.0	314.0	288.0			
Loans and advances	419.6	422.1	418.4			
Reverse repos	64.7	75.5	76.4			
Other assets	212.5	234.5	245.1			
Total assets	1,050.8	1,046.1	1,027.9			
Derivatives						
- netting	(330.9)	(254.5)	(227.3)			
- potential future exposures	98.8	106.2	128.0			
Securities financing						
transactions gross up	25.0	72.9	59.8			
Weighted undrawn						
commitments	96.4	98.7	100.2			
Regulatory deductions and						
other						
adjustments	(0.6)	(1.4)	(6.6)			
Leverage exposure	939.5	1,068.0	1,082.0			
Leverage ratio %	4.2	3.9	3.4			

Notes:

- (1) Capital Requirements Regulation (CRR) as implemented by the Prudential Regulation Authority in the UK, with effect from 1 January 2014. All regulatory adjustments and deductions to CET1 have been applied in full for the end-point CRR basis with the exception of unrealised gains on AFS securities which has been included from 2015 for the PRA transitional basis.
- (2) Estimated.
- (3) Based on end-point CRR Tier 1 capital and revised 2014 Basel III leverage ratio framework.

Analysis of results

Key points

31 December 2014 compared with 30 September 2014

- The end-point CRR CET1 ratio improved to 11.2% from 10.8%, driven by continuing risk and balance sheet reduction in CIB and the success of RCR's capital release strategy.

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

- RWAs decreased by £25.8 billion in the quarter to £355.9 billion. The reductions were achieved principally in CIB (down £16.1 billion), RCR (down £8.6 billion) and UK PBB (down £1.9 billion). These were partially offset by a £4.0 billion increase in CFG which was partly due to the strengthening of the US dollar.

31 December 2014 compared with 31 December 2013

- The end-point CRR CET1 ratio improved to 11.2% from 8.6%, driven by continuing reduction in RWAs coupled with retained earnings after adjusting for CFG loss provision attributed to intangible assets and a deferred tax write down.
- RWAs decreased by £73.2 billion in the year to £355.9 billion. The decrease was principally in CIB (down £40.0 billion), RCR (down £24.7 billion), UK PBB (down £6.9 billion) and Ulster Bank (down £4.4 billion) and included risk and business reductions and improvements in credit metrics. These were partially offset by an increase in CFG (up £7.8 billion) which was partly due to the strengthening of the US dollar.
- The leverage ratio improved by 80 basis points to 4.2% reflecting both increased CET1 capital and reduced leverage exposure driven by lower funded assets and higher derivatives netting.
- Full implementation of the 2014 Basel III leverage ratio framework, particularly on securities financing transactions, also contributed to the leverage exposure reduction.

Refer to Appendix 1 for further details on capital and leverage.

Current period segment performance

The tables on pages 29 and 30 summarise the results and key metrics for each operating segment and franchise for the year and quarter ended 31 December 2014. Comparative period data are detailed in Appendix 3.

	Year ended 31 December 2014										
	PBB			CPB			CIB			Total	
	Ulster		Total	Commercial		Private	Central		CFG	RCR	RBS
	UK	Bank		Banking	Banking		(1)	items			
PBB	Bank	Total	Banking	Banking	Total	(1)	CFG	RCR	RBS		
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Income statement											
Net interest income	4,683	636	5,319	2,041	691	2,732	817	440	2,013	(47)	11,274
Non-interest income	1,354	194	1,548	1,169	391	1,560	3,132	(477)	1,068	92	6,923
Total income	6,037	830	6,867	3,210	1,082	4,292	3,949	(37)	3,081	45	18,197
Direct expenses											
- staff costs	(892)	(247)	(1,139)	(508)	(317)	(825)	(729)	(2,516)	(1,030)	(167)	(6,406)

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

- other costs	(380)	(74)	(454)	(249)	(72)	(321)	(400)	(3,742)	(990)	(85)	(5,992)	
Indirect expenses	(2,027)	(265)	(2,292)	(882)	(439)	(1,321)	(2,432)	6,149	-	(104)	-	
Restructuring costs												
- direct	(10)	8	(2)	(40)	(8)	(48)	(93)	(1,011)	(103)	-	(1,257)	
- indirect	(92)	(30)	(122)	(53)	(10)	(63)	(202)	394	-	(7)	-	
Litigation and conduct costs	(918)	19	(899)	(112)	(90)	(202)	(994)	(99)	-	-	(2,194)	
Operating expenses	(4,319)	(589)	(4,908)	(1,844)	(936)	(2,780)	(4,850)	(825)	(2,123)	(363)	(15,849)	
Profit/(loss) before impairment losses	1,718	241	1,959	1,366	146	1,512	(901)	(862)	958	(318)	2,348	
Impairment (losses)/releases	(268)	365	97	(76)	4	(72)	9	12	(197)	1,306	1,155	
Operating profit/(loss)	1,450	606	2,056	1,290	150	1,440	(892)	(850)	761	988	3,503	
Additional information												
Operating expenses - adjusted (£m)	(2)	(3,299)	(586)	(3,885)	(1,639)	(828)	(2,467)	(3,561)	(109)	(2,020)	(356)	(12,398)
Operating profit/(loss) - adjusted (£m)	(2)	2,470	609	3,079	1,495	258	1,753	397	(134)	864	995	6,954
Return on equity (3)	19.4%	16.1%	17.5%	12.6%	7.8%	11.9%	(4.2%)	nm	6.6%	nm	(8.0%)	
Return on equity - adjusted (2,3)	33.1%	16.2%	26.2%	14.6%	13.4%	14.4%	1.9%	nm	7.5%	nm	(1.3%)	
Cost:income ratio	72%	71%	71%	57%	87%	65%	123%	nm	69%	nm	87%	
Cost:income ratio - adjusted (2)	55%	71%	57%	51%	77%	57%	90%	nm	66%	nm	68%	
Funded assets (£bn)	134.3	27.5	161.8	89.4	20.4	109.8	241.1	84.7	84.5	14.9	696.8	
Total assets (£bn)	134.3	27.6	161.9	89.4	20.5	109.9	577.2	87.9	84.9	29.0	1,050.8	
Risk-weighted assets (£bn)	42.8	23.8	66.6	64.0	11.5	75.5	107.1	16.3	68.4	22.0	355.9	
Employee numbers (FTEs - thousands)	24.8	4.4	29.2	6.2	3.4	9.6	3.7	48.1	17.4	0.7	108.7	

nm = not meaningful

Current period segment performance

	Quarter ended 31 December 2014										
	PBB Ulster			CPB Commercial Private			CIB Central items				Total
	UK PBB £m	Bank £m	Total £m	Banking £m	Banking £m	Total £m	(1) £m	CFG £m	RCR £m	RBS £m	Total £m
Income statement											
Net interest income	1,209	150	1,359	521	175	696	222	128	533	(23)	2,915
Non-interest income	323	54	377	310	92	402	469	(374)	233	(162)	945
Total income	1,532	204	1,736	831	267	1,098	691	(246)	766	(185)	3,860
Direct expenses											
- staff costs	(220)	(65)	(285)	(118)	(78)	(196)	(63)	(607)	(263)	(41)	(1,455)
- other costs	(82)	(19)	(101)	(73)	(21)	(94)	(100)	(1,094)	(258)	(29)	(1,676)
Indirect expenses	(564)	(78)	(642)	(284)	(129)	(413)	(659)	1,739	-	(25)	-
Restructuring costs											
- direct	(2)	-	(2)	-	(6)	(6)	(49)	(485)	(21)	-	(563)
- indirect	(16)	4	(12)	(13)	(2)	(15)	(39)	69	-	(3)	-
Litigation and conduct costs	(650)	19	(631)	(62)	(90)	(152)	(382)	1	-	-	(1,164)
Operating expenses	(1,534)	(139)	(1,673)	(550)	(326)	(876)	(1,292)	(377)	(542)	(98)	(4,858)
Profit/(loss) before impairment losses											
Impairment (losses)/releases	(41)	104	63	(33)	-	(33)	(42)	1	(47)	681	623
Operating profit/(loss)	(43)	169	126	248	(59)	189	(643)	(622)	177	398	(375)
Additional information											
Operating expenses - adjusted (£m) (2)	(866)	(162)	(1,028)	(475)	(228)	(703)	(822)	38	(521)	(95)	(3,131)
Operating profit/(loss) - adjusted (£m) (2)	625	146	771	323	39	362	(173)	(207)	198	401	1,352

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Return on equity (3)	(2.5%)	20.1%	4.7%	9.6%	(12.5%)	6.2%	(13.6%)	nm	5.7%	nm	(49.6%)
Return on equity - adjusted (2,3)	35.7%	17.3%	28.5%	12.5%	8.2%	11.8%	(3.7%)	nm	6.4%	nm	(37.3%)
Cost:income ratio	100%	68%	96%	66%	122%	80%	187%	nm	71%	nm	126%
Cost:income ratio - adjusted (2)	57%	79%	59%	57%	85%	64%	119%	nm	68%	nm	81%
Funded assets (£bn)	134.3	27.5	161.8	89.4	20.4	109.8	241.1	84.7	84.5	14.9	696.8
Total assets (£bn)	134.3	27.6	161.9	89.4	20.5	109.9	577.2	87.9	84.9	29.0	1,050.8
Risk-weighted assets (£bn)	42.8	23.8	66.6	64.0	11.5	75.5	107.1	16.3	68.4	22.0	355.9
Employee numbers (FTEs - thousands)	24.8	4.4	29.2	6.2	3.4	9.6	3.7	48.1	17.4	0.7	108.7

nm = not meaningful

For the notes to this table refer to Appendix 3.

UK Personal & Business Banking

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014	31 December 2013	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Income statement					
Net interest income	4,683	4,490	1,209	1,198	1,149
Net fees and commissions	1,287	1,309	315	335	341
Other non-interest income	67	14	8	10	4
Non-interest income	1,354	1,323	323	345	345
Total income	6,037	5,813	1,532	1,543	1,494
Direct expenses					
- staff costs	(892)	(928)	(220)	(223)	(230)
- other costs	(380)	(524)	(82)	(78)	(203)
Indirect expenses	(2,027)	(1,954)	(564)	(481)	(519)
Restructuring costs					
- direct	(10)	(118)	(2)	(2)	(27)

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

- indirect	(92)	(109)	(16)	(63)	(41)
Litigation and conduct costs	(918)	(860)	(650)	(118)	(450)
Operating expenses	(4,319)	(4,493)	(1,534)	(965)	(1,470)
Profit before impairment losses	1,718	1,320	(2)	578	24
Impairment losses	(268)	(501)	(41)	(79)	(107)
Operating profit/(loss)	1,450	819	(43)	499	(83)
Operating expenses - adjusted (1)	(3,299)	(3,406)	(866)	(782)	(952)
Operating profit - adjusted (1)	2,470	1,906	625	682	435

Note:

(1) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Analysis of income by product					
Personal advances	920	923	222	231	247
Personal deposits	706	468	210	194	116
Mortgages	2,600	2,605	656	657	665
Cards	730	838	169	187	206
Business banking	1,021	973	270	261	247
Other	60	6	5	13	13
Total income	6,037	5,813	1,532	1,543	1,494
Analysis of impairments by sector					
Personal advances	161	179	36	46	61
Mortgages	(26)	31	(23)	(8)	(13)
Business banking	53	177	3	20	34
Cards	80	114	25	21	25
Total impairment losses (1)	268	501	41	79	107
Loan impairment charge as % of gross customer loans and advances (excluding reverse repurchase agreements) by sector					
Personal advances	2.2%	2.2%	1.9%	2.5%	3.0%
Mortgages	-	-	(0.1%)	-	(0.1%)

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Business banking	0.4%	1.2%	0.1%	0.5%	0.9%
Cards	1.6%	2.0%	2.0%	1.6%	1.7%
Total	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%

Note:

(1) Includes £2 million in Q4 2013 pertaining to the creation of RCR and related strategy.

UK Personal & Business Banking

Key metrics

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014	31 December 2013	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013
Performance ratios					
Return on equity (1)	19.4%	9.8%	(2.5%)	26.9%	(4.0%)
Return on equity - adjusted (1,2)	33.1%	22.8%	35.7%	36.8%	21.1%
Net interest margin	3.68%	3.56%	3.74%	3.72%	3.62%
Cost:income ratio	72%	77%	100%	63%	98%
Cost:income ratio - adjusted (2)	55%	59%	57%	51%	64%

Notes:

- (1) Return on equity is based on operating profit after tax divided by average notional equity (based on 12% of the monthly average of RWAs; RWAs in 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis).
- (2) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.
- (3) From Q1 2015 business segment return on equity will be calculated based on operating profit after tax adjusted for preference share dividends divided by average notional equity (based on 13% of the monthly average RWAs). At 31 December 2014 the RWAs on this basis were £46.6 billion and the return on equity 16%.

	31 December	30 September	Change	31 December	Change
	2014	2014		2013	
	£bn	£bn		£bn	
Capital and balance sheet					
Loans and advances to customers (gross)					
- personal advances	7.4	7.3	1%	8.1	(9%)
- mortgages	103.2	102.7	-	99.3	4%
- business	14.3	14.6	(2%)	14.6	(2%)
- cards	4.9	5.1	(4%)	5.8	(16%)
Total loans and advances to customers (gross)	129.8	129.7	-	127.8	2%
Loan impairment provisions	(2.6)	(2.7)	(4%)	(3.0)	(13%)
Net loans and advances to customers	127.2	127.0	-	124.8	2%

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Funded assets	134.3	134.2	-	132.2	2%
Total assets	134.3	134.2	-	132.2	2%
Risk elements in lending	3.8	4.1	(7%)	4.7	(19%)
Provision coverage (1)	69%	67%	200bp	63%	600bp
Customer deposits					
- personal current accounts	35.9	34.9	3%	32.5	10%
- personal savings	81.0	79.9	1%	82.3	(2%)
- business/commercial	31.8	31.2	2%	30.1	6%
Total customer deposits	148.7	146.0	2%	144.9	3%
Assets under management (excluding deposits)	4.9	5.0	(2%)	5.8	(16%)
Loan:deposit ratio (excluding repos)	86%	87%	(1%)	86%	-
Risk-weighted assets (2)					
- Credit risk (non-counterparty)	33.4	35.3	(5%)	41.4	(19%)
- Operational risk	9.4	9.4	-	9.8	(4%)
Total risk-weighted assets	42.8	44.7	(4%)	51.2	(16%)

Notes:

(1) Provision coverage represents loan impairment provisions as a percentage of risk elements in lending.

(2) Risk-weighted assets at 31 December 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis. RWAs on the end-point CRR basis as at 1 January 2014 were £49.7 billion.

UK Personal & Business Banking

Key points

- The strategic goal of UK PBB is to become the number one personal and business bank for customer service, trust and advocacy in the UK. Throughout 2014, the business has made steady progress in making banking fairer and simpler for its customers through a number of fair banking initiatives and technology investments. Progress made in 2014 by UK PBB included:

- Helping customers with their needs:

As the UK's biggest lender for SMEs, UK PBB continued to offer support to small business customers. Following storms and floods in February 2014, the business introduced a £250 million interest free loan fund for small business to help them get themselves back on their feet. An additional £1 billion Small Business Fund was launched to support small businesses with fee free, fixed rate loans.

UK PBB has been able to help more customers in 2014. With additional mortgage advisors recruited (up 18% from 630 to 744), gross mortgage lending increased by 37% year on year. The business's commitment to helping its customers get on and move up the property ladder has been a success and it has now helped almost 15,000 customers buy their first or next home with the government-backed Help to Buy schemes since their launch in May 2013.

There are now more ways to bank with UK PBB than ever. With services being extended to the Post Office network, customers now have over 13,000 branches and post offices across the UK where they can carry out their every day banking.

- Simpler and fairer products supported by the launch of the 'Goodbye-Hello' campaign:

The business committed to responsible and fair lending by removing 0% teaser deals from its offering and introducing the new Clear Rate and cash-back credit cards in 2014.

Business banking arrangement fees and surprise overdraft fees have been replaced with fixed rates on new business loans and text alerts when customers are overdrawn to keep them on track.

Service charges have been reviewed and made simpler and fairer for customers. The business re-introduced access to the LINK ATM network for all basic account customers, reduced its daily overdraft fees for all customers, placed a 60 day cap on overdraft charges and improved credit card late fee terms.

RBS became the first of the main high street banks to ensure all of its savers get the same or better deals as new customers. Those deals are available regardless of how customers choose to bank (e.g. branch, telephony or digital). With just five personal savings products now on sale the range is the simplest on the high street both for customers and for front line staff. Teaser savings rates have been removed and the business is committed to helping customers save for the long term rather than luring them in for the short term.

- Investments in Technology

UK PBB continued with its commitment to invest in technology to make things better for the customer. As its award winning mobile banking application celebrated 5 years, the business received another gold award for the "Pay your Contacts" service, which was named "Best new service of the year" in July at the 'Best in Biz' International awards. UK PBB now has over 6.9 million online and mobile banking users, with the mobile app being used more than 23 million times every week.

Further improvements have been made to the mobile banking application and personal customers are now able to use the new industry-wide Pay-m application that allows customers to receive payments from customers of other participating banks just by providing their mobile number. Customers will no longer have to divulge their sort code and account number to receive payment. Pay-m has already enrolled over 1.8 million customers in the service since its launch at the end of April 2014. WiFi in branches has also been a great success with customers already using the free service over 1 million times since it started in May.

UK Personal & Business Banking

Key points (continued) 2014 compared with 2013

- UK PBB recorded an operating profit of £1,450 million, up £631 million, while adjusted operating profit totalled £2,470 million compared with £1,906 million in the prior year. This reflected higher income, up 4% to £6,037

million and lower adjusted expenses, down 3% to £3,299 million, together with substantially lower impairments, down £233 million to £268 million.

