

CLYDESDALE BANK PLC INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT SIX MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2022

Clydesdale Bank PLC is registered in Scotland (company number: SC001111) and has its registered office at 30 St Vincent Place, Glasgow, G1 2HL.

BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Clydesdale Bank PLC (the 'Bank'), together with its subsidiary undertakings (which together comprise 'the Group') operate under the Clydesdale Bank, Yorkshire Bank and Virgin Money brands. This release covers the results of the Group for the six months ended 31 March 2022.

Statutory basis: Statutory information is set out within the interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

Underlying basis: Management exclude certain items from the Group's statutory position to arrive at an underlying performance basis. A reconciliation from the underlying results to the statutory basis is shown on page 3 and rationale for the adjustments is shown on page 73.

Alternative performance measures: the financial key performance indicators (KPIs) used in monitoring the Group's performance and reflected throughout this report are determined on a combination of bases (including regulatory and alternative performance measures (APM)), as detailed at 'Measuring financial performance – glossary' on page 186 of the Group Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2021. APMs are closely scrutinised to ensure that they provide genuine insights into the Group's progress.

Certain figures contained in this document, including financial information, may have been subject to rounding adjustments and foreign exchange conversions. Accordingly, in certain instances, the sum or percentage change of the numbers contained in this document may not conform exactly to the total figure given.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This document and any other written or oral material discussed or distributed in connection with the results (the 'Information') may include forward-looking statements, which are based on assumptions, expectations, valuations, targets and estimates about future events. These can be identified by the use of words such as 'expects', 'aims', 'anticipates', 'plans', 'intends', 'prospects', 'outlooks', 'projects', 'forecasts', 'believes', 'potential', 'possible', and similar words or phrases. These statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions about the Group and its securities, investments and the environment in which it operates, including, among other things, the development of its business and strategy, any acquisitions, combinations, disposals or other corporate activity undertaken by the Group (including but not limited to the consequences of the integration of the business of Virgin Money Holdings (UK) PLC and its subsidiaries into the Group), trends in its operating industry, changes to customer behaviours and covenant, macroeconomic and/or geopolitical factors, the repercussions of the outbreak of coronaviruses (including but not limited to the COVID-19 outbreak), changes to its Board and/or employee composition, exposures to terrorist activity, IT system failures, cybercrime, fraud and pension scheme liabilities, changes to law and/or the policies and practices of the Bank of England (BoE), the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and/or other regulatory and governmental bodies, inflation, deflation, interest rates, exchange rates, tax and national insurance rates, changes in the liquidity, capital, funding and/or asset position and/or credit ratings of the Group, future capital expenditures and acquisitions, the repercussions of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the repercussions of the UK's exit from the European Union (EU) (including any change to the UK's currency and the terms of any trade agreements (or lack thereof) between the UK and the EU), Eurozone instability, and any referendum on Scottish independence.

These forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties and should be viewed as hypothetical. The events they refer to may not occur as expected and other events not taken into account may occur which could significantly affect the analysis of the statements. No member of the Group or their respective directors, officers, employees, agents, advisers or affiliates (each a 'VMUK Party') gives any representation, warranty or assurance that any such events, projections or estimates will occur or be realised, or that actual returns or other results will not be materially lower than those expected.

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Interim financial report

For the six months ended 31 March 2022

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Business and financial review

Principal activities

The Group operates a full service UK-focused retail and commercial banking business under the brand names 'Clydesdale Bank', 'Yorkshire Bank', and 'Virgin Money'. The bank is a strong, low risk bank focused on providing residential mortgages, personal and business current accounts, savings, personal loans and credit cards, loans for small and medium businesses, and payment and transaction services.

Business review

Summary balance sheet as at 31 March

	As at	
	31 Mar 2022	30 Sep 2021
	£m	£m
Customer loans	71,849	71,990
Other financial assets	14,676	15,035
Other non-financial assets	2,192	2,191
Total assets	88,717	89,216
Customer deposits	(64,386)	(66,870)
Wholesale funding	(15,517)	(13,609)
Other liabilities	(3,158)	(3,155)
Total liabilities	(83,061)	(83,634)
Ordinary shareholders' equity	(4,984)	(4,910)
Additional Tier 1 (AT1) equity	(672)	(672)
Equity	(5,656)	(5,582)
Total liabilities and equity	(88,717)	(89,216)

Summary income statement - underlying and statutory basis

	6 months to	6 months to	12 months to
	31 Mar 2022	31 Mar 2021	30 Sep 2021
	£m	£m	£m
Net interest income	782	677	1,415
Non-interest income	81	65	156
Total operating income	863	742	1,571
Total operating and administrative expenses	(456)	(460)	(901)
Operating profit before impairment losses	407	282	670
Impairment (losses)/credit on credit exposures	(21)	(39)	131
Underlying profit on ordinary activities before tax	386	243	801
Restructuring charges	(46)	(49)	(146)
Acquisition accounting unwinds	(14)	(47)	(88)
Legacy conduct	(5)	(71)	(76)
Other items	(8)	(6)	(75)
Statutory profit on ordinary activities before tax	313	70	416
Tax (expense)/credit	(91)	39	116
Statutory profit attributable to equity holders	222	109	532

Business and financial review (continued)

Summary

We've made good progress against our strategy, while delivering a significant increase in profit. We have positive momentum in attracting new customers to the Group through record credit card sales, good growth in personal current account openings and a strong uptake of our new digital fee-free business current account.