- Net interest income increased by £193 million or 4% with strong improvements in deposit margins and volume growth. This was partly offset by lower asset margins linked to the continued change in the mix of the loan book towards secured lending and lower mortgage margins.
- Non-interest income increased by £31 million or 2%, largely reflecting the transfer of the commercial cards business to UK PBB from CPB in August 2014.
- Operating expenses decreased by £174 million or 4%, reflecting lower restructuring and litigation and conduct costs. Excluding these items, expenses declined by £107 million or 3% supported by a 7% reduction in headcount and lower Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) accruals. Litigation and conduct costs included additional provisions for Payment Protection Insurance redress (£650 million) and other conduct provisions in respect of legacy investment products and packaged account sales.
- The net impairment charge was down by 47% to £268 million driven by a further decrease in new default charges together with releases of provisions and recoveries on previously written off debt.
- Mortgage balances increased by £3.9 billion or 4%, to £103.2 billion driven by strong performance as advisor capacity increased. Gross new mortgage business increased by 37% to £19.7 billion, representing a market share of 10% with our stock share of 8% continuing to grow.
- RWAs to decline of 16% to £42.8 billion with improved credit quality and lower unsecured balances.

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

- Operating loss totalled £43 million compared with an operating profit of £499 million, primarily as a result of additional conduct costs that included provisions for PPI redress (£400 million) and other conduct provisions in respect of legacy packaged account sales and investment products (£250 million). Adjusted operating profit decreased by £57 million or 8% to £625 million, reflecting the annual charge for bank levy (£38 million) and write-offs of intangible assets (£41 million). This was partly offset by lower impairments down £38 million to £41 million.
- Net interest income increased by £11 million or 1% to £1,209 million supported by improved net interest margin and continued deposit growth.
- Non-interest income fell by £22 million or 6% with lower cards transaction net income reflecting increased loyalty scheme costs. Q3 included profit recognised from the sale of NatWest Stockbrokers (£7 million).
- The impairment charge declined by £38 million to £41 million primarily driven by increased portfolio provision releases. Underlying defaults also continued to trend lower.
- RWAs continued to decrease, down £1.9 billion reflecting improved credit quality together with lower unsecured balances.

UK Personal & Business Banking

Key points (continued)

Q4 2014 compared with Q4 2013

- Operating loss improved by £40 million to £43 million despite higher conduct charges, with net interest income up 5%, costs down and impairments substantially lower.
- Net interest income grew by £60 million or 5% attributable to improvements in deposit income driven by margin and volume improvements. This was partly offset by a decline in asset margins from lower mortgage and loan pricing in line with the market and increased roll-off of higher margin loans.
- Non-interest income fell by £22 million or 6% to £323 million as a result of a change in the daily overdraft fee tariff in Q4 2014, the re-opening of access to the LINK ATM network for all customers, lower packaged account fees and lower transactional income from cards.
- Adjusted expenses were down 9% to £866 million, largely reflecting lower provision for FSCS accruals and conduct provisions combined with lower staff costs as customer transactions migrate to lower cost channels.
- Net impairment charges declined £66 million to £41 million, reflecting continued positive default trends. Portfolio provision releases also supported a lower charge in Q4 2014.

Ulster Bank

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014	31 December 2013	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Income statement					
Net interest income	636	619	150	163	164
Net fees and commissions	139	141	38	35	37
Other non-interest income	55	99	16	16	1
Non-interest income	194	240	54	51	38
Total income	830	859	204	214	202
Direct expenses					
- staff costs	(247)	(239)	(65)	(57)	(51)
- other costs	(74)	(63)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Indirect expenses	(265)	(263)	(78)	(61)	(75)
Restructuring costs					
- direct	8	(27)	-	-	(9)
- indirect	(30)	(12)	4	(12)	(3)
Litigation and conduct costs	19	(90)	19	-	(65)
Operating expenses	(589)	(694)	(139)	(150)	(224)

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Profit/(loss) before impairment losses	241	165	65	64	(22)
Impairment releases/(losses)	365	(1,774)	104	318	(1,067)
Operating profit/(loss)	606	(1,609)	169	382	(1,089)
Operating expenses - adjusted (1)	(586)	(565)	(162)	(138)	(147)
Operating profit/(loss) - adjusted (1)	609	(1,480)	146	394	(1,012)

Note:

(1) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Analysis of income by business					
Corporate	268	315	69	65	69
Retail	401	408	100	111	98
Other	161	136	35	38	35
Total income	830	859	204	214	202
Analysis of impairments by sector					
Mortgages	(172)	235	(39)	(168)	24
Commercial real estate					
- investment	(16)	593	(7)	(18)	392
- development	(11)	153	4	(9)	115
Other corporate	(186)	771	(64)	(130)	534
Other lending	20	22	2	7	2
Total impairment (releases)/losses (1)	(365)	1,774	(104)	(318)	1,067
Loan impairment charge as % of gross customer loans and advances (excluding reverse repurchase agreements) by sector					
Mortgages	(1.0%)	1.2%	(0.9%)	(3.8%)	0.5%
Commercial real estate					
- investment	(1.6%)	17.4%	(2.8%)	(7.2%)	46.1%
- development	(3.7%)	21.9%	5.3%	(9.0%)	65.7%
Other corporate	(3.8%)	10.9%	(5.2%)	(10.4%)	30.1%
Other lending	2.0%	1.8%	0.8%	3.1%	0.7%
Total	(1.5%)	5.6%	(1.7%)	(5.1%)	13.6%

Note:

(1) Includes £892 million in Q4 2013 pertaining to the creation of RCR and related strategy.

Ulster Bank

Key metrics

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014	31 December 2013	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013
Performance ratios					
Return on equity (1)	16.1%	(33.2%)	20.1%	42.2%	(97.8%)
Return on equity - adjusted (1,2)	16.2%	(30.6%)	17.3%	43.5%	(90.9%)
Net interest margin	2.27%	1.88%	2.14%	2.32%	2.04%
Cost:income ratio	71%	81%	68%	70%	111%
Cost:income ratio - adjusted (2)	71%	66%	79%	64%	73%

Notes:

- (1) Return on equity is based on operating profit after tax divided by average notional equity (based on 12% of the monthly average of RWAs; RWAs in 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis).
- (2) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.
- (3) From Q1 2015 business segment return on equity will be calculated based on operating profit after tax adjusted for preference share dividends divided by average notional equity (based on 13% of the monthly average RWAs). At 31 December 2014 the RWAs on this basis were £22.3 billion and the return on equity 17.2%.

Ulster Bank

	31 December	30 September	Change	31	Change
	2014	2014		December	
	£bn	£bn		2013	
Capital and balance sheet					
Loans and advances to customers (gross)					
Mortgages	17.5	17.6	(1%)	19.0	(8%)
Commercial real estate					
- investment	1.0	1.0	-	3.4	(71%)
- development	0.3	0.4	(25%)	0.7	(57%)
Other corporate	4.9	5.0	(2%)	7.1	(31%)
Other lending	1.0	0.9	11%	1.2	(17%)
Total loans and advances to customers (gross)	24.7	24.9	(1%)	31.4	(21%)
Loan impairment provisions					
- mortgages	(1.4)	(1.4)	-	(1.7)	(18%)
- commercial real estate					

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

- investment	(0.2)	(0.2)	-	(1.2)	(83%)
- development	(0.2)	(0.2)	-	(0.3)	(33%)
- other corporate	(0.8)	(0.9)	(11%)	(2.0)	(60%)
- other lending	(0.1)	(0.2)	(50%)	(0.2)	(50%)
Total loan impairment provisions	(2.7)	(2.9)	(7%)	(5.4)	(50%)
Net loans and advances to customers (1)	22.0	22.0	-	26.0	(15%)
Funded assets	27.5	26.3	5%	28.0	(2%)
Total assets	27.6	26.5	4%	28.2	(2%)
Risk elements in lending					
- Mortgages	3.4	3.3	3%	3.2	6%
- Commercial real estate					
- investment	0.3	0.2	50%	2.3	(87%)
- development	0.2	0.2	-	0.5	(60%)
- Other corporate	0.8	0.9	(11%)	2.3	(65%)
- Other lending	0.1	0.2	(50%)	0.2	(50%)
Total risk elements in lending	4.8	4.8	-	8.5	(44%)
Provision coverage (2)	57%	60%	(300bp)	64%	(700bp)
Customer deposits	20.6	19.7	5%	21.7	(5%)
Loan:deposit ratio (excluding repos)	107%	112%	(500bp)	120%	(1,300bp)
Risk-weighted assets (3,4)					
- Credit risk					
- non-counterparty	22.2	22.2	-	28.2	(21%)
- counterparty	0.1	0.1	-	0.3	(67%)
- Market risk	-	0.1	(100%)	0.5	(100%)
- Operational risk	1.5	1.5	-	1.7	(12%)
Total risk-weighted assets	23.8	23.9	-	30.7	(22%)
Spot exchange rate - €/£	1.285	1.285		1.201	

Notes:

(1) 31 December 2014 includes £11.4 billion in relation to legacy tracker mortgages.

(2) Provision coverage represents loan impairment provisions as a percentage of risk elements in lending.

(3) Risk-weighted assets at 31 December 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis. RWAs on the end-point CRR basis as at 1 January 2014 were £28.2 billion.

(4) 31 December 2014 includes £10.7 billion in relation to legacy tracker mortgages.

Ulster Bank

Key points

Following completion of a strategic review, Ulster Bank was confirmed as a core part of RBS reflecting its fit with RBS's retail and commercial strategy; 2014 saw a return to profitability with significant progress made addressing legacy issues and the strengthening of its core business for the future.

- The transfer of £4.4 billion of gross assets to RCR on 1 January 2014 and subsequent deleveraging has enabled Ulster Bank to focus on the development of its core business. This has had a material impact on the comparison of 2014 financial performance with 2013.
- Ulster Bank recorded an operating profit of £606 million in 2014, the first annual profit since 2008. This represented a major turnaround from 2013 largely due to impairment releases supported by enhanced collections performance and an improvement in key macroeconomic indicators. Net interest margin also improved and operating expenses were reduced.
- Considerable progress was made to improve Ulster Bank's service offering and to enhance the customer experience. The bank continued to re-shape its distribution network during 2014 while online and mobile banking services were further developed to support the upward trend in digital transactions, which now represent 57% of total transaction volumes. The bank's 'Web Chat' initiative, launched in 2012, is now handling over 15,000 customer enquiries each month. Ulster Bank in Northern Ireland recently launched its 'Bank on Wheels' service and extended its partnership with the Post Office which provides customers with 484 new points of presence.
- There has been a significant increase in new lending activity during 2014 following the launch of the 'Big Yes' mortgage and 'Ahead for Business' campaigns. New mortgage lending increased by over 40% in 2014 while over £1 billion of new lending was made available to business customers, despite a challenging business environment.
- The investment made to support customers in financial difficulty has resulted in a sustained reduction since Q1 2013 in the number of mortgage customers in arrears of 90 days or more and an increase in the number of business customers returning to mainstream management.

2014 compared with 2013

- Ulster Bank recorded an operating profit of £606 million in 2014 compared with a loss of £1,609 million in 2013. The turnaround was driven by £365 million net impairment releases compared with impairment losses of £1,774 million in 2013. Adjusted operating profit was £609 million compared with a loss of £1,480 million.
- Profit before impairment losses was £241 million, £76 million higher than in 2013.
- Total income decreased by £29 million to £830 million largely as a result of the non-recurrence of significant hedging gains on the mortgage portfolio in 2013. Net interest income increased by £17 million to £636 million, primarily driven by a significant reduction in the cost of deposits and a benefit from the recognition of income on certain previously non-performing assets, partly offset by the adverse impact on the tracker mortgage book of lower European Central Bank refinancing interest rates. Net interest margin increased 39 basis points to 2.27%.

Ulster Bank

Key points (continued)

2014 compared with 2013(continued)

- The continued focus on costs resulted in a reduction in staff numbers and the bank's property footprint. Litigation and conduct costs decreased by £109 million reflecting the outcome of reviews relating to provisions on PPI and Interest Rate Hedging Products. These benefits were partly offset by higher regulatory charges and levies including a new bank levy introduced in the Republic of Ireland, of £15 million, and the impact of a realignment of costs following the creation of RCR, £44 million.

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

The transfer of assets to RCR coupled with improved credit quality across key portfolios resulted in a 44% reduction in risk elements in lending. Provision coverage reduced from 64% to 57% during 2014 reflecting the further de-risking of the balance sheet coupled with the impact of an increase in asset values. RWAs decreased by 22% reflecting an improvement in credit metrics and a reduced loan book.

- The loan:deposit ratio decreased from 120% to 107% during 2014 mainly due to a 15% reduction in net loan balances to £22 billion reflecting the transfer of assets to RCR and continued customer deleveraging partly offset by growth in new lending. Customer deposits declined by 5% largely driven by exchange rate movements.

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

- Operating profit of £169 million in Q4 2014 was £213 million lower than Q3 2014 largely due to a reduction in impairment releases. Adjusted operating profit was £146 million compared with £394 million in Q3 2014.
- The profit before impairment losses of £65 million was broadly stable with Q3 2014. Total income decreased by £10 million mainly as a result of the recognition of income on previously non-performing assets in Q3 2014. Operating expenses decreased by £11 million primarily due to the release of provisions relating to litigation, conduct and restructuring, partly offset by the impact of the UK bank levy (£14 million).
- The loan:deposit ratio declined to 107% from 112% in Q3 2014 primarily reflecting a 5% increase in customer deposit balances.

Q4 2014 compared with Q4 2013

- Operating profit of £169 million in 2014 included net impairment releases of £104 million compared with impairment losses of £1,067 million in Q4 2013, which included additional charges of £911 million arising from the creation of RCR. Adjusted operating profit was £146 million compared with a loss of £1,012 million in Q4 2013.
- Total income was broadly in line with Q4 2013. Operating expenses decreased by £85 million principally due to a reduction in litigation and conduct costs.

Commercial Banking

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Income statement					
Net interest income	2,041	1,962	521	521	515
Net fees and commissions	885	944	217	220	235
Other non-interest income	284	251	93	70	66
Non-interest income	1,169	1,195	310	290	301

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Total income	3,210	3,157	831	811	816
Direct expenses					
- staff costs	(508)	(513)	(118)	(124)	(132)
- other costs	(249)	(269)	(73)	(54)	(68)
Indirect expenses	(882)	(891)	(284)	(196)	(281)
Restructuring costs					
- direct	(40)	(18)	-	-	(1)
- indirect	(53)	(37)	(13)	(18)	(14)
Litigation and conduct costs	(112)	(247)	(62)	-	(222)
Operating expenses	(1,844)	(1,975)	(550)	(392)	(718)
Profit before impairment losses	1,366	1,182	281	419	98
Impairment losses	(76)	(652)	(33)	(12)	(277)
Operating profit/(loss)	1,290	530	248	407	(179)
Operating expenses - adjusted (1)	(1,639)	(1,673)	(475)	(374)	(481)
Operating profit - adjusted (1)	1,495	832	323	425	58

Note:

(1) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.

Commercial Banking

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Analysis of income by business					
Commercial lending	1,830	1,911	477	459	481
Deposits	353	208	105	95	64
Asset and invoice finance	740	671	186	188	168
Other	287	367	63	69	103
Total income	3,210	3,157	831	811	816
Analysis of impairments by sector					
Commercial real estate	(2)	431	5	(1)	233
Asset and invoice finance	11	31	7	2	20
Private sector education, health, social work, recreational and community services	(8)	125	-	2	28
Banks & financial institutions	-	10	-	(1)	4

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Wholesale and retail trade repairs	20	9	4	2	3
Hotels and restaurants	7	28	6	2	10
Manufacturing	10	1	1	2	3
Construction	9	(2)	1	4	(1)
Other	29	19	9	-	(23)
Total impairment losses (1)	76	652	33	12	277
Loan impairment charge as % of gross customer loans and advances by sector					
Commercial real estate	-	2.1%	0.1%	-	4.6%
Asset and invoice finance	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.7%
Private sector education, health, social work, recreational and community services	(0.1%)	1.6%	-	0.1%	1.4%
Banks & financial institutions	-	0.1%	-	(0.1%)	0.2%
Wholesale and retail trade repairs	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%
Hotels and restaurants	0.2%	0.8%	0.7%	0.2%	1.1%
Manufacturing	0.3%	-	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%
Construction	0.5%	(0.1%)	0.2%	0.8%	(0.2%)
Other	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	-	(0.4%)
Total	0.1%	0.8%	0.2%	0.1%	1.3%

Note:

(1) Includes £123 million in 2013 pertaining to the creation of RCR and related strategy.

Commercial Banking

Key metrics

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014	31 December 2013	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013
Performance ratios					
Return on equity (1)	12.6%	4.9%	9.6%	16.0%	(6.7%)
Return on equity - adjusted (1,2)	14.6%	7.7%	12.5%	16.7%	2.1%
Net interest margin	2.74%	2.64%	2.77%	2.78%	2.76%
Cost:income ratio	57%	63%	66%	48%	88%
Cost:income ratio - adjusted (2)	51%	53%	57%	46%	59%

Notes:

- (1) Return on equity is based on operating profit after tax divided by average notional equity (based on 12% of the monthly average of RWAs; RWAs in 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis).
- (2) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.
- (3) From Q1 2015 business segment return on equity will be calculated based on operating profit after tax adjusted for preference share dividends divided by average notional equity (based on 13% of the monthly average RWAs). At 31 December 2014 the RWAs on this basis were £69.8 billion and the return on equity 9.5%.

	31 December 2014 £bn	30 September 2014 £bn	Change	31 December 2013 £bn	Change
Capital and balance sheet					
Loans and advances to customers (gross)					
- Commercial real estate	18.3	18.6	(2%)	20.2	(9%)
- Asset and invoice finance	14.2	14.3	(1%)	11.7	21%
- Private sector education, health, social work, recreational and community services	6.9	7.1	(3%)	7.9	(13%)
- Banks & financial institutions	7.0	7.0	-	6.9	1%
- Wholesale and retail trade repairs	6.0	6.0	-	5.8	3%
- Hotels and restaurants	3.4	3.4	-	3.6	(6%)
- Manufacturing	3.7	3.9	(5%)	3.7	-
- Construction	1.9	1.9	-	2.1	(10%)
- Other	24.7	23.8	4%	23.1	7%
Total loans and advances to customers (gross)	86.1	86.0	-	85.0	1%
Loan impairment provisions	(1.0)	(1.0)	-	(1.5)	(33%)
Net loans and advances to customers (1)	85.1	85.0	-	83.5	2%
Funded assets	89.4	89.7	-	87.9	2%
Total assets	89.4	89.7	-	87.9	2%
Risk elements in lending	2.5	2.6	(4%)	4.3	(42%)
Provision coverage (2)	38%	40%	(200bp)	38%	-
Customer deposits	86.8	87.0	-	90.7	(4%)
Loan:deposit ratio (excluding repos)	98%	98%	-	92%	600bp
Risk-weighted assets (3)					
- Credit risk (non-counterparty)	57.6	58.5	(2%)	59.7	(4%)
- Operational risk	6.4	6.4	-	6.1	5%
Total risk-weighted assets	64.0	64.9	(1%)	65.8	(3%)

Notes:

(1) December 2014 includes £15 billion third party assets and £12 billion risk-weighted asset equivalents in relation to the run-down legacy book.

(2) Provision coverage represents loan impairment provisions as a percentage of risk elements in lending.

(3) Risk-weighted assets at 31 December 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis. RWAs on the end-point CRR basis as at 1 January 2014 were £61.5 billion.

Commercial Banking

Key points

Commercial Banking implemented a simplified and delayed management structure in 2014. With over 120 products removed from sale and over 400 process improvements implemented, the segment is becoming easier to do business with.

Tangible progress is being made via a bank-wide strategic lending programme which will transform the end-to-end customer lending experience, ensuring faster decisions and a smoother application process. Over the year there has been an improvement in the Net Promoter Score and rating of overall service quality across the business, together with a continuing fall in complaints.

Commercial Banking continues to back UK businesses and communities, with over 8,400 Statement of Appetite letters issued in 2014 at a total value of £4.7 billion. As part of our plan to support entrepreneurs across the UK, the first of eight accelerator hubs opened in February 2015, offering free space, support and advice to high growth business owners. A series of customer campaigns were launched, proactively engaging customers on their international and asset finance needs.

Significant progress has been made to drive connectivity across the bank, with a focus on providing employees with the skills and tools they need to serve customers better. This has included investment in professional qualifications as well as the development of a suite of banking tools to be rolled out in 2015. The alignment of Commercial & Private Banking continues to yield benefits, with a pilot resulting in over 140 referrals between the businesses.

2014 compared with 2013

- Commercial Banking recorded an operating profit of £1,290 million compared with £530 million in the prior year. This was driven by lower net impairment losses, down £576 million, lower operating expenses, down £131 million and higher income, up £53 million. Adjusted operating profit increased by £663 million to £1,495 million.
- Net interest income increased by £79 million or 4%, largely reflecting re-pricing activity on deposits partly offset by the impact of reduced asset margins, a result of the net transfer in of lower margin legacy loans (after the cessation of Non-Core).
- Non-interest income was down £26 million or 2% as lower Corporate & Institutional Banking revenue share income, restructuring fees and the transfer out of commercial cards income to UK Personal & Business Banking in August 2014 were only partially offset by higher fair value gains and operating lease income, along with lower close out costs of interest rate products associated with impaired loans.
- Operating expenses were down £131 million or 7%, as a result of lower litigation and conduct costs, primarily relating to interest rate swap redress, and lower underlying direct costs reflecting the continued focus on cost saving. These reductions were partially offset by higher restructuring costs, as the business aligns itself to better support customers, and growth in operating lease depreciation. Operating expenses excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs declined by £34 million.

Commercial Banking

Key points (continued)

2014 compared with 2013 (continued)

- Net impairment losses declined £576 million to £76 million, as 2013 included the impact of the creation of RCR. Excluding the RCR charges, underlying impairments declined by £453 million with fewer individual cases across the portfolio, reduced collectively assessed provisions and higher latent provision releases, reflecting improved credit conditions.

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

- The loan:deposit ratio increased to 98%, from reduced deposits, down 4%, reflecting the rebalancing of the bank's liquidity position, and a 2% increase in net loans and advances, as reductions in the commercial real estate and restructuring portfolio were offset by growth across other businesses.
- RWAs were £1.8 billion lower at £64.0 billion, primarily reflecting net transfers to RCR, effective 1 January 2014, and improving credit quality on the back of UK economic recovery, offset by loan growth.

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

- Operating profit declined by £159 million to £248 million. This was driven by higher operating expenses coupled with higher net impairment losses only partially offset by an increase in income. Adjusted operating profit was £323 million compared with £425 million in the preceding quarter.
- Net interest income was broadly flat as a decline in asset margins offset an increase in current account balances.
- Non-interest income increased by £20 million or 7% to £310 million, from higher fair value gains partially offset by lower disposal gains. Fee income remained broadly stable.
- Operating expenses increased by £158 million to £550 million, primarily driven by a £62 million provision for litigation and conduct costs coupled with the annual bank levy (£84 million). A donation of £10 million was made to the bank's social finance charity.
- Net impairment losses increased by £21 million to £33 million, reflecting an uplift in a small number of individual cases and higher latent charges, partially offset by reduced collectively assessed provisions.
- RWAs declined by 1% to £64.0 billion, as a result of improving risk parameters.

Q4 2014 compared with Q4 2013

- Operating profit was £248 million compared with a loss of £179 million in Q4 2013 primarily driven by lower litigation and conduct costs, down £160 million, and lower net impairment losses, down £244 million. Adjusted operating profit increased from £58 million to £323 million.
- Income increased by £15 million or 2% to £831 million, with higher net interest income, up 1%, and higher non-interest income, up 3%. Net interest income benefited from the re-pricing activity on deposits partially offset by the impact of lower asset margins reflecting the transfer of lower margin loans from Non-Core. Non-interest income was positively affected by higher fair value gains in the quarter, partially offset by the transfer of commercial cards income to UK Personal & Business Banking.
- Operating expenses decreased by £168 million or 23% to £550 million, primarily driven by lower litigation and conduct costs, coupled with lower direct costs. This was partially offset by the social finance charity donation.
- Net impairment losses decreased by £244 million to £33 million, reflecting fewer significant individual cases coupled with the non-repeat of the RCR related charges.

Private Banking

Year ended

Quarter ended

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Income statement					
Net interest income	691	658	175	172	173
Net fees and commissions	335	355	78	85	85
Other non-interest income	56	64	14	13	18
Non-interest income	391	419	92	98	103
Total income	1,082	1,077	267	270	276
Direct expenses					
- staff costs	(317)	(317)	(78)	(79)	(63)
- other costs	(72)	(84)	(21)	(19)	(33)
Indirect expenses	(439)	(475)	(129)	(105)	(134)
Restructuring costs					
- direct	(8)	(18)	(6)	-	(14)
- indirect	(10)	(9)	(2)	(7)	(3)
Litigation and conduct costs	(90)	(206)	(90)	-	(206)
Operating expenses	(936)	(1,109)	(326)	(210)	(453)
Profit/(loss) before impairment losses	146	(32)	(59)	60	(177)
Impairment releases/(losses)	4	(29)	-	4	(21)
Operating profit/(loss)	150	(61)	(59)	64	(198)
Operating expenses - adjusted (1)	(828)	(876)	(228)	(203)	(230)
Operating profit - adjusted (1)	258	172	39	71	25
Of which: international private banking activities (2)					
Total income	230	267	55	53	61
Operating expenses	(257)	(357)	(76)	(62)	(161)
Impairment losses	-	(20)	-	-	(20)
Operating loss	(27)	(110)	(21)	(9)	(120)

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Analysis of income by business					
Investments	176	198	42	44	52
Banking	906	879	225	226	224

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Total income	1,082	1,077	267	270	276
Key metrics					
	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31	31	31	30	31
	December	December	December	September	December
	2014	2013	2014	2014	2013
Performance ratios					
Return on equity (3)	7.8%	(3.1%)	(12.5%)	13.3%	(41.0%)
Return on equity - adjusted (1,3)	13.4%	8.7%	8.2%	14.8%	5.2%
Net interest margin	3.71%	3.47%	3.74%	3.65%	3.68%
Cost:income ratio	87%	103%	122%	78%	164%
Cost:income ratio - adjusted (1)	77%	81%	85%	75%	83%

Notes:

- (1) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.
- (2) Private banking and wealth management activities outside of the British Isles, broadly indicative of the businesses being exited.
- (3) Return on equity is based on operating profit after tax divided by average notional equity (based on 12% of the monthly average of RWAs; RWAs in 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis).
- (4) From Q1 2015 business segment return on equity will be calculated based on operating profit after tax adjusted for preference share dividends divided by average notional equity (based on 13% of the monthly average RWAs). At 31 December 2014 the RWAs on this basis were £11.5 billion and the return on equity 6.1%.

Private Banking

	31	30		31	
	December	September		December	
	2014	2014		2013	
	£bn	£bn	Change	£bn	Change
Capital and balance sheet					
Loans and advances to customers (gross)					
- personal	5.4	5.6	(4%)	5.5	(2%)
- mortgages	8.9	8.8	1%	8.7	2%
- other	2.3	2.4	(4%)	2.6	(12%)
Total loans and advances to customers (gross)	16.6	16.8	(1%)	16.8	(1%)
Loan impairment provisions	(0.1)	(0.1)	-	(0.1)	-
Loans and advances to customers	16.5	16.7	(1%)	16.7	(1%)

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Funded assets	20.4	21.0	(3%)	21.0	(3%)
Total assets	20.5	21.1	(3%)	21.2	(3%)
Assets under management	28.3	28.9	(2%)	29.7	(5%)
Risk elements in lending	0.2	0.2	-	0.3	(33%)
Provision coverage (1)	34%	35%	(100bp)	43%	(900bp)
Customer deposits	36.1	36.2	-	37.2	(3%)
Loan:deposit ratio (excluding repos)	46%	46%	-	45%	100bp
Risk-weighted assets (2)					
- Credit risk					
- non-counterparty	9.5	10.2	(7%)	10.0	(5%)
- counterparty	0.1	0.1	-	-	-
- Market risk	-	-	-	0.1	(100%)
- Operational risk	1.9	1.9	-	1.9	-
Total risk-weighted assets	11.5	12.2	(6%)	12.0	(4%)
Of which: international private banking activities (3)					
Net loans and advances to customers	3.0	3.1	(3%)	3.1	(3%)
Assets under management	14.5	15.0	(3%)	15.6	(7%)
Customer deposits (excluding repos)	7.3	7.8	(6%)	8.0	(9%)
Risk-weighted assets (2)	2.2	2.6	(15%)	2.5	(12%)

Notes:

- (1) Provision coverage represents loan impairment provisions as a percentage of risk elements in lending.
- (2) Risk-weighted assets at 31 December 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis. RWAs on the end-point CRR basis at 1 January 2014 were £12.0 billion.
- (3) Private banking and wealth management activities outside of the British Isles, broadly indicative of the businesses being exited.

Key points

During 2014, Private Banking has continued to provide excellent service to clients against the background of a major business review and significant organisational change.

Following the announcement of RBS's new strategy in February 2014, Private Banking set out a new vision and strategic direction in August. Coutts and Adam & Company will focus on growing the UK based high net worth client franchise. All private banking and wealth management activities where the primary relationship management is conducted outside the British Isles will be exited to align better with RBS's stated UK focus.

The ambition of the business is to be the leading UK based private bank and wealth manager for wealthy individuals seeking exceptional private banking and wealth management. Private Banking has gathered significant momentum behind its ambition, supported by a straightforward plan centred around five key priorities: an improved banking proposition; a refocused advice and wealth management model; an enhanced proposition for international clients managed from the UK; an integrated client approach across RBS; and increased client engagement.

Since September, good progress has been made towards the sale of the business outside the British Isles. A primary focus of the transaction is to execute the deal with minimal disruption for clients and staff.

Private Banking

Key points (continued)

Private Banking has made tangible steps towards working more closely with Commercial Banking, which includes an energetic approach to client cross referrals as well as functional synergies.

The business has progressed well against key priorities in 2014. Improvements are evidenced by several industry awards including: 'Best private bank in the UK' (PWM/The Banker) and 'Most innovative digital offering' (Private Banker International). Coutts continues to be recognised as a leader in philanthropy, with its '\$1 million donors' report receiving significant media coverage, and its expertise as an adviser for family businesses and exiting entrepreneurs remains a strong point of differentiation.

2014 compared with 2013

- Private Banking recorded an operating profit of £150 million compared with a loss of £61 million in the prior year. This was driven by reduced operating expenses, down £173 million, net impairment releases of £4 million compared with a net £29 million loss in 2013, and higher income, up £5 million. Adjusted operating profit increased by £86 million to £258 million.
- Net interest income increased by £33 million or 5% as improved deposit margin reflected the full year impact of the 2013 deposit re-pricing initiative.
- Non-interest income was down £28 million or 7%, with lower transactional and investment activity due to subdued market volatility across the international business.
- Operating expenses declined by £173 million or 16% primarily driven by lower restructuring and litigation and conduct costs. Adjusted operating expenses declined by £48 million or 5% to £828 million, reflecting lower technology costs and one-off benefits from the exit of a number of London properties.
- Net impairment releases of £4 million, compared with a net impairment loss of £29 million in the prior year reflected the non-repeat of a single £20 million provision, coupled with improved economic conditions and higher UK property prices.
- Client deposits decreased by £1.1 billion or 3% reflecting the rebalancing of the bank's liquidity position.
- Assets under management decreased by £1.4 billion or 5% to £28.3 billion, driven by low margin custody outflows.

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

- Operating loss was £59 million compared with a profit of £64 million in the prior quarter principally driven by a £90 million increase in litigation and conduct costs and the cost of the UK bank levy. Adjusted operating profit declined by £32 million to £39 million, primarily due to the annual bank levy.
- Assets under management decreased by £0.6 billion or 2%, due to outflows of low margin assets in both the UK and international businesses.

Q4 2014 compared with Q4 2013

- Operating loss decreased by £139 million to £59 million, primarily driven by lower litigation and conduct costs coupled with the non-repeat of a single impairment provision. Adjusted operating profit increased by £14 million.
- Non-interest income fell by £11 million or 11% as a result of lower transactional and investment activity due to subdued market volatility across the international business.

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Operating expenses declined by £127 million or 28%, largely driven by the £116 million reduction in litigation and conduct costs. Indirect costs declined with lower technology and property costs.

Net impairment loss decreased by £21 million reflecting the non-repeat of the single provision in the international business in Q4 2013.

Corporate & Institutional Banking

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Income statement					
Net interest income from banking activities	817	684	222	230	208
Net fees and commissions	972	1,109	219	263	265
Income from trading activities	2,023	3,074	212	329	549
Other operating income	137	141	38	9	26
Non-interest income	3,132	4,324	469	601	840
Total income	3,949	5,008	691	831	1,048
Direct expenses					
- staff costs	(729)	(979)	(63)	(179)	(138)
- other costs	(400)	(688)	(100)	(50)	(267)
Indirect expenses					
Restructuring costs	(2,432)	(2,900)	(659)	(593)	(959)
- direct	(93)	(76)	(49)	(22)	(25)
- indirect	(202)	(126)	(39)	6	35
Litigation and conduct costs	(994)	(2,441)	(382)	(562)	(1,932)
Operating expenses	(4,850)	(7,210)	(1,292)	(1,400)	(3,286)
Loss before impairment losses	(901)	(2,202)	(601)	(569)	(2,238)
Impairment releases/(losses)	9	(680)	(42)	12	(429)
Operating loss	(892)	(2,882)	(643)	(557)	(2,667)
Operating expenses - adjusted (1)	(3,561)	(4,567)	(822)	(822)	(1,364)
Operating profit/(loss) - adjusted (1)	397	(239)	(173)	21	(745)

Note:

(1) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Analysis of income by product					
Rates	975	1,075	79	240	202
Currencies	754	903	210	193	192
Credit	1,088	1,639	116	198	343
Global Transaction Services	818	881	190	207	227
Portfolio	653	623	171	164	156
Total (excluding revenue share and run-off businesses)	4,288	5,121	766	1,002	1,120
Inter-segment revenue share	(236)	(261)	(59)	(58)	(57)
Run-off businesses	(103)	148	(16)	(113)	(15)
Total income	3,949	5,008	691	831	1,048

Corporate & Institutional Banking

Key metrics	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014	31 December 2013	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013
Performance ratios					
Return on equity (1)	(4.2%)	(12.9%)	(13.6%)	(11.0%)	(53.1%)
Return on equity - adjusted (1,2)	1.9%	(1.1%)	(3.7%)	0.4%	(14.9%)
Net interest margin	0.99%	0.80%	1.11%	1.08%	0.97%
Cost:income ratio	123%	144%	187%	168%	314%
Cost:income ratio - adjusted (2)	90%	91%	119%	99%	130%

Notes:

- (1) Return on equity is based on operating profit after tax divided by average notional equity (based on 12% of the monthly average of RWAs; RWAs in 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis).
- (2) Excluding restructuring costs and litigation and conduct costs.
- (3) From Q1 2015 business segment return on equity will be calculated based on operating profit after tax adjusted for preference share dividends divided by average notional equity (based on 13% of the monthly average RWAs). At 31 December 2014 the RWAs on this basis were £108.9 billion and the return on equity (4.8%).

	31 December 2014 £bn	30 September 2014 £bn	Change	31 December 2013 £bn	Change
--	-------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------	-------------------------------	--------

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Capital and balance sheet					
Loans and advances to customers (gross, excluding reverse repos)	73.0	73.3	-	69.1	6%
Loan impairment provisions	(0.2)	(0.2)	-	(0.9)	(78%)
Total loans and advances to customers (excluding reverse repos)	72.8	73.1	-	68.2	7%
Net loans and advances to banks (excluding reverse repos) (1)	16.9	19.5	(13%)	20.5	(18%)
Reverse repos	61.6	72.9	(16%)	76.2	(19%)
Securities	57.0	65.6	(13%)	72.1	(21%)
Cash and eligible bills	23.2	18.9	23%	20.6	13%
Other	9.6	24.9	(61%)	11.0	(13%)
Funded assets	241.1	274.9	(12%)	268.6	(10%)
Total assets	577.2	572.9	1%	551.2	5%
Provision coverage (2)	105%	175%	(7,000bp)	59%	4,600bp
Customer deposits (excluding repos)	59.4	57.1	4%	64.8	(8%)
Bank deposits (excluding repos)	33.3	32.2	3%	30.2	10%
Repos	61.1	67.2	(9%)	74.8	(18%)
Debt securities in issue	14.1	15.8	(11%)	21.5	(34%)
Loan:deposit ratio (excluding repos)	122%	128%	(600bp)	105%	1,700bp
Risk-weighted assets (3)					
- Credit risk					
- non-counterparty	51.3	57.2	(10%)	61.8	(17%)
- counterparty	25.1	28.5	(12%)	17.5	43%
- Market risk	18.9	25.7	(26%)	26.4	(28%)
- Operational risk	11.8	11.8	-	14.7	(20%)
Total risk-weighted assets	107.1	123.2	(13%)	120.4	(11%)

Notes:

(1) Excludes disposal groups.