Looking ahead, while the macroeconomic outlook is uncertain and there are increased cost pressures on consumers, we remain prudently provisioned and are confident in the quality of our loan portfolio.

Balance sheet summary

Given higher uncertainty in the outlook, the Group has reduced the weighting to the upside scenario and maintained elevated post-model adjustments (PMAs). The Group maintained a conservative balance sheet position with credit provisions totalling £479m (FY21: £504m) equivalent to a coverage ratio of 0.66% (FY21: 0.70%), which remains above pre-pandemic levels. The Group continues to have a defensive portfolio comprising 80% low-risk mortgages, 12% business lending and 8% in our high-quality, higher affluence-focused unsecured book. Macroeconomic assumptions from our 3rd party provider Oxford Economics have been fully refreshed in the period. During the period, lending volumes were 0.2% lower at £71.8bn. Deposit balances reduced 3.7% to £64.4bn given ongoing optimisation of the funding base.

Profit and loss summary

The Group delivered an underlying profit before tax of £386m, a significant improvement compared to last year (H1 2021: £243m), driven primarily by improved income and lower impairments. Net interest income (NII) of £782m (H1 2021: £677m) was significantly improved year-on-year due to the higher rate environment, supportive conditions in the deposit market and improved liability mix, offsetting mortgage spread pressure. Non-interest income of £81m was 25% higher year-on-year driven by improved customer activity. Overall, this resulted in total income that was 16% higher compared to a year ago. Operating costs were 1% lower at £456m compared to H1 2021 as expected gross cost savings were largely offset by inflation, growth and planned higher digital development costs. The improvement in income resulted in a 51% increase in pre-provision profit year-on-year. Impairments remained low in the first half of the year at £21m.

The Group also reported an improved statutory profit before tax in the period delivering £313m (H1 2021: £70m). This reflected the improved underlying profit, and that £100m fewer adjusting items were incurred in H1 2022, due primarily to the non-recurrence of legacy conduct charges for Payment Protection Insurance (PPI) and a lower level of acquisition accounting unwind. H1 2022 saw £73m of adjusting items; £46m of restructuring charges, £14m of acquisition accounting unwind, £5m of legacy conduct costs, and £8m of other charges.

Capital

The Group has maintained a robust capital position with a Common Equity Tier 1 Capital (CET1) ratio (International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) 9 transitional basis) of 14.7%, and a total capital ratio of 21.8%. The Group's CET1 ratio on an IFRS 9 fully loaded basis remained stable at 14.4%. The Group's latest Pillar 2A requirement has a CET1 element of 1.7%. Overall, the Group's Capital Requirements Directive (CRD) IV minimum CET1 capital requirement (or MDA threshold) remains 8.7%.

Funding and liquidity

The Group maintains a robust funding and liquidity position. While opting to manage liquidity slightly lower, the Group's Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) of 139% (30 September 2021: 151%) continues to comfortably exceed both regulatory requirements and our more prudent internal risk appetite metrics, ensuring a substantial buffer in the event of any outflows due to the cost of living squeeze.

Outlook

Over the first half of the year, we've made good initial progress delivering against the accelerated digital strategy launched alongside our FY21 results. We will continue to focus in H2 on growing in our target segments and delivering exciting new digital propositions for customers, while continuing to improve our efficiency and customer service.

The macroeconomic outlook has become more uncertain over the course of the six months. Following a positive recovery in expectations post-COVID, recent events have seen forecasts moderate. As we enter a more uncertain environment, we are monitoring carefully the impacts of higher inflation on the cost of living and implications for customers, as well as the second-order impacts from the conflict in Ukraine, but aren't yet seeing signs of significant stress in the book. We enter this period with prudent coverage, robust underwriting and a defensive portfolio.

Overall, we continue to have the right strategy and are executing on the key components that will underpin our delivery of improved returns and profitable growth over the coming years, as we fulfil our purpose to Make You Happier About Money.

Key performance indicators

The Directors do not rely on KPIs at the individual subsidiary level. The performance of the Group is included in the Interim Financial Report of Virgin Money UK PLC. The business is managed within the Virgin Money UK PLC Group and the results are consistent with the Group's status as a fully integrated and wholly owned subsidiary of the Virgin Money UK PLC Group. For this reason, the Company's Directors believe that providing further indicators for the Group itself would not enhance an understanding of the development, performance or position of the Group.

Business and financial review (continued)

Reconciliation of statutory to underlying results

The underlying basis presented within this section reflects the Group's results prepared on an underlying basis. These exclude certain items that are included in the statutory results, as management believes that these items are not reflective of the underlying business and do not aid meaningful period-on-period comparison. The table below reconciles the statutory results to the underlying basis, and full details on the adjusted items are included in the Glossary on page 73.