(2) Provision coverage represents loan impairment provisions as a percentage of risk elements in lending.

(3) Risk-weighted assets at 31 December 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis. On the end-point CRR basis risk-weighted assets at 1 January 2014 were £147.1 billion.

Corporate & Institutional Banking

Key points

Corporate & Institutional Banking (CIB) focused on its strengths in core product areas during 2014, reducing the scale of the business and simplifying the operating model. This allowed CIB to better serve customers while deploying fewer resources. The commitment to customers was demonstrated by the award of The Banker's Most Innovative Bank in Risk Management in Q3 2014 and by winning IFR magazine's Sterling Bond House of the year award in Q4 2014. The drive to concentrate on core products is evidenced by the 27% fall in RWAs (compared with 1 January 2014 on a CRR basis) and the 22% year on year fall in adjusted expenses (excluding litigation and conduct costs and

restructuring costs).

2014 compared with 2013

- CIB recorded an operating loss of £892 million compared with a loss of £2,882 million in 2013. This included litigation and conduct costs of £994 million compared with £2,441 million a year before. The adjusted operating result improved from a loss of £239 million in 2013 to a profit of £397 million in 2014. This movement was primarily driven by substantial reductions in expenses, partially offset by lower income. Net impairment releases totalled £9 million compared with a net impairment charge of £680 million in 2013.
- Total income declined by 21%, reflecting reduced deployment of resources and difficult trading conditions, characterised by subdued levels of client activity and limited market volatility:
 - Rates suffered from a weak trading performance in Q4 2014. This, combined with subdued client flow and balance sheet de-risking, reduced income.
 - Currencies income declined in a highly competitive market as both market volatility and client activity remained subdued for much of the year. Some volatility returned in Q4 2014, boosting income in the Options business in particular.
 - Credit reduced RWAs by 61% in 2014, including the wind-down of Credit Trading and the US asset-backed products (ABP) business. This impacted income, as did the year on year weakening in corporate investment grade debt capital market issuance in EMEA.
 - Income from Global Transaction Services dipped by 7%, primarily as a result of the disposal of the Global Travel Money Service business in Q4 2013. The underlying business was stable.
 - Run-off and recovery businesses incurred a loss of £103 million.
- Operating expenses fell by £2,360 million driven primarily by lower litigation and conduct costs. Adjusted expenses decreased by £1,006 million, or 22%, reflecting the continued focus on cost savings across both business and support areas.
- Net impairment releases totalled £9 million compared with a net impairment charge of £680 million in 2013, reflecting a reduction in latent loss provisions and a low level of new impairments. This contrasted with 2013 which included substantial impairments related to the establishment of RCR.
- Funded assets fell by 10% reflecting the focus on core product areas including the wind-down of Credit Trading and the US ABP businesses.
- RWAs were managed down by £40.0 billion from £147.1 billion on 1 January 2014 to £107.1 billion on 31 December 2014. The 27% reduction was driven by a sustained programme of risk and business reductions, notably in Credit due to the wind-down of the US asset-backed products business (down £15 billion over the same period to £4 billion).

Corporate & Institutional Banking

Key points (continued)

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

- An operating loss of £643 million, compared with a loss of £557 million in Q3 2014, primarily reflected lower income, higher restructuring and indirect costs, partially offset by lower litigation and conduct costs of £382

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

million compared with £562 million in Q3 2014. Adjusted operating loss totalled £173 million compared with a profit of £21 million in Q3. RWAs continued to fall, down 13% to £107.1 billion in Q4 2014.

- Reduced income, most notably in Rates and Credit, was driven by a weak trading performance as markets reacted to increasing concerns about the Eurozone economy and challenging macroeconomic conditions more broadly. This was partially offset by Currencies, where higher income was driven by increased currency volatility.
- Operating expenses fell by £108 million, driven by lower litigation and conduct costs and lower staff expenses. This was partially offset by higher restructuring costs and indirect expenses, the latter reflecting the timing of the UK bank levy, which cost £93 million in the quarter.
- RWAs fell by 13%, driven by risk reduction and specific business initiatives, notably in Credit where the US asset-backed products business is being wound down.

Q4 2014 compared with Q4 2013

- Operating loss declined from £2,667 million in Q4 2013 to £643 million in Q4 2014. The improvement was driven by lower expenses, primarily litigation and conduct costs, and lower impairments, partially offset by reduced income.
- Lower income, primarily in Rates and Credit, reflected risk and balance sheet reductions since the end of 2013 and a weak trading performance in Q4 2014.
- Operating expenses fell by £1,994 million, driven by lower litigation and conduct costs. Adjusted expenses declined by £542 million reflecting the continued focus on reducing the cost base.

Central items

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Central items not allocated	(850)	647	(622)	(319)	(61)

Funding and operating costs have been allocated to operating segments based on direct service usage, the requirement for market funding and other appropriate drivers where services span more than one segment.

Residual unallocated items relate to volatile corporate items that do not naturally reside within a division.

Key points

2014 compared with 2013

- Central items not allocated represented a charge of £850 million compared with a credit of £647 million in 2013. The change includes lower gains on the disposal of available-for-sale securities in Treasury, which were down £575 million to £149 million in 2014, along with a £309 million higher restructuring charge relating to the Williams & Glyn franchise. In addition 2014 includes a charge of £247 million write-down of previously

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

capitalised software development expenditure and £134 million lower income from investments in associates. In addition, unallocated Treasury funding costs, including volatile items under IFRS, were £437 million in the year versus £282 million in 2013.

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

- Central items not allocated represented a charge of £622 million in Q4 2014 compared with a charge of £319 million in Q3 2014. Q4 included a £247 million software write-down. In addition, unallocated Treasury funding costs, including volatile items under IFRS, were £323 million in the quarter versus £111 million in Q3 2014. The previous quarter also included £72 million of available-for-sale disposal losses.

Q4 2014 compared with Q4 2013

- Central items not allocated represented a charge of £622 million in Q4 2014 compared with a charge of £61 million in Q4 2013. This reflected the software write off, higher restructuring charges relating to the Williams & Glyn franchise and lower gains on the disposal of available-for-sale securities in Treasury, which were down £108 million to £6 million in Q4 2014.

Citizens Financial Group (£ Sterling)

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Income statement					
Net interest income	2,013	1,892	533	493	468
Net fees and commissions	709	761	185	174	182
Other non-interest income	359	312	48	41	58
Non-interest income	1,068	1,073	233	215	240
Total income	3,081	2,965	766	708	708
Direct expenses					
- staff costs	(1,030)	(1,091)	(263)	(255)	(249)
- other costs	(990)	(986)	(258)	(231)	(251)
Indirect expenses	-	(111)	-	-	(31)
Restructuring costs	(103)	(16)	(21)	(13)	(11)
Operating expenses	(2,123)	(2,204)	(542)	(499)	(542)
Profit before impairment losses	958	761	224	209	166
Impairment losses	(197)	(156)	(47)	(46)	(46)
Operating profit	761	605	177	163	120

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Operating expenses - adjusted (1)	(2,020)	(2,188)	(521)	(486)	(531)
Operating profit - adjusted (1)	864	621	198	176	131
Average exchange rate - US\$/£	1.647	1.565	1.582	1.669	1.619

Note:

(1) Excluding restructuring costs.

Key metrics	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31	31	31	30	31
	December	December	December	September	December
	2014	2013	2014	2014	2013
Performance ratios					
Return on equity (1)	6.6%	5.7%	5.7%	5.6%	4.7%
Return on equity - adjusted (1,2)	7.5%	5.8%	6.4%	6.1%	5.1%
Net interest margin	2.88%	2.91%	2.86%	2.82%	2.91%
Cost:income ratio	69%	74%	71%	71%	77%
Cost:income ratio - adjusted (2)	66%	74%	68%	69%	75%
Loan impairment charge as % of gross customer loans and advances	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%

Notes:

(1) Return on equity is based on operating profit after tax divided by average notional equity (based on 12% of the monthly average of RWAs; RWAs in 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis).

(2) Excluding restructuring costs.

(3) From Q1 2015 business segment return on equity will be calculated based on operating profit after tax adjusted for preference share dividends divided by average notional equity (based on 13% of the monthly average RWAs). At 31 December 2014 the RWAs on this basis were £68.6 billion and the return on equity 6.1%.

Citizens Financial Group (£ Sterling)

	31	30		31	
	December	September		December	
	2014	2014		2013	
	£bn	£bn	Change	£bn	Change
Capital and balance sheet					
Loans and advances to customers (gross)					
- residential mortgages	7.7	7.1	8%	5.8	33%
- home equity	12.0	11.8	2%	12.1	(1%)
- SBO home equity	1.2	1.2	-	-	100%
- corporate and commercial	27.9	25.8	8%	24.1	16%
- other consumer	11.3	10.3	10%	8.6	31%

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Total loans and advances to customers (gross)	60.1	56.2	7%	50.6	19%
Loan impairment provisions	(0.5)	(0.5)	-	(0.3)	67%
Net loans and advances to customers	59.6	55.7	7%	50.3	18%
Funded assets	84.5	80.5	5%	71.3	19%
Total assets	84.9	80.9	5%	71.7	18%
Investment securities	15.8	15.3	3%	12.9	22%
Risk elements in lending					
- retail	1.2	1.1	9%	0.9	33%
- commercial	0.1	0.2	(50%)	0.1	-
Total risk elements in lending	1.3	1.3	-	1.0	30%
Provision coverage (1)	40%	41%	(100bp)	26%	1,400bp
Customer deposits (excluding repos)	60.6	56.9	7%	55.1	10%
Bank deposits (excluding repos)	5.1	4.3	19%	2.0	155%
Loan:deposit ratio (excluding repos)	98%	98%	-	91%	700bp
Risk-weighted assets (2)					
- Credit risk					
- non-counterparty	62.4	58.6	6%	50.7	23%
- counterparty	0.9	0.7	29%	0.5	80%
- Operational risk	5.1	5.1	-	4.9	4%
Total risk-weighted assets	68.4	64.4	6%	56.1	22%
Spot exchange rate - US\$/£	1.562	1.622		1.654	

Notes:

(1) Provision coverage represents loan impairment provisions as a percentage of risk elements in lending.

(2) Risk-weighted assets at 31 December 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis. RWAs on the end-point CRR basis as at 1 January 2014 were £60.6 billion.

Key points

Sterling weakened during the year, with the spot exchange rate at 31 December 2014 decreasing 6%.

Performance is described in full in the US dollar-based financial statements set out on pages 56 to 59.

Citizens Financial Group (US dollar)

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 \$m	31 December 2013 \$m	31 December 2014 \$m	30 September 2014 \$m	31 December 2013 \$m
Income statement					
Net interest income	3,317	2,960	846	824	763

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Net fees and commissions	1,168	1,190	293	291	298
Other non-interest income	589	489	69	68	97
Non-interest income	1,757	1,679	362	359	395
Total income	5,074	4,639	1,208	1,183	1,158
Direct expenses					
- staff costs	(1,697)	(1,707)	(417)	(425)	(409)
- other costs	(1,631)	(1,544)	(408)	(388)	(412)
Indirect expenses	-	(173)	-	-	(50)
Restructuring costs	(169)	(24)	(32)	(22)	(16)
Operating expenses	(3,497)	(3,448)	(857)	(835)	(887)
Profit before impairment losses	1,577	1,191	351	348	271
Impairment losses	(324)	(244)	(73)	(77)	(75)
Operating profit	1,253	947	278	271	196
Operating expenses - adjusted (1)	(3,328)	(3,424)	(825)	(813)	(871)
Operating profit - adjusted (1)	1,422	971	310	293	212

Note:

(1) Excluding restructuring costs.

Key metrics

	Years ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014	31 December 2013	31 December 2014	30 September 2014	31 December 2013
Performance ratios					
Return on equity (1)	6.6%	5.7%	5.7%	5.6%	4.7%
Return on equity - adjusted (1,2)	7.5%	5.8%	6.4%	6.1%	5.1%
Net interest margin	2.88%	2.91%	2.86%	2.82%	2.91%
Cost:income ratio	69%	74%	71%	71%	77%
Cost:income ratio - adjusted (2)	66%	74%	68%	69%	75%
Loan impairment charge as a % of gross customer loans and advances	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%

Notes:

(1) Return on equity is based on operating profit after tax divided by average notional equity (based on 12% of the monthly average of RWAs; RWAs in 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis).

(2) Excluding restructuring costs.

Citizens Financial Group (US dollar)

	31 December 2014 \$bn	30 September 2014 \$bn	Change	31 December 2013 \$bn	Change
Capital and balance sheet					
Loans and advances to customers (gross)					
- residential mortgages	12.1	11.5	5%	9.6	26%
- home equity	18.8	19.1	(2%)	20.1	(6%)
- SBO home equity	1.8	1.9	(5%)	-	100%
- corporate and commercial	43.6	41.8	4%	39.8	10%
- other consumer	17.6	16.9	4%	14.1	25%
Total loans and advances to customers (gross)	93.9	91.2	3%	83.6	12%
Loan impairment provisions	(0.8)	(0.8)	-	(0.4)	100%
Net loans and advances to customers	93.1	90.4	3%	83.2	12%
Funded assets	132.0	130.7	1%	117.9	12%
Total assets	132.6	131.2	1%	118.6	12%
Investment securities	24.7	24.9	(1%)	21.3	16%
Risk elements in lending					
- retail	1.8	1.8	-	1.5	20%
- commercial	0.3	0.2	50%	0.2	50%
Total risk elements in lending	2.1	2.0	5%	1.7	24%
Provision coverage (1)	40%	41%	(100bp)	26%	1,400bp
Customer deposits (excluding repos)	94.6	92.4	2%	91.1	4%
Bank deposits (excluding repos)	8.0	7.0	14%	3.3	142%
Loan:deposit ratio (excluding repos)	98%	98%	-	91%	700bp
Risk-weighted assets (2)					
- Credit risk					
- non-counterparty	97.4	95.0	3%	83.8	16%
- counterparty	1.4	1.2	17%	0.8	75%
- Operational risk	8.0	8.3	(4%)	8.2	(2%)
Total risk-weighted assets	106.8	104.5	2%	92.8	15%

Notes:

(1) Provision coverage represents loan impairment provisions as a percentage of risk elements in lending.

(2) Risk-weighted assets at 31 December 2013 are on a Basel 2.5 basis. RWAs on the end-point CRR basis as at 1 January were \$100.2 billion.

Key points

In accordance with a commitment to the EC to sell Citizens by 31 December 2016, RBS disposed of 29.5% of its interest in Citizens Financial Group, Inc. during the second half of 2014 primarily through an initial public offering in the USA. In accordance with IFRS 5 'Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations', Citizens is presented with effect from 31 December 2014 as a discontinued operation, with comparatives restated, and as a disposal group.

Although CFG has been reclassified as a discontinued operation it continues to be a reportable operating segment.

FY 2014 and Q4 2014 results are not directly comparable with prior year periods; prior year results exclude Non-Core operations and include indirect expenses. In the context of the planned disposal of Citizens Financial Group, indirect expenses are no longer allocated to the segment.

Citizens Financial Group (US dollar)

Key points (continued) 2014 compared with 2013

- Operating profit increased by \$306 million, or 32%, to \$1,253 million, reflecting the Q2 2014 gain on the sale of the Illinois franchise. The former Non-Core portfolio is now included and indirect expenses are no longer allocated on a prospective basis from 1 January 2014. On a comparable basis, operating profit excluding the impact of the Illinois sale, \$283 million net gain, and restructuring costs, \$169 million (FY 2013 - \$24 million), was up 16% driven by an increase in net interest income and a decrease in impairment losses partially offset by lower non-interest income.
- Net interest income was up \$357 million, or 12%, to \$3,317 million driven by a larger investment portfolio, loan growth including the transfer of assets from Non-Core, the benefit of interest rate swaps and deposit pricing discipline. This was partially offset by a reduction in loan spreads, reflecting the impact of the relatively persistent low-rate environment on loan yields, higher borrowing costs related to subordinated debt issuances and the impact of lost revenue from the Illinois franchise sale.
- Higher rates led to investment security purchases resulting in average portfolio growth of \$5.4 billion over the year.
- Average loans and advances were up 10% driven by the \$3.4 billion transfer of assets from Non-Core, commercial loan growth, auto loan organic growth and purchases of residential mortgages and auto loans, which were partially offset by a reduction in home equity loans.
- Average customer deposits were down 2% with planned run-off of high priced deposits.
- Loan:deposit ratio improved 700 basis points to 98%.
- Excluding the gain on the sale of the Illinois franchise of \$283 million, non-interest income was down \$205 million, or 12%, to \$1,474 million reflecting lower securities gains of \$116 million, lower mortgage banking fees of \$52 million, as refinancing volumes have slowed, lower deposit fees of \$52 million due to a change in the posting order of transactions and the impact of lost revenue from the Illinois franchise sale. This was partially offset by underlying strength in commercial banking fee income. Mortgage origination activity has slowed as market rates have risen, leading to lower applications combined with lower levels of gains on sales of mortgages.
- Excluding restructuring costs of \$169 million (FY 2013 - \$24 million), total expenses were down \$96 million, or 3%, to \$3,328 million driven by the removal of indirect costs in 2014 and the impact of the Illinois franchise sale

partially offset by lower mortgage servicing rights impairment release and higher consumer regulatory compliance costs.

- Restructuring costs include costs related to the sale of the Illinois franchise, separation from RBS, as well as efforts to improve processes and enhance efficiency.
- Impairment losses increased by \$80 million to \$324 million due to charge-offs related to assets transferred from Non-Core.

Citizens Financial Group (US dollar)

Key points (continued)

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

- Operating profit increased by \$7 million, or 3%, to \$278 million due to higher revenue largely offset by higher expenses.
- Net interest income was up \$22 million, or 3%, to \$846 million driven largely by a \$2.4 billion increase in average loans and leases, higher investment portfolio income and a reduction in pay-fixed swap costs partially offset by higher subordinated debt borrowing costs and deposit costs.
- Average loans and advances were up 3% due to commercial loan growth and retail loan growth driven by higher auto, residential mortgage and student loans partially offset by home equity run-off.
- Average deposits were up 3% with growth across all deposit products.
- Loan:deposit ratio remained stable at 98% despite strong loan growth.
- Non-interest income was up \$3 million, or 1%, to \$362 million driven by commercial banking fee income.
- Operating expenses were up \$22 million, or 3%, to \$857 million due to higher restructuring costs and a mortgage servicing rights impairment in Q4 2014 versus a release in Q3 2014.
- Impairment losses decreased by \$4 million to \$73 million for the quarter as the benefit of continued improvement in asset quality and a reduction in net charge-offs was somewhat offset by the effect of loan growth.

Q4 2014 compared with Q4 2013

- Operating profit increased by \$82 million, or 42%, to \$278 million due to higher net interest income and lower expenses partially offset by lower non-interest income.
- Net interest income increased \$83 million, or 11%, to \$846 million as the benefit of growth in average earning assets, a reduction in pay-fixed swap costs and improved security yields was partially offset by continued pressure from the relatively persistent low-rate environment on loan yields and mix, higher borrowing costs related to subordinated debt issuances and the effect of the Illinois franchise sale.
- Non-interest income was down \$33 million, or 8%, to \$362 million largely due to lower securities gains and the impact of the Illinois franchise sale partially offset by growth in commercial banking fees.

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

- Excluding restructuring costs and indirect costs of \$32 million (Q4 2013 - \$66 million) expenses remained broadly flat at \$825 million.
- Impairment losses were broadly in line with prior year despite the Non-Core transfer.

RBS Capital Resolution

RCR is managed and analysed in four asset management groups - Ulster Bank (RCR Ireland), Real Estate Finance, Corporate and Markets. Real Estate Finance excludes commercial real estate lending in Ulster Bank.

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31	31	30	30	31
	December	December	September	June	March
	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Income statement					
Net interest income	(24)	(17)	(18)	16	(5)
Net fees and commissions	58	15	12	17	14
Income from trading activities (1)	(218)	(207)	42	(69)	16
Other operating income (1)	229	24	86	71	48
Non-interest income	69	(168)	140	19	78
Total income	45	(185)	122	35	73
Direct expenses					
- staff costs	(167)	(41)	(37)	(51)	(38)
- other costs	(85)	(29)	(24)	(14)	(18)
Indirect expenses	(104)	(25)	(24)	(32)	(23)
Restructuring costs	(7)	(3)	(4)	-	-
Operating expenses	(363)	(98)	(89)	(97)	(79)
(Loss)/profit before impairment losses	(318)	(283)	33	(62)	(6)
Impairment releases/(losses) (1)	1,306	681	605	128	(108)
Operating profit/(loss)	988	398	638	66	(114)
Operating expenses - adjusted (2)	(356)	(95)	(85)	(97)	(79)
Operating profit/(loss) - adjusted (2)	995	401	642	66	(114)
Total income					
Ulster Bank	(20)	8	(29)	14	(13)
Real Estate Finance	222	59	67	13	83
Corporate	(17)	(75)	72	(12)	(2)

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Markets	(140)	(177)	12	20	5
Total income	45	(185)	122	35	73
Impairment (releases)/losses					
Ulster Bank	(1,106)	(712)	(379)	(67)	52
Real Estate Finance	(183)	10	(159)	(123)	89
Corporate	(21)	10	(70)	73	(34)
Markets	4	11	3	(11)	1
Total impairment (releases)/losses	(1,306)	(681)	(605)	(128)	108
Loan impairment charge as % of gross loans and advances (3)					
Ulster Bank	(10.1%)	(25.9%)	(12.0%)	(1.9%)	1.3%
Real Estate Finance	(4.5%)	1.0%	(11.6%)	(6.6%)	4.1%
Corporate	(0.3%)	0.6%	(4.0%)	3.7%	(1.5%)
Markets	(1.7%)	-	(0.6%)	(3.6%)	-
Total	(6.0%)	(12.6%)	(9.5%)	(1.7%)	1.2%

Notes:

- (1) Asset disposals contributed £291 million (Q3 2014 - £332 million; Q2 2014 - £225 million; Q1 2014 - £56 million) to RCR's operating profit: impairment provision releases of £321 million (Q3 2014 - £232 million; Q2 2014 - £257 million; Q1 2014 - £64 million); £11 million loss in income from trading activities (Q3 2014 - £97 million gain; Q2 2014 - £6 million gain; Q1 2014 - £5 million loss) and £19 million loss in other operating income (Q3 2014 - £3 million gain; Q2 2014 - £38 million; Q1 2014 - £3 million).
- (2) Excluding restructuring costs.
- (3) Includes disposal groups.

RBS Capital Resolution

	31 December 2014 £bn	30 September 2014 £bn	30 June 2014 £bn	31 March 2014 £bn
Capital and balance sheet				
Loans and advances to customers (gross) (1)	21.9	25.8	30.0	34.0
Loan impairment provisions	(10.9)	(12.6)	(14.4)	(15.7)
Net loans and advances to customers	11.0	13.2	15.6	18.3
Debt securities	1.0	1.7	1.9	2.2
Funded assets	14.9	17.9	20.9	24.3
Total assets	29.0	31.3	34.4	38.8

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Risk elements in lending (1)	15.4	17.4	20.4	23.0
Provision coverage (2)	71%	72%	71%	68%
Risk-weighted assets				
- Credit risk				
- non-counterparty	13.6	18.7	22.6	29.6
- counterparty	4.0	8.2	8.2	5.7
- Market risk	4.4	3.7	4.3	5.2
Total risk-weighted assets	22.0	30.6	35.1	40.5
Gross loans and advances to customers (1)				
Ulster Bank	11.0	12.6	13.9	15.5
Real Estate Finance	4.1	5.5	7.4	8.6
Corporate	6.2	7.0	7.8	9.1
Markets	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.8
	21.9	25.8	30.0	34.0
Funded assets - Ulster Bank				
Commercial real estate - investment	1.2	1.5	1.9	2.4
Commercial real estate - development	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8
Other corporate	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.2
	2.6	2.9	3.5	4.4
Funded assets - Real Estate Finance				
UK	2.5	3.2	4.4	4.7
Germany	0.4	0.8	1.0	1.4
Spain	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6
Other	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.0
	4.2	5.4	6.7	7.7
Funded assets - Corporate				
Structured finance	1.7	1.7	2.0	2.2
Shipping	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0
Other	2.3	3.1	3.5	4.4
	5.8	6.7	7.4	8.6
Funded assets - Markets				
Securitised products	1.8	2.3	2.7	3.0
Emerging markets	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6
	2.3	2.9	3.3	3.6

Notes:

(1) Includes disposal groups.

(2) Provision coverage represents loan impairment provisions as a percentage of risk elements in lending.

RBS Capital Resolution

Funded assets and
RWAE

	Non-performing (1)					Performing (1)					Total				
	Funded assets		Capital			Funded assets		Capital			Funded assets		RWAE		
	Gross	Net	RWAE	RWA	deducts	Gross	Net	RWAE	RWA	deducts	Gross	Net	(2)	RWA	(3)
	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£m	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£m	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£m
31 December 2014															
Ulster Bank	10.7	2.2	3.4	-	340	0.5	0.4	0.5	1.3	(82)	11.2	2.6	3.9	1.3	258
Real Estate															
Finance	3.2	2.0	1.0	-	98	2.2	2.2	4.8	4.7	13	5.4	4.2	5.8	4.7	111
Corporate	2.2	1.1	1.6	-	161	4.7	4.7	6.7	7.2	(49)	6.9	5.8	8.3	7.2	112
Markets	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	12	2.2	2.2	9.2	8.8	41	2.3	2.3	9.3	8.8	53
Total RCR	16.2	5.4	6.1	-	611	9.6	9.5	21.2	22.0	(77)	25.8	14.9	27.3	22.0	534
30 June 2014															
Ulster Bank	13.0	2.6	4.4	-	446	1.1	0.9	0.1	2.3	(229)	14.1	3.5	4.5	2.3	217
Real Estate															
Finance	5.0	2.7	4.1	0.3	389	4.1	4.0	6.4	6.1	16	9.1	6.7	10.5	6.4	405
Corporate	2.6	1.2	1.8	-	184	6.3	6.2	14.8	15.1	(28)	8.9	7.4	16.6	15.1	156
Markets	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.2	34	3.2	3.2	11.4	11.1	30	3.3	3.3	11.9	11.3	64
Total RCR	20.7	6.6	10.8	0.5	1,053	14.7	14.3	32.7	34.6	(211)	35.4	20.9	43.5	35.1	842
1 January 2014															
Ulster Bank	14.8	3.7	7.6	0.2	738	1.4	1.1	1.3	3.1	(179)	16.2	4.8	8.9	3.3	559
Real Estate															
Finance	7.2	4.2	6.1	0.3	580	5.8	5.3	12.5	13.2	(75)	13.0	9.5	18.6	13.5	505
Corporate	3.3	1.7	2.9	0.2	269	8.1	8.1	18.2	16.2	208	11.4	9.8	21.1	16.4	477
Markets	0.2	0.1	0.6	-	58	4.7	4.7	15.8	13.5	233	4.9	4.8	16.4	13.5	291
Total RCR	25.5	9.7	17.2	0.7	1,645	20.0	19.2	47.8	46.0	187	45.5	28.9	65.0	46.7	1,832

Notes:

(1) Performing assets are those with an internal asset quality band of AQ1 - A9; and non-performing assets are in AQ10 with a probability of default being 100%.

(2)

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

RWA equivalent (RWAE) is an internal metric that measures the equity capital employed in segments. RWAE converts both performing and non-performing exposures into a consistent capital measure, being the sum of the regulatory RWAs and the regulatory capital deductions, the latter converted to RWAE by applying a multiplier. RBS applies a CET1 ratio of 10% for RCR; this results in an end point CRR RWAE conversion multiplier of 10.

(3) The most significant component of capital deductions relate to expected loss less impairment provisions of £518 million (30 June 2014 - £823 million; 1 January 2014 - £1,774 million). The negative capital deductions for performing exposures are a result of the latent loss provisions held in respect of the performing portfolio.

RBS Capital Resolution

Funded assets

	Beginning		Disposals			End of period
	of period	Repayments	(1) Impairments	Other		
Year ended 31 December 2014	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn
Ulster Bank	4.8	(0.2)	(2.8)	1.1	(0.3)	2.6
Real Estate Finance	9.5	(2.3)	(2.9)	0.1	(0.2)	4.2
Corporate	9.8	(2.3)	(1.9)	-	0.2	5.8
Markets	4.8	(1.1)	(1.5)	-	0.1	2.3
Total	28.9	(5.9)	(9.1)	1.2	(0.2)	14.9
Quarter ended 31 December 2014						
Ulster Bank	2.9	-	(1.0)	0.7	-	2.6
Real Estate Finance	5.4	(0.2)	(1.0)	-	-	4.2
Corporate	6.7	(0.2)	(0.8)	-	0.1	5.8
Markets	2.9	(0.1)	(0.5)	-	-	2.3
Total	17.9	(0.5)	(3.3)	0.7	0.1	14.9
Quarter ended 30 September 2014						
Ulster Bank	3.5	-	(0.8)	0.4	(0.2)	2.9
Real Estate Finance	6.7	(0.5)	(0.8)	0.1	(0.1)	5.4
Corporate	7.4	(0.6)	(0.4)	0.1	0.2	6.7
Markets	3.3	(0.4)	(0.1)	-	0.1	2.9
Total	20.9	(1.5)	(2.1)	0.6	-	17.9

Risk-weighted assets

	Beginning		Risk			End of period
	of period	Repayments	Disposals (1)	parameters (2) Impairments	Other (3)	

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Year ended 31							
December 2014							
	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn
Ulster Bank	3.3	(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.9)	-	(0.1)	1.3
Real Estate Finance	13.5	(2.2)	(1.4)	(5.2)	-	-	4.7
Corporate	16.4	(2.2)	(3.0)	(4.1)	(0.4)	0.5	7.2
Markets	13.5	(2.7)	(2.7)	0.2	-	0.5	8.8
Total	46.7	(7.6)	(7.6)	(10.0)	(0.4)	0.9	22.0
Quarter ended 31							
December 2014							
Ulster Bank	2.1	-	(0.4)	(0.4)	-	-	1.3
Real Estate Finance	5.6	(0.1)	(0.7)	(0.2)	-	0.1	4.7
Corporate	14.0	(0.4)	(1.2)	(5.4)	-	0.2	7.2
Markets	8.9	(0.2)	(0.5)	-	-	0.6	8.8
Total	30.6	(0.7)	(2.8)	(6.0)	-	0.9	22.0
Quarter ended 30							
September 2014							
Ulster Bank	2.3	-	-	(0.1)	-	(0.1)	2.1
Real Estate Finance	6.4	(0.3)	-	(0.5)	-	-	5.6
Corporate	15.1	(0.9)	(0.8)	(0.1)	-	0.7	14.0
Markets	11.3	(0.7)	(0.9)	(0.8)	-	-	8.9
Total	35.1	(1.9)	(1.7)	(1.5)	-	0.6	30.6

For the notes to this table refer to the following page.

RBS Capital Resolution

Capital deductions

Year ended 31	Beginning		Risk			End of	
	of period	Repayments	Disposals	parameters	Other	period	
December 2014	£m	£m	(1)	(2) Impairments	(3)	£m	£m
Ulster Bank	559	(30)	(226)	(116)	81	(10)	258
Real Estate Finance	505	(396)	(683)	621	78	(14)	111
Corporate	477	(192)	(113)	17	(102)	25	112
Markets	291	(15)	(80)	(139)	1	(5)	53
Total	1,832	(633)	(1,102)	383	58	(4)	534

Quarter ended 31
December 2014

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Ulster Bank	272	(2)	(62)	20	24	6	258
Real Estate Finance	365	(36)	(213)	49	(57)	3	111
Corporate	81	(42)	(42)	148	(56)	23	112
Markets	56	(5)	-	3	-	(1)	53
Total	774	(85)	(317)	220	(89)	31	534

Quarter ended 30
September 2014

Ulster Bank	217	-	(47)	(18)	120	-	272
Real Estate Finance	405	(68)	(382)	299	112	(1)	365
Corporate	156	(56)	(26)	(69)	64	12	81
Markets	64	(1)	(1)	(7)	1	-	56
Total	842	(125)	(456)	205	297	11	774

RWA equivalent (4)

	Beginning of period	Repayments	Disposals (1)	Risk parameters (2)	Impairments	Other (3)	End of period
Year ended 31 December 2014	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn	£bn
Ulster Bank	8.9	(0.8)	(2.7)	(2.1)	0.7	(0.1)	3.9
Real Estate Finance	18.6	(6.2)	(8.2)	0.9	0.7	-	5.8
Corporate	21.1	(4.0)	(4.0)	(4.0)	(1.4)	0.6	8.3
Markets	16.4	(2.8)	(3.5)	(1.1)	-	0.3	9.3
Total	65.0	(13.8)	(18.4)	(6.3)	-	0.8	27.3

Quarter ended 31
December 2014

Ulster Bank	4.8	-	(1.0)	(0.2)	0.2	0.1	3.9
Real Estate Finance	9.2	(0.5)	(2.8)	0.3	(0.6)	0.2	5.8
Corporate	14.8	(0.8)	(1.6)	(4.0)	(0.5)	0.4	8.3
Markets	9.5	(0.2)	(0.5)	-	-	0.5	9.3
Total	38.3	(1.5)	(5.9)	(3.9)	(0.9)	1.2	27.3

Quarter ended 30
September 2014

Ulster Bank	4.5	-	(0.5)	(0.3)	1.2	(0.1)	4.8
Real Estate Finance	10.5	(1.0)	(3.8)	2.4	1.1	-	9.2
Corporate	16.6	(1.4)	(1.0)	(0.8)	0.6	0.8	14.8
Markets	11.9	(0.7)	(0.9)	(0.8)	-	-	9.5

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Total	43.5	(3.1)	(6.2)	0.5	2.9	0.7	38.3
Notes:							

- (1) Includes all effects relating to disposals, including associated removal of deductions from regulatory capital.
- (2) Principally reflects credit migration and other technical adjustments.
- (3) Includes fair value adjustments and foreign exchange movements.
- (4) RWA equivalent (RWAE) is an internal metric that measures the equity capital employed in segments. RWAE converts both performing and non-performing exposures into a consistent capital measure, being the sum of the regulatory RWAs and the regulatory capital deductions, the latter converted to RWAE by applying a multiplier. RBS applies a CET1 ratio of 10% for RCR; this results in an end point CRR RWAE conversion multiplier of 10.

RBS Capital Resolution

Gross loans and advances, REIL and impairments

	Gross loans	REIL Provisions	Credit metrics REIL as			Year-to-date		
			aProvisions % of gross loans	Provisions as a % of REIL	Provisions as a % of gross loans	Impairment (releases)/ losses (2)	Amounts written-off	
31 December 2014 (1)	£bn	£bn	£bn	%	%	%	£m	£m
By sector:								
Commercial								
real estate								
- investment	6.2	4.9	2.8	79	57	45	(553)	1,911
- development	6.4	6.2	5.3	97	85	83	(611)	560
Asset finance	2.3	0.9	0.4	39	44	17	37	80
Other corporate	7.0	3.4	2.4	49	71	34	(169)	1,032
Total	21.9	15.4	10.9	70	71	50	(1,296)	3,583
By donating								
segment								
and sector								
Ulster Bank								
Commercial								
real estate								
- investment	3.0	2.9	2.0	97	69	67	(450)	445
- development	5.8	5.8	5.1	100	88	88	(608)	425
Other corporate	2.2	2.0	1.5	91	75	68	(48)	256
Total Ulster Bank	11.0	10.7	8.6	97	80	78	(1,106)	1,126

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Commercial Banking								
Commercial real estate								
- investment	1.2	0.7	0.2	58	29	17	(5)	228
- development	0.4	0.3	0.1	75	33	25	(11)	104
Other corporate	1.0	0.5	0.3	50	60	30	-	192
Total Commercial Banking	2.6	1.5	0.6	58	40	23	(16)	524
CIB								
Commercial real estate								
- investment	2.0	1.3	0.6	65	46	30	(98)	1,238
- development	0.2	0.1	0.1	50	100	50	8	31
Asset finance	2.3	0.9	0.4	39	44	17	37	80
Other corporate	3.8	0.9	0.6	24	67	16	(121)	584
Total CIB	8.3	3.2	1.7	39	53	20	(174)	1,933
Total	21.9	15.4	10.9	70	71	50	(1,296)	3,583
Of which:								
UK	10.0	6.2	4.1	62	66	41	(402)	2,266
Europe	10.9	8.9	6.6	82	74	61	(875)	1,267
US	0.3	0.1	-	33	-	-	(19)	26
RoW	0.7	0.2	0.2	29	100	29	-	24
Customers	21.9	15.4	10.9	70	71	50	(1,296)	3,583
Banks	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	(10)	8
Total	22.4	15.4	10.9	69	71	49	(1,306)	3,591

For the notes to this table refer to the following page.