	Statutory results £m	Restructuring charges £m	Acquisition accounting unwinds £m	Legacy conduct £m	Other £m	Underlying basis £m
6 months to 31 Mar 2022						
Net interest income	777	-	5	-	-	782
Non-interest income	65	-	8	-	8	81
Total operating income	842	-	13	-	8	863
Total operating and administrative expenses before impairment losses	(508)	46	1	5	-	(456)
Operating profit before impairment losses	334	46	14	5	8	407
Impairment losses on credit exposures	(21)	-	-	-	-	(21)
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	313	46	14	5	8	386

	Statutory results £m	Restructuring charges £m	Acquisition accounting unwinds £m	Legacy conduct £m	Other £m	Underlying basis £m
6 months to 31 Mar 2021						
Net interest income	646	-	31	-	-	677
Non-interest income	48	-	12	-	5	65
Total operating income	694	-	43	-	5	742
Total operating and administrative expenses before impairment losses	(585)	49	4	71	1	(460)
Operating profit before impairment losses	109	49	47	71	6	282
Impairment losses on credit exposures	(39)	-	-	-	-	(39)
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	70	49	47	71	6	243

	Statutory results £m	Restructuring charges £m	Acquisition accounting unwinds £m	Legacy conduct £m	Other £m	Underlying basis £m
6 months to 30 Sep 2021						
Net interest income	714	-	24	-	-	738
Non-interest income	79	-	11	-	1	91
Total operating income	793	-	35	-	1	829
Total operating and administrative expenses before impairment losses	(617)	97	6	5	68	(441)
Operating profit before impairment losses	176	97	41	5	69	388
Impairment credit on credit exposures	170	-	-	-	-	170
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	346	97	41	5	69	558

Risk management

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Risk management

Risk overview

Effective risk management is critical to realising the Group's strategy of pioneering growth. The safety and soundness of the Group is aligned to Our Purpose, and is a fundamental requirement to enable our customers and stakeholders to be 'happier about money'.

Risk exists in everything we do, from day-to-day operational activities to strategic change initiatives; without risk we will never achieve our strategic goals but when taking risks, we must ensure we do so in an appropriate way.

A strong risk culture, grounded in the understanding of the Group's risks, is key to enabling our strategy to disrupt the status quo. Our Purpose and Values play a big part in our risk culture by setting out what we want to do and how we want to do it. Personal accountability is at the heart of this and is enabled through the risk management accountability model and formal delegation framework, which supports us in making risk-based decisions and fulfilling our obligations under the Senior Managers and Certification Regime.

The Group identifies and manages risk in line with the Risk Management Framework (RMF). The RMF is the totality of systems, structures, policies, processes and people that identifies, measures, evaluates, controls, mitigates, monitors and reports all internal and external sources of material risk. The RMF aligns to Our Purpose by establishing a single and complete view of the end to end risk lifecycle, in order to protect the interests of all customers and stakeholders. The RMF applies to all areas of the Group and is the responsibility of the Board. It is approved formally on an annual basis and is subject to ongoing review to ensure that it remains fit for purpose.

Risk appetite is defined as the level and types of risk the Group is willing to assume within the boundaries of its risk capacity, to achieve its strategic objectives. The Risk Appetite Statement (RAS) articulates the Group's risk appetite to internal stakeholders and provides a view on the risk-taking activities the Board is comfortable with, guiding decision-makers in their strategic and business decisions.

Principal risks

Principal risks are those which could result in events or circumstances that might threaten the Group's business model, future performance, solvency, liquidity or reputation.

The Group's principal risks are listed below and remain as disclosed in the 2021 Annual Report and Accounts, with the exception of climate risk, which has been reclassified from a cross-cutting risk to a principal risk due to its increasing relevance and materiality to the Group's risk profile. Operational resilience is now included within Operational and resilience risk.

Principal risks	Definitions
Credit risk	The risk that a borrower or counterparty fails to pay the interest or capital due on a loan or other financial instrument. Credit risk manifests itself in the financial instruments and products that the Group offers and in which it invests and can arise in respect of both on- and off-balance sheet exposures.
Financial risk	Financial risk includes capital risk, funding risk, liquidity risk, market risk and pension risk, all of which have the ability to impact the financial performance of the Group, if managed improperly.
Model risk	The potential for adverse consequences from decisions based on incorrect or misused model outputs and reports.
Regulatory and compliance risk	The risk of failing to comply with relevant laws and regulation, failing to implement new regulatory requirements, or not keeping the regulators informed of relevant issues or responding effectively to regulatory requests, leading to regulatory sanction.
Conduct risk	The risk of undertaking business in a way that is contrary to the interests of customers, resulting in customer harm, regulatory censure, redress costs and reputational damage.
Operational and resilience risk	The risk of loss or customer harm resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events, incorporating the inability to maintain critical services, recover quickly and learn from unexpected/adverse events.
Technology risk	The risk of loss or customer harm resulting from inadequate or failed information technology processes. Technology risk includes cyber security, IT resilience, information security, data risk and payment risk.
Financial crime and fraud risk	The risk that products and services will be used to facilitate financial crime, resulting in harms to customers, the Group, or third parties. This includes money laundering, counter terrorist financing, sanctions, fraud and bribery and corruption.
Strategic and enterprise risk	The risk of significant loss of earnings or damage from decisions or actions that impact the long-term interests of the Group's stakeholders or from an inability to adapt to external developments, including potential execution risk as a result of transformation activity.
People risk	The risk of not having sufficiently skilled and motivated colleagues, who are clear on their responsibilities and accountabilities and behave in an ethical way.
Climate risk	The risk of exposure to physical and transition risks arising from climate change.