RBS Capital Resolution

	Gross loans	REIL	Provisions	Credit metrics			Quarter ended	
				REIL as a % of gross loans	Provisions as a % of REIL	Provisions as a % of gross loans	Impairment (releases)/ losses (2)	Amounts written-off
30 September 2014	£bn	£bn	£bn	%	%	%	£m	£m
(1)								

By sector:
Commercial real estate

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

- investment	8.4	6.0	3.5	71	58	42	(299)	572
- development	7.1	6.7	5.9	94	88	83	(127)	105
Asset finance	2.4	0.8	0.4	33	50	17	7	21
Other corporate	7.8	3.9	2.8	50	72	36	(165)	255
Other	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	(21)	-
	25.8	17.4	12.6	67	72	49	(605)	953
By donating segment and sector								
Ulster Bank								
Commercial real estate								
- investment	3.8	3.5	2.5	92	71	66	(168)	86
- development	6.4	6.2	5.6	97	90	88	(116)	77
Other corporate	2.4	2.2	1.7	92	77	71	(95)	11
Total Ulster Bank	12.6	11.9	9.8	94	82	78	(379)	174
Commercial Banking								
Commercial real estate								
- investment	1.6	0.8	0.3	50	38	19	(44)	62
- development	0.5	0.4	0.2	80	50	40	(16)	20
Asset finance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other corporate	1.2	0.6	0.4	50	67	33	(38)	36
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3)	-
Total Commercial Banking	3.3	1.8	0.9	55	50	27	(101)	119
CIB								
Commercial real estate								
- investment	3.0	1.7	0.7	57	41	23	(87)	424
- development	0.2	0.1	0.1	50	100	50	5	8
Asset finance	2.4	0.8	0.4	33	50	17	7	20
Other corporate	4.2	1.1	0.7	26	64	17	(32)	208
Other	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	(18)	-
Total CIB	9.9	3.7	1.9	37	51	19	(125)	660
Total	25.8	17.4	12.6	67	72	49	(605)	953
Of which:								
UK	11.3	6.3	4.1	56	65	36	(245)	630
Europe	13.4	10.7	8.3	80	78	62	(357)	302
US	0.3	0.1	-	33	-	-	(1)	18
RoW	0.8	0.3	0.2	38	67	25	(2)	3
Customers	25.8	17.4	12.6	67	72	49	(605)	953

Banks	0.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Total	26.4	17.4	12.6	66	72	48	(605)	962
Notes:								

(1) Includes disposal groups.

(2) Impairment (releases)/losses include those relating to AFS securities; sector analyses above include allocation of latent impairment charges.

RBS Capital Resolution

Key points

Year ended 31 December 2014

- RCR funded assets were reduced by £14 billion, or 48%, during 2014, driven by disposals and repayments.
- The original target was for RCR to reduce funded assets by between 55% to 70% by the end of 2015 and by 85% over three years from 1 January 2014. Based on the strong performance in 2014, RCR is now expected to reduce funded assets by 85% by the end of 2015, a year earlier than planned.
- RWA equivalent decreased by £38 billion, or 58%, during 2014. This primarily reflects disposals and repayments, supplemented by methodology changes and lower market risk RWAs.
- Operating profit of £988 million reflects impairment provision releases and higher than anticipated sale prices for assets driven by a combination of strong execution and favourable market conditions particularly in Ireland.
- The net effect of the £988 million operating profit and RWA equivalent reduction of £38 billion(1) was CET1 accretion of £4.8 billion.

Funding employed

- RCR continues to be funded primarily by RBS Treasury and has no material third party deposits.
- The funding is based on the original target of reducing third party assets by 85% over three years from the creation of RCR on 1 January 2014.

Q4 2014 compared with Q3 2014

Funded assets

- RCR funded assets fell to £15 billion, a reduction of £3 billion, or 17%, during the quarter.
- The reduction was primarily achieved by disposals, and continued to benefit from a combination of strong liquidity in the market and asset demand in specific sectors.
- Disposal activity was across all sectors, with the most notable reductions in the Ulster Bank and Real Estate Finance asset management groups.

- The percentage mix of assets across each of the asset management groups remained broadly stable.

Capital

- RWA equivalent reduction of £11 billion to £27 billion reflects a combination of disposals, recoveries and risk parameter changes.
- The operating focus in the quarter continued to be on capital intensive positions to maximise the capital accretion benefit and ensure this was achieved in an economic manner, consistent with our asset management principles.

Operating performance

- Operating profit for the quarter was £398 million. The disposal strategy and favourable market and economic conditions resulted in a £681 million reduction in impairment provisions. The quarterly loss of £207 million in trading activities was primarily driven by movements in funding valuation and credit valuation adjustments.
- The net effect of the operating profit of £398 million and RWA equivalent reduction of £11 billion(2) was CET1 accretion of £1.5 billion in the quarter.

Notes:

(1) Capital equivalent: £3.8 billion at an internal CET1 ratio of 10%.

(2) Capital equivalent: £1.1 billion at an internal CET1 ratio of 10%.

Condensed consolidated income statement for the period ended 31 December 2014

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Interest receivable	13,079	14,488	3,238	3,297	3,437
Interest payable	(3,821)	(5,471)	(856)	(927)	(1,154)
Net interest income	9,258	9,017	2,382	2,370	2,283
Fees and commissions receivable	4,414	4,678	1,055	1,116	1,183
Fees and commissions payable	(875)	(923)	(204)	(196)	(240)
Income from trading activities	1,285	2,571	(403)	238	175
Gain on redemption of own debt	20	175	-	-	(29)
Other operating income	1,048	1,219	135	108	(7)
Non-interest income	5,892	7,720	583	1,266	1,082
Total income	15,150	16,737	2,965	3,636	3,365

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Staff costs	(5,757)	(6,086)	(1,325)	(1,435)	(1,291)
Premises and equipment	(2,081)	(2,038)	(480)	(475)	(622)
Other administrative expenses	(4,568)	(6,692)	(1,999)	(1,212)	(3,785)
Depreciation and amortisation	(930)	(1,247)	(203)	(261)	(321)
Write down of goodwill and other intangible assets	(523)	(1,403)	(311)	-	(1,403)
Operating expenses	(13,859)	(17,466)	(4,318)	(3,383)	(7,422)
Profit/(loss) before impairment losses	1,291	(729)	(1,353)	253	(4,057)
Impairment releases/(losses)	1,352	(8,120)	670	847	(5,030)
Operating profit/(loss) before tax	2,643	(8,849)	(683)	1,100	(9,087)
Tax (charge)/credit	(1,909)	(186)	(1,040)	(277)	403
Profit/(loss) from continuing operations	734	(9,035)	(1,723)	823	(8,684)
(Loss)/profit from discontinued operations, net of tax					
- Citizens (2)	(3,486)	410	(3,885)	114	78
- Other	41	148	3	3	15
(Loss)/profit from discontinued operations, net of tax	(3,445)	558	(3,882)	117	93
(Loss)/profit for the period	(2,711)	(8,477)	(5,605)	940	(8,591)
Non-controlling interests	(60)	(120)	(71)	53	3
Preference share and other dividends	(379)	(398)	(115)	(97)	(114)
Dividend access share	(320)	-	-	-	-
(Loss)/profit attributable to ordinary and B shareholders	(3,470)	(8,995)	(5,791)	896	(8,702)
(Loss)/earnings per ordinary and equivalent B share (EPS) (3)					
Basic EPS from continuing and discontinued operations	(30.6p)	(80.3p)	(50.7p)	7.9p	(77.3p)
Basic EPS from continuing operations	0.5p	(85.0p)	(16.2p)	6.9p	(78.0p)

Notes:

- (1) A reconciliation between the statutory income statement above and the non-statutory income statement on page 17 is given in Appendix 2 to this announcement.
- (2) Included within Citizens discontinued operations are the results of the reportable operating segment Citizens Financial Group (CFG), the loss on transfer of CFG to disposal groups, certain Citizens related activities in Central items and related one-off and other items.
- (3) Diluted EPS in the quarter ended 30 September 2014 was 0.1p lower than basic EPS. There was no dilutive impact in any other period.

Consolidated statement of comprehensive income
for the period ended 31 December 2014

Year ended

Quarter ended

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
(Loss)/profit for the period	(2,711)	(8,477)	(5,605)	940	(8,591)
Items that do not qualify for reclassification					
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit plans	(108)	446	(108)	-	446
Income tax on items that do not qualify for reclassification	(36)	(246)	(36)	-	(83)
	(144)	200	(144)	-	363
Items that qualify for reclassification					
Available-for-sale financial assets	807	(406)	199	79	(103)
Cash flow hedges	1,413	(2,291)	958	207	(667)
Currency translation	307	(229)	424	616	(328)
Tax	(455)	1,014	(264)	(31)	203
Other comprehensive income/(loss) after tax	1,928	(1,712)	1,173	871	(532)
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the period	(783)	(10,189)	(4,432)	1,811	(9,123)
Total comprehensive (loss)/income is attributable to:					
Non-controlling interests	246	137	204	12	16
Preference shareholders	330	349	99	91	99
Paid-in equity holders	49	49	16	6	15
Dividend access share	320	-	-	-	-
Ordinary and B shareholders	(1,728)	(10,724)	(4,751)	1,702	(9,253)
	(783)	(10,189)	(4,432)	1,811	(9,123)

Key points

The movement in available-for-sale financial assets during the year and in Q4 2014 predominantly reflects unrealised gains arising on US and Spanish bonds.

Cash flow hedging gains in both the year and Q4 2014 largely result from significant decreases in Sterling and Euro swap rates across the maturity profile of the portfolio.

Currency translation gains in the year are principally due to the weakening of Sterling against the US dollar. For the year, these gains were partially offset by the impact of the strength of Sterling against the Euro.

Actuarial losses on defined benefit plans in 2014 arose as a result of a reduction in long-term high quality corporate bond yields and therefore the discount rate used to value defined benefit obligations and a change to the assumed rate of future improvement in mortality. Actuarial losses have been

partially offset by actuarial gains in the main pension scheme arising from a higher value of assets than expected. (see Note 5 on page 84 for more details).

Condensed consolidated balance sheet
at 31 December 2014

	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Assets			
Cash and balances at central banks	74,872	67,900	82,659
Net loans and advances to banks	23,027	29,090	27,555
Reverse repurchase agreements and stock borrowing	20,708	24,860	26,516
Loans and advances to banks	43,735	53,950	54,071
Net loans and advances to customers	334,251	392,969	390,825
Reverse repurchase agreements and stock borrowing	43,987	50,631	49,897
Loans and advances to customers	378,238	443,600	440,722
Debt securities	86,649	106,769	113,599
Equity shares	5,635	8,309	8,811
Settlement balances	4,667	20,941	5,591
Derivatives	353,590	314,021	288,039
Intangible assets	7,781	12,454	12,368
Property, plant and equipment	6,167	6,985	7,909
Deferred tax	1,540	2,843	3,478
Prepayments, accrued income and other assets	5,878	7,185	7,614
Assets of disposal groups	82,011	1,153	3,017
Total assets	1,050,763	1,046,110	1,027,878
Liabilities			
Bank deposits	35,806	38,986	35,329
Repurchase agreements and stock lending	24,859	30,799	28,650
Deposits by banks	60,665	69,785	63,979
Customer deposits	354,288	405,367	414,396
Repurchase agreements and stock lending	37,351	44,302	56,484
Customer accounts	391,639	449,669	470,880
Debt securities in issue	50,280	53,487	67,819
Settlement balances	4,503	21,049	5,313
Short positions	23,029	34,499	28,022
Derivatives	349,805	310,361	285,526
Accruals, deferred income and other liabilities	13,346	14,618	16,017
Retirement benefit liabilities	2,579	2,629	3,210
Deferred tax	500	491	507
Subordinated liabilities	22,905	24,412	24,012

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Liabilities of disposal groups	71,320	272	3,378
Total liabilities	990,571	981,272	968,663
Equity			
Non-controlling interests	2,946	2,747	473
Owners' equity*			
Called up share capital	6,877	6,832	6,714
Reserves	50,369	55,259	52,028
Total equity	60,192	64,838	59,215
Total liabilities and equity	1,050,763	1,046,110	1,027,878
* Owners' equity attributable to:			
Ordinary and B shareholders	52,149	56,799	53,450
Other equity owners	5,097	5,292	5,292
	57,246	62,091	58,742

Average balance sheet

	Year ended		Quarter ended	
	31 December 2014	31 December 2013	31 December 2014	30 September 2014
	%	%	%	%
Average yields, spreads and margins of the banking business				
Gross yield on interest-earning assets of banking business	3.04	3.07	3.06	3.04
Cost of interest-bearing liabilities of banking business	(1.13)	(1.38)	(1.05)	(1.10)
Interest spread of banking business	1.91	1.69	2.01	1.94
Benefit from interest-free funds	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.32
Net interest margin of banking business	2.23	2.01	2.32	2.26
Average interest rates				
Base rate	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
London inter-bank three month offered rates				
- Sterling	0.54	0.52	0.56	0.56
- Eurodollar	0.23	0.24	0.24	0.23
- Euro	0.21	0.27	0.08	0.16

Year ended

Year ended

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

	31 December 2014			31 December 2013		
	Average balance £m	Interest £m	Rate %	Average balance £m	Interest £m	Rate %
Assets						
Loans and advances to banks	69,371	370	0.53	74,706	430	0.58
Loans and advances to customers	379,422	14,188	3.74	399,856	15,087	3.77
Debt securities	54,037	736	1.36	69,319	1,189	1.72
Interest-earning assets						
- banking business (1,3,4,5)	502,830	15,294	3.04	543,881	16,706	3.07
- trading business (6)	166,643			216,211		
Non-interest earning assets						
	371,881			467,274		
Total assets	1,041,354			1,227,366		
Memo: Funded assets	735,828			845,506		
Liabilities						
Deposits by banks	16,590	141	0.85	23,474	395	1.68
Customer accounts	298,061	1,879	0.63	336,069	2,831	0.84
Debt securities in issue	41,658	1,069	2.57	55,923	1,389	2.48
Subordinated liabilities	23,659	887	3.75	24,188	856	3.54
Internal funding of trading business	(20,061)	91	(0.45)	(19,564)	329	(1.68)
Interest-bearing liabilities						
- banking business (1,2,4,5)	359,907	4,067	1.13	420,090	5,800	1.38
- trading business (6)	177,156			223,264		
Non-interest-bearing liabilities						
- demand deposits	84,875			76,607		
- other liabilities	357,841			438,856		
Owners' equity (7)	61,575			68,549		
Total liabilities and owners' equity	1,041,354			1,227,366		

Notes:

- (1) Interest receivable has been increased by £11 million (2013 - £4 million) and interest payable has been increased by £58 million (2013 - £83 million) to record interest on financial assets and liabilities designated as at fair value through profit or loss. Related interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities have also been adjusted.
- (2) Interest payable has been decreased by £3 million (2013 - £11 million) to exclude RFS Holdings minority interest. Related interest-bearing liabilities have also been adjusted.
- (3) Interest receivable has been decreased by nil (2013 - £38 million) and interest payable has been decreased by nil (2013 - £31 million) in respect of non-recurring adjustments.
- (4) Interest income includes amounts (unwind of discount) recognised on impaired loans and receivables. The average balances of such loans are included in average loans and advances to banks and loans and advances to customers.

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

- (5) Interest receivable has been increased by £2,204 million (2013 - £2,252 million) and interest payable has been increased by £191 million (2013 - £288 million) to include the discontinued operations of Citizens. Related interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities have also been adjusted.
- (6) Interest receivable and interest payable on trading assets and liabilities are included in income from trading activities.
- (7) Including equity attributable to ordinary and B shareholders of £55,351 million (2013 - £62,011 million).

Average balance sheet

	Quarter ended 31 December 2014			Quarter ended 30 September 2014		
	Average balance £m	Interest £m	Rate %	Average balance £m	Interest £m	Rate %
Assets						
Loans and advances to banks	68,264	98	0.57	71,017	94	0.53
Loans and advances to customers	375,951	3,549	3.75	377,180	3,578	3.76
Debt securities	51,331	178	1.38	53,186	175	1.31
Interest-earning assets						
- banking business (1,2,3)	495,546	3,825	3.06	501,383	3,847	3.04
- trading business (4)	149,147			165,337		
Non-interest earning assets						
	405,795			378,400		
Total assets	1,050,488			1,045,120		
Memo: funded assets						
	704,929			747,480		
Liabilities						
Deposits by banks	14,890	25	0.67	17,725	24	0.54
Customer accounts	291,860	425	0.58	296,204	467	0.63
Debt securities in issue	38,201	232	2.41	40,598	251	2.45
Subordinated liabilities	22,609	228	4.00	24,371	227	3.70
Internal funding of trading business	(18,681)	12	(0.25)	(21,061)	22	(0.41)
Interest-bearing liabilities						
- banking business (1,3)	348,879	922	1.05	357,837	991	1.10
- trading business (4)	156,927			181,347		
Non-interest-bearing liabilities						
- demand deposits	94,422			82,328		
- other liabilities	386,335			361,580		
Owners' equity (5)	63,925			62,028		
Total liabilities and owners' equity	1,050,488			1,045,120		

Notes:

- (1) Interest receivable has been increased by £2 million (Q3 2014 - £8 million) and interest payable has been increased by £14 million (Q3 2014 - £15 million) to record interest on financial assets and liabilities designated as at fair value through profit or loss. Related interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities have also been adjusted.
- (2) Interest income includes amounts (unwind of discount) recognised on impaired loans and receivables. The average balances of such loans are included in average loans and advances to banks and loans and advances to customers.
- (3) Interest receivable has been increased by £585 million (Q3 2014 - £542 million) and interest payable has been increased by £52 million (Q3 2014 - £49 million) to include the discontinued operations of Citizens. Related interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities have also been adjusted.
- (4) Interest receivable and interest payable on trading assets and liabilities are included in income from trading activities.
- (5) Including equity attributable to ordinary and B shareholders of £57,613 million (Q3 2014 - £55,870 million).

Condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity
for the period ended 31 December 2014

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Called-up share capital					
At beginning of period	6,714	6,582	6,832	6,811	6,697
Ordinary shares issued	163	132	45	21	17
At end of period	6,877	6,714	6,877	6,832	6,714
Paid-in equity					
At 1 January	979	979	979	979	979
Reclassification (1)	(195)	-	(195)	-	-
At end of period	784	979	784	979	979
Share premium account					
At beginning of period	24,667	24,361	24,934	24,885	24,628
Ordinary shares issued	385	306	118	49	39
At end of period	25,052	24,667	25,052	24,934	24,667
Merger reserve					
At beginning and end of period	13,222	13,222	13,222	13,222	13,222
Available-for-sale reserve					
At beginning of period	(308)	(346)	172	138	(252)
Unrealised gains/(losses)	980	607	173	(37)	1

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Realised (gains)/losses	(333)	(891)	(19)	52	(122)
Tax	(67)	432	(27)	28	65
Recycled to profit or loss on disposal of businesses (2)	36	(110)	-	-	-
Transfer to retained earnings	(9)	-	-	(9)	-
At end of period	299	(308)	299	172	(308)
Cash flow hedging reserve					
At beginning of period	(84)	1,666	291	94	447
Amount recognised in equity	2,871	(967)	1,328	575	(271)
Amount transferred from equity to earnings	(1,458)	(1,324)	(370)	(368)	(396)
Tax	(334)	541	(220)	(44)	136
Transfer to retained earnings	34	-	-	34	-
At end of period	1,029	(84)	1,029	291	(84)
Foreign exchange reserve					
At beginning of period	3,691	3,908	3,173	2,963	4,018
Retranslation of net assets	113	(325)	209	776	(417)
Foreign currency gains/(losses) on hedges of net assets	108	105	114	(161)	88
Tax	(30)	6	(4)	(15)	2
Recycled to profit or loss on disposal of businesses	-	(3)	-	-	-
Transfer to retained earnings	(399)	-	(9)	(390)	-
At end of period	3,483	3,691	3,483	3,173	3,691
Capital redemption reserve					
At beginning and end of period	9,131	9,131	9,131	9,131	9,131
Contingent capital reserve					
At beginning of period	-	(1,208)	-	-	(1,208)
Transfer to retained earnings	-	1,208	-	-	1,208
At end of period	-	-	-	-	-

For the notes to this table refer to page 75.

Condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity
for the period ended 31 December 2014

Year ended		Quarter ended		
31 December	31 December	31 December	30 September	31 December
2014	2013	2014	2014	2013
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Retained earnings					
At beginning of period	867	10,596	3,493	2,258	10,144
Profit/(loss) attributable to ordinary and B shareholders and other equity owners					
- continuing operations	756	(9,118)	(1,741)	887	(8,670)
- discontinued operations	(3,527)	521	(3,935)	106	82
Equity preference dividends paid	(330)	(349)	(99)	(91)	(99)
Paid-in equity dividends paid, net of tax	(49)	(49)	(16)	(6)	(15)
Dividend access share dividend	(320)	-	-	-	-
Citizens Financial Group initial public offering					
- Transfer from available-for-sale reserve	9	-	-	9	-
- Transfer from cash flow hedging reserve	(34)	-	-	(34)	-
- Transfer from foreign exchange reserve	399	-	9	390	-
Costs relating to Citizens Financial Group initial public offering	(45)	-	-	(45)	-
Transfer from contingent capital reserve	-	(1,208)	-	-	(1,208)
Termination of contingent capital agreement	-	320	-	-	320
Actuarial (losses)/gains recognised in retirement benefit schemes					
- gross	(108)	446	(108)	-	446
- tax	(36)	(246)	(36)	-	(83)
Loss on disposal of own shares held	(8)	(18)	(8)	-	-
Shares issued under employee share schemes	(91)	(77)	(50)	-	(76)
Share-based payments					
- gross	29	48	3	18	26
- tax	3	1	3	1	-
Reclassification of paid-in equity	(33)	-	(33)	-	-
At end of period	(2,518)	867	(2,518)	3,493	867
Own shares held					
At beginning of period	(137)	(213)	(136)	(136)	(138)
Disposal of own shares	1	75	-	-	1
Shares issued under employee share schemes	23	1	23	-	-
At end of period	(113)	(137)	(113)	(136)	(137)
Owners' equity at end of period	57,246	58,742	57,246	62,091	58,742

Condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity
for the period ended 31 December 2014

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Non-controlling interests					
At beginning of period	473	1,770	2,747	618	462
Currency translation adjustments and other movements	86	(6)	101	1	1
(Loss)/profit attributable to non-controlling interests					
- continuing operations	(22)	83	18	(64)	(14)
- discontinued operations	82	37	53	11	11
Dividends paid	(4)	(5)	(4)	-	(5)
Movements in available-for-sale securities					
- unrealised gains/(losses)	36	8	42	(4)	(3)
- realised gains	77	21	3	68	21
- tax	(13)	(1)	(13)	-	-
- recycled to profit or loss on disposal of businesses (3)	-	(5)	-	-	-
Movements in cash flow hedging reserve					
- amount recognised in equity	18	-	18	-	-
- amounts transferred from equity to earnings	(18)	-	(18)	-	-
Equity raised (4)	2,232	-	-	2,117	-
Equity withdrawn and disposals	(1)	(1,429)	(1)	-	-
At end of period	2,946	473	2,946	2,747	473
Total equity at end of period	60,192	59,215	60,192	64,838	59,215
Total equity is attributable to:					
Non-controlling interests	2,946	473	2,946	2,747	473
Preference shareholders	4,313	4,313	4,313	4,313	4,313
Paid-in equity holders	784	979	784	979	979
Ordinary and B shareholders	52,149	53,450	52,149	56,799	53,450
	60,192	59,215	60,192	64,838	59,215

Notes:

- (1) Paid-in equity reclassified to liabilities as a result of the call of RBS Capital Trust III on 23 December 2014.
- (2) Net of tax - £11 million in the year ended 31 December 2014 (2013 - £35 million).
- (3) 2013 - net of tax of £1 million).
- (4) Includes £2,117 million relating to the initial public offering of Citizens Financial Group.

Condensed consolidated cash flow statement
for the period ended 31 December 2014

	Year ended	
	31	31
	December	December
	2014	2013
	£m	£m
Operating activities		
Operating profit/(loss) before tax on continuing operations	2,643	(8,849)
Operating (loss)/profit before tax on discontinued operations	(3,207)	783
Adjustments for non-cash items	(1,461)	6,561
Net cash outflow from trading activities	(2,025)	(1,505)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities	(17,948)	(28,780)
Net cash flows from operating activities before tax	(19,973)	(30,285)
Income taxes paid	(414)	(346)
Net cash flows from operating activities	(20,387)	(30,631)
Net cash flows from investing activities	6,609	21,183
Net cash flows from financing activities	(404)	(2,728)
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	909	512
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(13,273)	(11,664)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	121,177	132,841
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	107,904	121,177

Notes

1. Basis of preparation

The condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with RBS's 2014 Annual Report and Accounts which were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and interpretations issued by the IFRS Interpretations Committee of the IASB as adopted by the European Union (EU) (together IFRS).

Going concern

Having reviewed RBS's forecasts, projections and other relevant evidence, the directors have a reasonable expectation that RBS will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the Annual Results for the year ended 31 December 2014 have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Restatements

On 27 February 2014, RBS announced the reorganisation of the previously reported operating divisions into

three franchises. In addition, in order to present a more complete picture of funding, operational and business costs of the franchises and operating segments, certain reporting changes were implemented.

For further information on these changes refer to the Q2 2014 Restatement Document dated 21 July 2014, available on www.investors.rbs.com/restatement

Citizens was classified as a disposal group on 31 December 2014 and its assets and liabilities at that date have been aggregated and presented as separate lines in accordance with IFRS 5. Citizens was also reclassified as a discontinued operation with comparative year results and cash flows re-presented accordingly.

2. Accounting policies

There have been no significant changes to the Group's principal accounting policies as set out on pages 377 to 386 of the 2013 Annual Report and Accounts apart from the adoption of new and revised IFRSs that were effective from 1 January 2014:

'Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities (Amendments to IAS 32)' adds application guidance to IAS 32 to address inconsistencies identified in the application of the standard's criteria for offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities.

'Investment Entities (amendments to IFRS 10, IFRS 12 and IAS 27)' applies to investment entities; such entities should account for their subsidiaries (other than those that provide services related to the entity's investment activities) at fair value through profit or loss.

IFRIC 21 'Levies' provides guidance on accounting for levies payable to public authorities if certain conditions are met on a particular date.

IAS 36 'Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets (Amendments to IAS 36)' aligns IAS 36's disclosure requirements about recoverable amounts with IASB's original intentions.

IAS 39 'Novation of Derivatives and Continuation of Hedge Accounting (Amendments to IAS 39)' provides relief from discontinuing hedge accounting on novation of a derivative designated as a hedging instrument.

The implementation of these requirements has not had a material effect on the Group's financial statements.

Notes

2. Accounting policies (continued)

Critical accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The reported results of the Group are sensitive to the accounting policies, assumptions and estimates that underlie the preparation of its financial statements. The judgements and assumptions that are considered to be the most important to the portrayal of the Group's financial condition are those relating to pensions; goodwill; provisions for liabilities; deferred tax; loan impairment provisions and fair value of financial instruments. These critical accounting policies and judgments are described on pages 386 to 389 of the Group's 2013 Annual Report and Accounts.

Recent developments in IFRS

In July 2014 the IASB published IFRS 9 'Financial Instruments'. IFRS 9 replaces the current financial instruments standard IAS 39, setting out new accounting requirements in a number of areas. First, there are revisions to the classification and measurement of financial instruments. There are new restrictions on the ability to account for financial assets at amortised cost and a prohibition on the bifurcation of embedded derivatives from financial assets. Accounting for financial liabilities is largely unchanged except for the treatment of changes in the fair value of liabilities designated as at fair value through profit or loss attributable to own credit risk; these are recognised in other

comprehensive income. Secondly, there are amended requirements for hedge accounting designed to align the accounting more closely to the risk management framework and remove or simplify some of the rule-based requirements of

IAS 39. The basic mechanics of hedge accounting: fair value, cash flow and net investment hedges are retained. Finally, there is a new approach to credit impairment provisions moving from IAS 39's incurred loss model to an expected loss model. An expected loss model will result in the recognition of credit impairment losses earlier than an incurred loss model. Subject to EU endorsement, IFRS 9 is applicable for periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018.

IFRS 9 makes major and fundamental changes to accounting for financial instruments. The Group is continuing its assessment of its effect on the Group's financial statements.

The IASB also published:

in January 2014 IFRS 14 'Regulatory Deferral Accounts' which permits costs that can be deferred in the presentation of regulatory accounts to be deferred also in accordance with IFRS.

in May 2014 IFRS 15 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers' effective from 1 January 2017 replacing IAS 11 'Construction Contracts', IAS 18 'Revenue' and several Interpretations. Contracts are bundled or unbundled into distinct performance obligations with revenue recognised as the obligations are met.

in May 2014 'Accounting for Acquisitions of interests in Joint Operations', an amendment to IFRS 11 'Joint Arrangements' to clarify that the donor of assets and liabilities to a joint operation should hold its continuing interest in them at the lower of cost and recoverable amount.

in May 2014 'Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation' amending IAS 16 'Property, Plant and Equipment and IAS 38 'Intangible Assets' to require any policy less prudent than straight line to be justified.

Notes

2. Accounting policies (continued)

Annual Improvements to IFRS 2012 - 2014 cycle was issued in September 2014 making a number of minor amendments to IFRS. Its effective date is 1 January 2016.

Amendments to IFRS 10 'Consolidated Financial Statements', IFRS 12 'Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities' and IAS 28 'Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures' were issued in September 2014 to clarify the accounting for sales between an investor, its associates or joint ventures, and in December 2014 to clarify the application of the investment entity consolidation exception. Their effective date is 1 January 2016.

An amendment to IAS 1 'Presentation of Financial Statements' was issued in December 2014 to clarify the application of materiality to financial statements. Its effective date is 1 January 2016.

The Group is reviewing these requirements to determine their effect, if any, on its financial reporting.

Notes

3. Analysis of income, expenses and impairment losses

Year ended		Quarter ended
31 December	31 December	

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

			31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Loans and advances to customers	12,339	13,165	3,086	3,109	3,192
Loans and advances to banks	367	433	72	103	107
Debt securities	373	890	80	85	138
Interest receivable	13,079	14,488	3,238	3,297	3,437
Customer accounts	1,769	2,682	392	438	535
Deposits by banks	75	277	10	7	63
Debt securities in issue	1,010	1,306	217	237	293
Subordinated liabilities	876	877	225	223	214
Internal funding of trading businesses	91	329	12	22	49
Interest payable	3,821	5,471	856	927	1,154
Net interest income	9,258	9,017	2,382	2,370	2,283
Fees and commissions receivable					
- payment services	989	1,090	241	244	291
- credit and debit card fees	822	892	215	193	221
- lending (credit facilities)	1,250	1,291	281	319	321
- brokerage	321	397	78	77	88
- investment management	391	434	96	97	127
- trade finance	280	269	75	80	66
- other	361	305	69	106	69
Fees and commissions payable	4,414 (875)	4,678 (923)	1,055 (204)	1,116 (196)	1,183 (240)
Net fees and commissions	3,539	3,755	851	920	943
Foreign exchange	849	821	281	162	198
Interest rate	339	515	(300)	(4)	(48)
Credit	284	998	(249)	136	2
Own credit adjustments	(40)	35	(84)	33	15
Other	(147)	202	(51)	(89)	8
Income from trading activities	1,285	2,571	(403)	238	175
Gain on redemption of own debt	20	175	-	-	(29)
Operating lease and other rental income	380	484	104	98	103
Own credit adjustments	(106)	(155)	(60)	16	(15)
Changes in the fair value of FVTPL financial assets					

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

and liabilities and related derivatives (1)	83	(26)	13	41	(91)
Changes in fair value of investment properties	(25)	(281)	12	6	(258)
Profit on sale of:					
- securities	227	737	14	(115)	75
- property, plant and equipment	137	35	74	23	2
- subsidiaries, networks and associates	192	168	(2)	1	171
Dividend income	30	67	10	1	42
Share of results of associates	126	320	40	31	43
Other income	4	(130)	(70)	6	(79)
Other operating income	1,048	1,219	135	108	(7)
Note:					

(1) Fair value through profit and loss

Notes

3. Analysis of income, expenses and impairment losses

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Total non-interest income	5,892	7,720	583	1,266	1,082
Total income	15,150	16,737	2,965	3,636	3,365
Staff costs	(5,757)	(6,086)	(1,325)	(1,435)	(1,291)
Premises and equipment	(2,081)	(2,038)	(480)	(475)	(622)
Other (1)	(4,568)	(6,692)	(1,999)	(1,212)	(3,785)
Administrative expenses	(12,406)	(14,816)	(3,804)	(3,122)	(5,698)
Depreciation and amortisation	(930)	(1,247)	(203)	(261)	(321)
Write down of goodwill	-	(1,059)	-	-	(1,059)
Write down of other intangible assets	(523)	(344)	(311)	-	(344)
Operating expenses	(13,859)	(17,466)	(4,318)	(3,383)	(7,422)
Loan impairment (releases)/losses	(1,364)	8,105	(684)	(849)	5,049
Securities	12	15	14	2	(19)

Impairment (releases)/losses	(1,352)	8,120	(670)	(847)	5,030
------------------------------	---------	-------	-------	-------	-------

Note:

(1) Includes PPI costs, Interest Rate Hedging Products redress and related costs and litigation and conduct costs - see Note 4 for further details.

Staff expenses	2014 £m	2013 £m	Change %
Salaries	3,503	3,661	(4)
Variable compensation	408	548	(26)
Temporary and contract costs	526	650	(19)
Social security costs	379	422	(10)
Share based compensation	43	49	(12)
Pension costs			
- defined benefit schemes	462	508	(9)
- curtailment and settlement gains	-	(7)	(100)
- defined contribution schemes	87	76	14
Severance	196	69	184
Other	153	110	39
Staff expenses	5,757	6,086	(5)

Variable
compensation awards

The following tables analyse RBS and CIB variable compensation awards for 2014(1).

	RBS			CIB		
	2014 £m	2013 £m	Change %	2014 £m	2013 £m	Change %
Non-deferred cash awards (2)	66	62	6	5	7	(29)
Non-deferred share awards	-	-	nm	-	-	nm
Total non-deferred variable compensation	66	62	6	5	7	(29)
Deferred bond awards	168	168	-	30	47	(36)
Deferred share awards	187	306	(39)	79	191	(59)
Total deferred variable compensation	355	474	(25)	109	238	(54)
Total variable compensation (3)	421	536	(21)	114	245	(53)
Variable compensation as a % of operating profit (4)	6%	24%		23%	30%	

Proportion of variable compensation that is deferred	84%	88%	96%	97%
- Of which deferred bond awards	47%	35%	28%	20%
- Of which deferred share awards	53%	65%	72%	80%

For the notes to these tables refer to the following page.

Notes

3. Analysis of income, expenses and impairment losses (continued)

Variable compensation decreased by 21% to £421 million for RBS and by 53% to £114 million for CIB. Total variable compensation as a percentage of operating profit(4) has decreased from 24% to 6% reflecting both the reduction in variable compensation and operating profit improvement. The proportion of variable compensation that is deferred has reduced to 84% for RBS and remained broadly flat at 96% for CIB. The proportion of deferred variable compensation delivered to employees in shares has remained high at 53% for RBS and 72% for CIB.

			2014 £m	2013 £m
Reconciliation of variable compensation awards to income statement charge				
Variable compensation awarded			421	536
Less: deferral of charge for amounts awarded for current year			(150)	(230)
Income statement charge for amounts awarded in current year			271	306
Add: current year charge for amounts deferred from prior years			201	279
Less: forfeiture of amounts deferred from prior years			(64)	(37)
Income statement charge for amounts deferred from prior year			137	242
Income statement charge for variable compensation (3)			408	548
			Expected	Actual
Year in which income statement charge is expected to be taken for deferred variable compensation	2013 £m	2014 £m	2015 £m	2015 and beyond £m
Variable compensation deferred from 2012 and earlier	289	42	20	2
Variable compensation deferred from 2013	-	162	44	21
Clawback of variable compensation	(10)	(3)	-	-
Less: Forfeiture of amounts deferred from	(37)	(64)	-	-

prior years				
Variable compensation for 2014 deferred	-	-	123	28
	242	137	187	51

Notes:

- (1) The tables above relate to continuing businesses only; variable compensation relating to discontinued businesses in 2014 totalled £62 million (2013 - £40 million).
- (2) Cash payments to all employees are limited to £2,000.
- (3) Excludes other performance related compensation.
- (4) Reported operating profit excluding Citizens Financial Group before variable compensation expense and one-off and other items. 2013 also excludes the impact of the creation of RCR.

Note

4. Provisions for liabilities and charges

Full year	Regulatory and legal actions								
	PPI £m	IRHP £m	Other customer redress £m	LIBOR investigation £m	Other FX regulatory provisions £m	Litigation £m	Property and other £m	Total £m	
At 1 January 2014	926	1,077	337	416	-	150	2,018	565	5,489
Transfer from accruals and other liabilities	-	-	52	-	-	-	-	10	62
Currency translation and other movements	-	-	(7)	(2)	2	4	107	(7)	97
Charge to income statement									
- continuing operations	650	208	444	-	720	100	236	528	2,886
- discontinued operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Releases to income statement									
- continuing operations	-	(23)	(18)	-	-	-	(33)	(75)	(149)
- discontinued operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	(30)	-	(30)
Provisions utilised	(777)	(838)	(175)	(414)	(402)	(71)	(493)	(358)	(3,528)
Transfers to disposal groups	-	-	(53)	-	-	-	(4)	-	(57)
	799	424	580	-	320	183	1,805	663	4,774

At 31 December
2014

Q4 2014

At 1 October 2014	543	553	266	-	400	239	1,808	750	4,559
Transfer from accruals and other liabilities	-	-	52	-	-	-	-	10	62
Currency translation and other movements	-	-	(7)	-	2	6	66	(4)	63
Charge to income statement									
- continuing operations	400	108	374	-	320	-	34	81	1,317
- discontinued operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Releases to income statement									
- continuing operations	-	(23)	(6)	-	-	-	(22)	(61)	(112)
- discontinued operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2)	-	(2)
Provisions utilised	(144)	(214)	(46)	-	(402)	(62)	(78)	(113)	(1,059)
Transfer to disposal groups	-	-	(53)	-	-	-	(4)	-	(57)
At 31 December 2014	799	424	580	-	320	183	1,805	663	4,774

Payment Protection Insurance (PPI)

An additional charge of £400 million has been recognised for PPI in Q4 2014 as a result of the expected persistency of customer complaint volumes, bringing the total charge for the year to £650 million. The cumulative charge in respect of PPI is £3.7 billion, of which £2.9 billion (79%) in redress and expenses had been utilised by 31 December 2014. Of the £3.7 billion cumulative charge, £3.4 billion relates to redress and £0.3 billion to administrative expenses.

The table below shows the sensitivity of the provision to changes in the principal assumptions (all other assumptions remaining the same).

Assumption	Actual to date	Current assumption	Sensitivity	
			Change in assumption %	Consequential change in provision £m
Single premium book past business review take up rate	49%	52%	+/-5	+/-56
Uphold rate (1)	90%	89%	+/-5	+/-25
Average redress	£1,700	£1,660	+/-5	+/-26

Note:

(1) Uphold rate excludes claims where no PPI policy was held.

Notes

4. Provisions for liabilities and charges (continued)

Interest that will be payable on successful complaints has been included in the provision as has the estimated cost of administering the redress process. RBS expects the majority of the cash outflows associated with the remaining provision to have occurred by Q2 2016. There are uncertainties as to the eventual cost of redress which will depend on actual complaint volumes, take up and uphold rates and average redress costs. Assumptions relating to these are inherently uncertain and the ultimate financial impact may be different from the amount provided. We will continue to monitor the position closely and refresh its assumptions.

Interest Rate Hedging Products (IRHP) redress and related costs

Following an industry-wide review conducted in conjunction with the Financial Services Authority (now being dealt with by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)), RBS agreed to provide redress to customers in relation to certain interest rate hedging products sold to small and medium-sized businesses classified as retail clients under FSA rules. An additional charge of £85 million has been recognised in Q4 2014 bringing the total net charge for the year to £185 million, principally reflecting a marginal increase in our redress experience compared to expectations and the cost of a small number of consequential loss claims over and above interest offered as part of basic redress. We have now agreed outcomes with the independent reviewer on all cases. A cumulative charge of £1.4 billion has been recognised, of which £1.1 billion relates to redress and £0.3 billion relates to administrative expenses. We continue to monitor the level of provision given the remaining uncertainties over the eventual cost of redress, including the cost of consequential loss claims.

Regulatory and legal actions

RBS is party to certain legal proceedings and regulatory investigations and continues to co-operate with a number of regulators. All such matters are periodically reassessed with the assistance of external professional advisers, where appropriate, to determine the likelihood of RBS incurring a liability and to evaluate the extent to which a reliable estimate of any liability can be made. Additional charges of £1,500 million in 2014 (2013 - £2,944 million) include anticipated costs following investigations into the foreign exchange market (£720 million), provisions relating to investment advice in retail and private banking (£190 million), provisions relating to packaged accounts (£150 million) and the fine relating to the 2012 IT incident (£59 million).

5. Pensions

RBS sponsors a number of pension schemes in the UK and overseas whose assets are independent of RBS's finances.

The Royal Bank of Scotland Group Pension Fund (the Main scheme), accounting for 87% (2013 - 86%) of the Group's retirement benefit obligations, was closed to new entrants in 2006. Since 2009, pensionable salary increases in the Main scheme and certain other UK and Irish schemes have been limited to 2% per annum or CPI inflation if lower. Also, with effect from 1 October 2012, the normal pension age for future benefits was increased to 65 unless members elected to make a contribution to maintain a normal pension age of 60.

Notes

5. Pensions (continued)

	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Pension costs		
Defined benefit schemes	462	501
Defined contribution schemes	87	76
Pension costs - continuing operations	549	577
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Net pension deficit		
At 1 January	2,996	3,740
Currency translation and other adjustments	(25)	13
Income statement		
- continuing operations	462	501
- discontinued operations	4	9
Experience gains and losses	(5,189)	(1,273)
Actuarial (gains)/losses due to changes in financial assumptions	4,806	589
Actuarial (gains)/losses due to changes in demographic assumptions	491	238
Contributions by employer	(1,065)	(821)
Transfer to disposal groups	(196)	-
At 31 December	2,284	2,996
Net assets of schemes in surplus	(295)	(214)
Net liabilities of schemes in deficit	2,579	3,210

In 2014 the bank paid £1.1 billion (2013 - £0.8 billion) in employer contributions to the various pension schemes. These cash contributions reflect the regular ongoing accrual of benefits and running costs of the schemes based on the IAS 19 accounting valuations, and also reflect additional contributions agreed with the trustees of those schemes which are in deficit, as part of the triennial actuarial funding valuation. £0.5 billion (2013 - £0.5 billion) of the employer contributions represented the P&L cost of the pension plans; the remainder of the contribution served to reduce the net liabilities of the schemes which on an IAS 19 basis fell from £3.0 billion in 2013 to £2.3 billion this year end (2013 - fell from £3.7 billion to £3.0 billion) as a result of the employer contributions and £0.1 billion (2013 - £0.4 billion net gain) net actuarial and experience gains which are not reflected in the income statement.

In May 2014, the triennial funding valuation of the Main scheme was agreed which showed that the value of the liabilities exceeded the value of assets by £5.6 billion at 31 March 2013, a ratio of 82%. To eliminate this deficit, RBS will pay annual contributions of £650 million from 2014 to 2016 and £450 million (indexed in line with inflation) from 2017 to 2023. These contributions are in addition to regular annual contributions of approximately £270 million in respect of the ongoing accrual of benefits as well as contributions to meet the expenses of running the scheme.

Notes

5. Pensions (continued)

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

Interim valuations of the Group's pensions schemes under IAS 19 'Employee Benefits' were prepared at 31 December with the support of independent actuaries, using the following assumptions:

	Main scheme		All schemes	
	31 December 2014	31 December 2013	31 December 2014	31 December 2013
Principal actuarial assumptions (weighted average)	%	%	%	%
Discount rate (1)	3.7	4.7	3.6	4.5
Expected return on plan assets (1)	3.7	4.7	3.6	4.5
Rate of increase in salaries	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Rate of increase in pensions in payment	2.8	3.1	2.7	2.9
Inflation assumption	3.0	3.3	2.8	3.2

Note:

(1) The discount rate and the expected return on plan assets for the Main scheme as at 31 December 2013 was 4.65%.

	31 December 2014	31 December 2013
Post-retirement mortality assumptions (Main scheme)		
Longevity at age 60 for current pensioners (years)		
Males	28.0	27.6
Females	30.0	29.5
Longevity at age 60 for future pensioners currently aged 40 (years)		
Males	29.3	28.6
Females	31.6	30.8

The Group discounts its defined benefit pension obligations at discount rates determined by reference to the yield on high quality corporate bonds.

The sterling yield curve (applied to 91% of the Group's defined benefit obligations) is constructed by reference to yields on 'AA' corporate bonds. Significant judgement is required when setting the criteria for bonds to be included in the population from which the yield curve is derived. The criteria include issue size, quality of pricing and the exclusion of outliers.

The assets of the Main scheme, which represent 88% of plan assets at 31 December 2014 (2013 - 85%), are invested in a diversified portfolio of quoted and private equity, government and corporate fixed-interest and index-linked bonds, and other assets including property and hedge funds.

The Main scheme also employs derivative instruments, where appropriate, to achieve a desired asset class exposure or to match assets more closely to liabilities.

The table below sets out the sensitivities of the pension cost for the year and the present value of defined benefit obligations at 31 December to a change in the principal actuarial assumptions:

All schemes

	(Decrease)/Increase			
	in pension cost for		in obligation at 31	
	year		December	
	31	31	31	31
	December	December	December	December
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	£m	£m	£m	£m
0.25% increase in the discount rate	(79)	(80)	(1,695)	(1,379)
0.25% increase in inflation	63	58	1,334	1,000
0.25% additional rate of increase pensions in payment	49	48	1,107	844
0.25% additional rate of increase in deferred pensions	24	21	476	383
0.25% additional rate of increase in salaries	12	12	131	110
Longevity increase of one year	42	39	1,053	801

Notes

6. Loan impairment provisions

Operating profit is stated after net loan impairment releases from continuing operations of £1,364 million for the year ended 31 December 2014 (2013 - £8,105 million losses). The balance sheet loan impairment provisions decreased in the year ended 31 December 2014 from £25,216 million to £17,500 million and the movements thereon were:

	Year ended					
	31 December 2014			31 December 2013		
	RBS excl. RCR £m	RCR £m	Total £m	RBS excl. Non-Core £m	Non-Core £m	Total £m
At beginning of period (1)	8,716	16,500	25,216	10,062	11,188	21,250
Transfers to disposal groups	(536)	(17)	(553)	(9)	-	(9)
Currency translation and other adjustments	(129)	(538)	(667)	81	40	121
Disposals	-	(6)	(6)	-	(77)	(77)
Amounts written-off	(1,687)	(3,591)	(5,278)	(2,490)	(1,856)	(4,346)
Recoveries of amounts previously written-off (Releases)/charges to income statement	166	39	205	168	88	256
- continuing operations	(44)	(1,320)	(1,364)	3,615	4,490	8,105
- discontinued operations	194	-	194	151	156	307
Unwind of discount (recognised in interest income)	(126)	(121)	(247)	(201)	(190)	(391)
At end of period	6,554	10,946	17,500	11,377	13,839	25,216

	31 December 2014			Quarter ended			31 December 2013		
	RBS			30 September 2014			RBS excl.		Non-
	excl. RCR £m	RCR £m	Total £m	RBS excl. RCR £m	RCR £m	Total £m	Non-Core £m	Core £m	Total £m

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

At beginning of period (1)	7,418	12,613	20,031	8,041	14,405	22,446	10,101	11,320	21,421
Transfers to disposal groups	(536)	(17)	(553)	-	-	-	(9)	-	(9)
Currency translation and other adjustments	30	47	77	(41)	(190)	(231)	(28)	(90)	(118)
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(6)	(6)	-	-	-
Amounts written-off	(416)	(1,010)	(1,426)	(403)	(962)	(1,365)	(607)	(586)	(1,193)
Recoveries of amounts previously written-off	39	22	61	43	3	46	38	27	65
(Releases)/charges to income statement									
- continuing operations	7	(691)	(684)	(239)	(610)	(849)	1,878	3,171	5,049
- discontinued operations	46	-	46	46	-	46	46	36	82
Unwind of discount (recognised in interest income)	(34)	(18)	(52)	(29)	(27)	(56)	(42)	(39)	(81)
At end of period	6,554	10,946	17,500	7,418	12,613	20,031	11,377	13,839	25,216

Note:

(1) As a result of the creation of RCR on 1 January 2014, £855 million of provisions were transferred from Non-Core to the original donating divisions and £16,500 million of provisions were transferred to RCR, £12,984 million from Non-Core and £3,516 million from other divisions.

Provisions at 31 December 2014 include £40 million in respect of loans and advances to banks (30 September 2014 - £40 million; 31 December 2013 - £63 million).

Refer to Appendix 1 for analyses of loan impairments by segment, sector and geographical region.

Notes

7. Tax

The actual tax (charge)/credit differs from the expected tax (charge)/credit computed by applying the standard UK corporation tax rate of 21.5% (2013 - 23.25%), as analysed below.

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m	31 December 2014 £m	30 September 2014 £m	31 December 2013 £m
Profit/(loss) before tax	2,643	(8,849)	(683)	1,100	(9,087)
Expected tax (charge)/credit	(568)	2,057	147	(237)	2,112
Losses in year where no deferred tax					

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

asset recognised	(86)	(879)	7	(71)	(688)
Foreign profits taxed at other rates	76	(117)	48	66	(32)
UK tax rate change impact	-	(313)	-	-	(116)
Unrecognised timing differences	(3)	(8)	(12)	(4)	(6)
Non-deductible goodwill impairment	(28)	(247)	-	-	(247)
Items not allowed for tax					
- losses on disposals and write-downs	(12)	(20)	(6)	(1)	(15)
- UK bank levy	(54)	(47)	(10)	(14)	(6)
- regulatory and legal actions	(182)	(144)	(71)	(111)	(54)
- other disallowable items	(191)	(212)	(88)	(34)	(88)
Non-taxable items					
- gain on sale of Direct Line Insurance Group	41	-	-	-	-
- gain on sale of WorldPay (Global Merchant Services)	-	37	-	-	37
- other non-taxable items	79	153	64	2	52
Taxable foreign exchange movements	21	(25)	8	9	(11)
Losses brought forward and utilised	225	36	112	68	13
(Reduction)/increase in carrying value of deferred tax asset in respect of:					
- UK losses	(850)	(701)	(850)	-	(701)
- US losses and temporary differences	(775)	-	(699)	-	-
- Ireland losses	153	-	153	-	-
Adjustments in respect of prior periods	245	244	157	50	153
Actual tax (charge)/credit	(1,909)	(186)	(1,040)	(277)	403

The tax charge for the year ended 31 December 2014 reflects a reduction in the carrying value of the deferred tax asset in respect of UK tax losses (£850 million) and US temporary differences (£775 million) reflecting the impact of the decision to restructure CIB, partially offset by an increase in the carrying value of the deferred tax asset in respect of Irish tax losses, the benefit of previously unrecognised Irish tax losses being offset against profits arising in Ireland during the year and the impact of certain conduct charges that do not qualify for tax relief.

At 31 December 2014, the Group has recognised a deferred tax asset of £1,540 million (30 September 2014 - £2,843 million; 31 December 2013 - £3,478 million) and a deferred tax liability of £500 million (30 September 2014 - £491 million; 31 December 2013 - £507 million). These balances include £1,257 million (30 September 2014 - £1,931 million; 31 December 2013 - £2,411 million) relating to carried forward trading losses in the UK.

Notes

7. Tax (continued)

Under UK tax legislation, these UK losses can be carried forward indefinitely to be utilised against profits arising in the future. In his 2014 Autumn Statement, the UK Chancellor of the Exchequer announced proposals to restrict the use of losses carried forward by UK banks to a maximum of 50% of profits in periods from April 2015 onwards. A longer recovery period of the deferred tax asset associated with UK tax losses will therefore arise, assuming that these proposals are enacted by Parliament in 2015. International Accounting Standards require the recoverability of deferred tax assets to be considered by reference to legislation in force at the balance sheet reporting date.

The Group has considered the carrying value of the deferred tax asset as at 31 December 2014 and concluded that it is recoverable based on future profit projections. The proposed UK tax law change referred to above, if enacted, is not expected to have a material impact on the recovery period of the deferred tax asset.

8. Profit/(loss) attributable to non-controlling interests

Edgar Filing: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC - Form 6-K

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31 December	31 December	31	30	31
	2014	2013	December	September	December
	£m	£m	2014	2014	2013
			£m	£m	£m
RBS Sempra Commodities JV	(1)	(3)	(1)	-	(2)
RFS Holdings BV Consortium Members	3	113	22	(57)	(5)
Direct Line Group	-	19	-	-	-
Citizens Financial Group	53	-	51	2	-
Other	5	(9)	(1)	2	4
Profit/(loss) attributable to non-controlling interests	60	120	71	(53)	(3)

9. Dividends

	Year ended		Quarter ended		
	31	31	31	30	31
	December	December	December	September	December
	2014	2013	2014	2014	2013
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Preference shareholders					
Non-cumulative preference shares of US\$0.01	213	226	43	65	41
Non-cumulative preference shares of €0.01	115	121	55	26	57
Non-cumulative preference shares of £1	2	2	1	-	1
	330	349	99	91	99
Paid-in equity holders					
Interest on securities classified as equity, net of tax	49	49	16	6	15
	379	398			