Further detail on the Group's principal risks and how they are managed is available in the 2021 Annual Report and Accounts.

Risk management

Risk overview

Emerging risks

The Group considers an emerging risk to be any risk which has a material unknown and unpredictable component, with the potential to significantly impact the future performance of the Group or result in customer harm. The Group's emerging risks are continually reassessed and reviewed through a horizon scanning process, with escalation and reporting to the Board. The horizon scanning process fully considers all relevant internal and external factors and is designed to capture those risks which are current but have not yet fully crystallised, as well as those which are expected to crystallise in future periods.

The emerging risk classifications reported in the Group's 2021 Annual Report and Accounts have been retained. In addition, a new emerging risk, New Digital Asset Classes, has been included. Risk summaries have been refreshed since the year-end disclosure, with important developments and areas most relevant to the Group's strategy shown.

Emerging risks	Trend	Description
<i>External emerging risks</i>		
Political and economic risk	▲	Geopolitical tensions, including the war in Ukraine, are creating volatility within domestic and global markets, leading to wide ranging impacts affecting inflation, global trade and consumer confidence. These risks in aggregate, alongside the substantial increase in the cost of living in the UK, could impact customer resilience and consequently debt affordability. Uncertainty remains over the ability for economies and society to adapt to future variants of existing viruses or new strains. An increase in restrictions could pose a range of social, economic and technological risks.
Regulatory change	▶	The Group remains subject to high levels of oversight and a complex programme of regulatory change from a number of different regulatory bodies. The regulatory landscape continues to evolve, needing ongoing responses to the emerging prudential and conduct driven developments and delivery of associated implementation requirements.
Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) risk	▲	Previously positioned solely around climate risk, this broader ESG risk acknowledges the uncertainty around the exact nature and impact of climate change on the Group's strategy, performance and operating model, as well as capturing the increased focus on how companies report the impact of their activities on the environment and on the social challenges to which company business models must respond.
Third-party risk	▶	The Group's accelerated digitisation strategy could lead to complex and significant dependencies on third party services, requiring effective assessment and management of the levels of reliance that will be placed on these suppliers.
<i>Internal emerging risks</i>		
Data stewardship	▶	The Group's accelerated digitisation strategy, combined with changing regulatory requirements and technological advancements such as Cloud solutions, places increasing importance on the effective and ethical use of data.
Resilience risk	▶	The rapid pace of technological change, coupled with changing customer requirements, creates increasing demand on systems resilience and our people. This could be heightened by the Group's accelerated digital strategy given the volume and pace of change required.
Changing skill requirements	▲	Against the backdrop of the Group's digitisation strategy, challenges remain in respect to recruiting talent, with skill shortages affecting a number of areas and uncertainty over future talent attraction. The Group has implemented its a Life More Virgin Model to help support colleagues and to strengthen our proposition in the market.
New digital asset classes	▶	There is a risk of industry transformation due to digital asset and transaction innovation, which generates competition risk and uncertainty as to the future digital customer proposition and market landscape. The Group horizon scans external developments in the financial technology landscape to mitigate risks and to identify strategic opportunities.

Further detail on the Group's emerging risks and how they are managed is available in the 2021 Annual Report and Accounts.

Risk management

Credit risk

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Risk management

Credit risk

Credit risk overview

Credit risk is the risk that a borrower or counterparty fails to pay the interest or capital due on a loan or other financial instrument. Credit risk manifests itself in the financial instruments and products that the Group offers and in which it invests and can arise in respect of both on- and off-balance sheet exposures.

Close monitoring, clear policies and a disciplined approach to credit risk management support the Group's operations and have underpinned its resilience in recently challenging times. While the effects of COVID-19 have eased considerably, we still expect the emergence of some delayed COVID-19 impacts. This, together with the significant inflationary headwinds, have the potential to affect both Retail and Business customers' resilience and debt affordability. The Group is taking a number of steps to support customers through this period of heightened affordability pressure and ensure that the credit risk framework and associated policies remain effective and appropriate.

Managing credit risk within our asset portfolios

Risk appetite

The Group controls its levels of credit risk by placing limits on the amount of risk it is willing to take in order to achieve its strategic objectives. This involves a defined set of qualitative and quantitative limits in relation to its credit risk concentrations to one borrower, or group of borrowers, and to geographical, product and industry segments. The management of credit risk within the Group is achieved through ongoing approval and monitoring of individual transactions, timely changes to application scorecards and supporting credit strategies, regular asset quality reviews and the independent oversight of credit decisions and portfolios.

The FY22 RAS was predicated on a degree of normalisation in the environment. It continues to recognise some of the delayed impacts of COVID-19 and the changing economic environment through ensuring a controlled approach to portfolio management and new lending origination.

Climate risk is considered an important component of the broader RMF and is reflected through the inclusion of climate-related risk factors within the FY22 RAS. The framework embeds climate risk considerations across various aspects of customer lending and credit risk management practices. Further detail is provided in the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures report, on pages 218 to 234 of Virgin Money UK PLC's 2021 Annual Report and Accounts.

Measurement

The Group uses a range of statistical models, supported by both internal and external data, to measure credit risk exposures. These models underpin the internal ratings-based (IRB) capital calculation for the Mortgage and Business portfolios and account management activity for all portfolios.

Further information on the measurement and calculation of ECLs and the Group's approach to the impairment of financial assets can be found on page 10.

The Group's portfolios are subject to regular stress testing, including participation in the BoE Solvency Stress Test (SST) exercise for the first time during 2021. Stress test scenarios are regularly prepared to assess the adequacy of the Group's impairment provision and the potential impact on risk-weighted assets (RWAs) and capital. Management will consider how each stress scenario may impact on different components of the credit portfolio. The primary method applied uses migration matrices, modelling the impact of PD rating migrations and changes in portfolio default rates to changes in macroeconomic factors to obtain a stressed position for the credit portfolios. Loss given default (LGD) is stressed based on a range of factors, including property price movements.

As highlighted on page 6, Political and economic risk is an emerging risk for the Group with specific focus on the heightened inflationary pressures prevalent in the UK. This includes the future impact of macroeconomic variables which are used in the calculation of the Group's modelled ECL output. Further detail on the Group's use of macroeconomic variables in the year can be found on pages 28 to 29.

Risk management

Credit risk

Mitigation

The Group maintains a dynamic approach to credit management and takes necessary steps if individual issues are identified or if credit performance has, or is expected to, deteriorate due to borrower, economic or sector-specific weaknesses.

The mitigation of credit risk within the Group is achieved through approval and monitoring of individual transactions and asset quality, analysis of the performance of the various credit risk portfolios, and independent oversight of credit portfolios across the Group. Portfolio monitoring techniques cover product, industry, geographic concentrations and delinquency trends.

There is regular analysis of the borrowers' ability to meet their interest and capital repayment obligations with early support and mitigation steps taken where required. Credit risk mitigation is also supported, in part, by obtaining collateral and corporate and personal guarantees where appropriate.

Further details on the Group's mitigating measures can be found on page 18 of the 2021 Annual Report and Accounts.

Monitoring

Credit policies and procedures, which are subject to ongoing review, are documented and disseminated in a form that supports the credit operations of the Group.

- **Credit Risk Committee:** The Credit Risk Committee ensures that the credit RMF and associated policies remain effective. The Committee has oversight of the quality, composition and concentrations of the credit risk portfolio. It also determines and approves strategies to adjust the portfolio to react to changes in market conditions including the response to COVID-19, customer resilience, debt affordability concerns and climate risk.
- **RAS:** Measures are reported and reviewed monthly to ensure they remain relevant and appropriately calibrated. Regular review ensures that the measures accurately reflect the Group's risk appetite, strategy and concerns relative to the wider macro environment. All measures are subject to extensive engagement with the Executive Leadership Team and the Board and are subject to endorsement from executive governance committees prior to Board approval. Regulatory engagement is also scheduled as appropriate.
- **Risk concentration:** Concentration of risk is managed by counterparty, product, geographical region and industry sector. In addition, single name exposure limits exist to control exposures to a single counterparty. Concentrations are also considered through the RAS process, focusing particularly on the external environment, outlook and comparison against market benchmarks.
- **Single large exposure excesses:** Excesses on exposures under the delegated commitment authority of the Transactional Credit Committee are reported to the committee where the amount of excess is >£250k (senior Business Credit Risk personnel have delegated authority to manage excesses <£250k). All excess reports include a proposed route to remediation. Exposures are also managed in accordance with the large exposure reporting requirements of the Capital Requirements Regulation (CRR).
- **Portfolio Monitoring:** Continuous monitoring of the portfolio composition and performance is undertaken through weekly and monthly reviews.

Forbearance

Forbearance is considered to exist where customers are experiencing or about to experience financial difficulty and the Group grants a concession on a non-commercial basis. The Group's forbearance policies and definitions comply with the guidance established by the European Banking Authority (EBA) for financial reporting. Forbearance concessions include the granting of more favourable terms and conditions than those provided either at drawdown of the facility, or which would not ordinarily be available to other customers with a similar risk profile. Forbearance parameters are regularly reviewed and refined as necessary to ensure they are consistent with the latest industry guidance and prevailing practice, as well as ensuring that they adequately capture and reflect the most recent customer behaviours and market conditions. The Group also complies with the regulations of the Debt Respite Scheme which was implemented in 2021. The Debt Respite Scheme provides eligible individuals in England and Wales with problem debt, the right to legal protection from their creditors, including almost all enforcement action, during a period of 'breathing space'. The Scheme, also referred to as the 'Breathing Space Regulations', does not apply to mortgages, except for arrears which are uncapitalised at the date of the application under the Breathing Space Regulations. In Scotland, eligible individuals are afforded similar legal protection under the Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act 2016.

Risk management

Credit risk

Measuring credit risk within our asset portfolios

The Group adopts two approaches to the measurement of credit risk under IFRS 9:

Individually assessed

A charge is taken to the income statement when an individually assessed provision has been recognised or a direct write-off has been applied to an asset balance. These loans will be classified as Stage 3.

Collectively assessed

The Group uses a combination of strategies and statistical models that utilise internal and external data to measure the exposure to credit risk within the portfolios and to calculate the level of ECL. This is supplemented by management judgement in the form of PMAs where necessary.

At each reporting date, the Group assesses financial assets measured at amortised cost, as well as loan commitments and financial guarantees not measured at FVTPL, for impairment. The impairment loss allowance is calculated using an ECL methodology and reflects: (i) an unbiased and probability weighted amount; (ii) the time value of money which discounts the impairment loss; and (iii) reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions.

The ECL is then calculated as either 12 month (Stage 1) or lifetime (Stage 2 or Stage 3). Stage 2 is applied where there has been a SICR since origination. Stage 3 applies where the loan is credit impaired or is a purchased or originated credit impaired asset (POCI).

ECLs under IFRS 9 use economic forecasts, models and judgement to provide a forward-looking assessment of the required provisions. Adjustments have been made to address known limitations in the Group's models or data; this includes early adoption of a limited number of enhancements to better reflect the Group's assessment of risk. Due to the current economic conditions, government and Group interventions to support customers, and uncertainty arising from COVID-19, the Group has not relied upon modelled outcomes alone. Following detailed analysis, expert credit judgement has been applied, resulting in additional adjustments to ensure the ECL calculation reflects the full set of plausible circumstances including data limitations, customer support measures, rapidly changing customer behaviours and the evolving nature of COVID-19 risks.

Further details on the Group's measurement of credit risk can be found on page 20 of the 2021 Annual Report and Accounts.

Both the accounting and regulatory definitions of default are aligned with default being triggered at 90 days past due (DPD), with the exception of the heritage Virgin Money mortgage models, which apply a 180 DPD regulatory default trigger under existing approved permissions. The definition of default will be fully aligned to 90 DPD when the regulatory models are updated in line with hybrid model adoption.

The Group aligns the regulatory cure periods for forbore exposures in its IFRS 9 staging criteria at a minimum period of either 24 (performing) or 36 months (non-performing) depending on the forbearance programme utilised. Where exposures are classified as Stages 2 or 3 as a result of not being in a forbearance programme, these can cure when the relevant staging trigger is removed and no longer applicable.

Risk management

Credit risk

Group credit risk exposures

The Group is exposed to credit risk across all of its financial asset classes, however its principal exposure to credit risk arises on customer lending balances. Given the relative significance of customer lending exposures to the Group's overall credit risk position, the disclosures that follow are focused principally on customer lending.

The Group is also exposed to credit risk on its other banking and treasury-related activities. It holds £9.5bn of cash and balances with central banks and £0.9bn due from other banks at amortised cost (30 September 2021: £9.7bn), with a further £4.4bn of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI). £7.7bn of cash is held with the BoE (30 September 2021: £7.9bn), and balances with other banks and financial assets at FVOCI are primarily held with senior investment grade counterparties. All other banking and treasury related financial assets are classed as Stage 1 with no material ECL provision held.

Maximum exposure to credit risk on financial assets, contingent liabilities and credit-related commitments

The following tables show the levels of concentration of the Group's loans and advances, contingent liabilities and credit-related commitments:

	Gross loans and advances to customers	Contingent liabilities and credit-related commitments	Total
	£m	£m	£m
31 March 2022			
Mortgages	58,130	3,575	61,705
Unsecured	6,151	10,856	17,007
Business	8,134	3,895	12,029
Total	72,415	18,326	90,741
Impairment provisions held on credit exposures ⁽¹⁾	(472)	(7)	(479)
Fair value hedge adjustment	(532)	-	(532)
Maximum credit risk exposure on lending assets	71,411	18,319	89,730
Cash and balances with central banks			9,527
Financial assets at FVOCI			4,423
Due from other banks			858
Other financial assets at fair value			117
Due from related entities			4
Derivative financial assets			189
Maximum credit risk exposure on all financial assets⁽²⁾			104,848
30 September 2021			
Mortgage	58,441	2,845	61,286
Unsecured	5,770	10,507	16,277
Business	8,338	3,769	12,107
Total	72,549	17,121	89,670
Impairment provisions held on credit exposures ⁽¹⁾	(496)	(8)	(504)
Fair value hedge adjustment	(179)	-	(179)
Maximum credit risk exposure on lending assets	71,874	17,113	88,987
Cash and balances with central banks			9,711
Financial instruments at FVOCI			4,352
Due from other banks			800
Other financial assets at fair value			149
Due from related entities			4
Derivative financial assets			140
Maximum credit risk exposure on all financial assets⁽²⁾			104,143

(1) The total ECL provision covers both on and off-balance sheet exposures which are reflected in notes 3.1 and 3.7 respectively. All tables and ratios that follow are calculated using the combined on- and off-balance sheet ECL, which is consistent for all periods reported.

(2) Unless otherwise noted, the amount that best represents the maximum credit exposure at the reporting date is the carrying value of the financial asset.

Risk management

Credit risk

Key credit metrics

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022	12 months to 30 Sep 2021	6 months to 31 Mar 2021
	£m	£m	£m
Impairment (credit)/charge on credit exposures			
Mortgage lending	(21)	(44)	(1)
Unsecured lending	69	(32)	27
Business lending	(27)	(55)	12
Total Group impairment (credit)/charge	21	(131)	38
Underlying impairment credit/charge ⁽¹⁾ to average customer loans (cost of risk)	0.06%	(0.18)%	0.11%

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022	12 months to 30 Sep 2021
Key asset quality ratios		
% Loans in Stage 2	11.03%	14.09%
% Loans in Stage 3	1.40%	1.32%
Total book coverage ⁽²⁾	0.66%	0.70%
Stage 2 coverage ⁽²⁾	3.15%	3.02%
Stage 3 coverage ⁽²⁾	10.70%	9.59%

(1) Inclusive of gains/losses on assets held at fair value and elements of fraud loss.

(2) This includes the government-backed portfolio of Bounce back loan scheme (BBLs), Recovery loan scheme (RLS), Coronavirus business interruption loan scheme (CBILS) and Coronavirus large business interruption loan scheme (CLBILS).

As the world marked the 2nd anniversary of COVID-19 in this six-month period, the Group has continued to maintain a stable lending book with gross lending to customers of £72.4bn at 31 March 2022 (30 September 2021: £72.5bn). Modest growth in the Unsecured lending book was offset by a reduction in Mortgages and Business lending as consumer spending activity increased with the easing of restrictions, whilst more significant investment remained subdued.

Asset quality was robust in the period; most of the key asset quality ratios remained stable, with only the credit card portfolio showing signs of a shift in quality commensurate with the Group's risk appetite in this market. The overall stability has been influenced by the extended period of customer support measures provided by the government in response to COVID-19 and prudent action taken by customers, combined with the Group's controlled risk appetite and continued focus on continued customer support and responsible lending decisions.

The UK Government's approach for 'living with COVID' offers some economic optimism. However, other significant economic and geopolitical factors have the potential to impact the short to medium term performance of the portfolio, with the most significant of these anticipated to be the wide range of cost of living pressures. The Group continues to support customers through this challenging period.

While the lending portfolio continues to show resilience, the Group impairment provision has nevertheless been determined against a backdrop of global macro-economic uncertainty following the Russian invasion of Ukraine and a UK-wide cost of living crisis. It is likely that certain borrowers will suffer increased stress from the cost of living crisis, as such a temporary affordability stress PMA of £26m has been introduced across the retail portfolios. The Group has also retained certain other PMAs where deemed appropriate, following a full review in the period; further detail on the nature of each PMA is provided in the respective product performance section on the following pages.

Taking all these factors into account, the Group has recorded a total impairment provision of £479m at 31 March 2022, reflecting a small reduction of £25m from £504m at 30 September 2021 and a corresponding reduction in coverage from 70 basis points (bps) to 66bps. Within this, the modelled provision is broadly stable at £300m (30 September 2021: £297m) as the releases in the Mortgage and Business portfolios due to the more favourable macroeconomic inputs have been offset by growth in Unsecured lending. PMAs have reduced in the period to £179m (30 September 2021: £207m).

The net reduction in provision has been offset by individually assessed impairments of £53m in the period (12 months to 30 September 2021: £79m), resulting in a net charge to the income statement of £21m (12 months to 30 September 2021: net credit of £131m), and an associated cost of risk for the period of 6bps (12 months to 30 September 2021: (18)bps).

Risk management

Credit risk

Credit quality of loans and advances

The following tables outline the staging profile of the Group's customer lending portfolios which is key to understanding their asset quality.

Gross loans and advances⁽¹⁾ ECL and coverage

31 March 2022	Mortgages		Unsecured						Business ⁽²⁾		Total	
			Cards		Loans and Overdrafts		Combined					
	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%
Stage 1	52,217	89.8%	4,484	87.6%	947	91.4%	5,431	88.3%	5,819	71.5%	63,467	87.6%
Stage 2 – total	5,283	9.1%	566	11.1%	75	7.3%	641	10.4%	2,018	24.8%	7,942	11.0%
Stage 2: 0 DPD	4,997	8.6%	530	10.3%	67	6.5%	597	9.6%	1,974	24.2%	7,568	10.4%
Stage 2: < 30 DPD	154	0.3%	18	0.4%	4	0.4%	22	0.4%	14	0.2%	190	0.3%
Stage 2: > 30 DPD	132	0.2%	18	0.4%	4	0.4%	22	0.4%	30	0.4%	184	0.3%
Stage 3 ⁽³⁾	630	1.1%	66	1.3%	13	1.3%	79	1.3%	297	3.7%	1,006	1.4%
	58,130	100.0%	5,116	100.0%	1,035	100.0%	6,151	100.0%	8,134	100.0%	72,415	100.0%
ECLs												
Stage 1	7	10.6%	57	28.6%	9	40.9%	66	29.9%	58	30.2%	131	27.3%
Stage 2 – total	44	66.7%	109	54.8%	7	31.8%	116	52.5%	87	45.3%	247	51.6%
Stage 2: 0 DPD	42	63.7%	89	44.8%	4	18.2%	93	42.1%	87	45.3%	222	46.4%
Stage 2: < 30 DPD	1	1.5%	9	4.5%	1	4.5%	10	4.5%	-	-	11	2.3%
Stage 2: > 30 DPD	1	1.5%	11	5.5%	2	9.1%	13	5.9%	-	-	14	2.9%
Stage 3 ⁽³⁾	15	22.7%	33	16.6%	6	27.3%	39	17.6%	47	24.5%	101	21.1%
	66	100.0%	199	100.0%	22	100.0%	221	100.0%	192	100.0%	479	100.0%
Coverage												
Stage 1		0.01%		1.39%		1.28%		1.38%		1.09%		0.21%
Stage 2 – total		0.81%		20.88%		12.66%		20.07%		4.64%		3.15%
Stage 2: 0 DPD		0.82%		18.21%		7.86%		17.24%		4.65%		2.95%
Stage 2: < 30 DPD		0.59%		55.83%		34.47%		52.38%		3.91%		6.34%
Stage 2: > 30 DPD		0.97%		62.82%		64.47%		63.09%		1.86%		8.86%
Stage 3 ⁽³⁾		2.40%		53.97%		66.74%		55.83%		19.93%		10.70%
		0.11%		4.22%		2.97%		4.04%		2.58%		0.66%

30 September 2021	Mortgages		Unsecured						Business ⁽²⁾		Total	
			Cards		Loans and Overdrafts		Combined					
	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%
Stage 1	50,596	86.6%	4,100	88.1%	1,048	94.0%	5,148	89.2%	5,672	68.0%	61,416	84.7%
Stage 2 – total	7,192	12.3%	497	10.7%	56	5.0%	553	9.6%	2,431	29.2%	10,176	14.0%
Stage 2: 0 DPD	6,918	11.9%	466	10.1%	46	4.2%	512	8.9%	2,388	28.7%	9,818	13.5%
Stage 2: < 30 DPD	128	0.2%	16	0.3%	5	0.4%	21	0.4%	25	0.3%	174	0.2%
Stage 2: > 30 DPD	146	0.2%	15	0.3%	5	0.4%	20	0.3%	18	0.2%	184	0.3%
Stage 3 ⁽³⁾	653	1.1%	58	1.2%	11	1.0%	69	1.2%	235	2.8%	957	1.3%
	58,441	100.0%	4,655	100.0%	1,115	100.0%	5,770	100.0%	8,338	100.0%	72,549	100.0%
ECLs												
Stage 1	4	4.6%	32	20.0%	9	26.5%	41	21.1%	66	29.6%	111	22.0%
Stage 2 – total	64	73.6%	99	61.9%	19	55.9%	118	60.9%	120	53.8%	302	59.9%
Stage 2: 0 DPD	61	70.2%	82	51.3%	13	38.2%	95	49.0%	120	53.8%	276	54.8%
Stage 2: < 30 DPD	1	1.1%	8	5.0%	2	5.9%	10	5.2%	-	-	11	2.1%
Stage 2: > 30 DPD	2	2.3%	9	5.6%	4	11.8%	13	6.7%	-	-	15	3.0%
Stage 3 ⁽³⁾	19	21.8%	29	18.1%	6	17.6%	35	18.0%	37	16.6%	91	18.1%
	87	100.0%	160	100.0%	34	100.0%	194	100.0%	223	100.0%	504	100.0%
Coverage												
Stage 1		0.01%		0.85%		1.13%		0.91%		1.35%		0.18%
Stage 2 – total		0.88%		22.12%		42.01%		23.92%		5.43%		3.02%
Stage 2: 0 DPD		0.87%		19.51%		33.66%		20.64%		5.48%		2.84%
Stage 2: < 30 DPD		0.85%		58.36%		52.88%		57.27%		1.51%		6.90%
Stage 2: > 30 DPD		1.36%		64.46%		99.65%		73.48%		2.85%		8.99%
Stage 3 ⁽³⁾		2.81%		54.13%		64.02%		55.65%		17.31%		9.59%
		0.15%		3.79%		3.86%		3.80%		3.06%		0.70%

(1) Excludes loans designated at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL), balances due from customers on acceptances, accrued interest and deferred and unamortised fee income.

(2) Business and total coverage ratio excludes the guaranteed element of government-backed loans.

(3) Stage 3 includes POCI for gross loans and advances of £63m for Mortgages and £1m for Unsecured (30 September 2021: £67m and £2m respectively); and ECL of (£1m) for Mortgages and (£2m) for Unsecured (30 September 2021: £Nil and (£2m) respectively). Nil for Business in both periods.

Risk management

Credit risk

Credit quality of loans and advances (continued)

Stage 2 balances

There can be a number of reasons that require a financial asset to be subject to a Stage 2 lifetime ECL calculation other than reaching the 30 DPD backstop. The following table highlights the relevant trigger point leading to a financial asset being classed as Stage 2:

	Mortgages		Unsecured						Business		Total	
			Cards		Loans & Overdrafts		Combined					
31 March 2022	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%
PD deterioration	4,243	80%	341	60%	15	20%	356	56%	1,160	58%	5,759	73%
Forbearance	151	3%	8	1%	56	75%	64	10%	255	13%	470	6%
AFD or Watch List ⁽¹⁾	7	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	573	28%	580	7%
> 30 DPD	132	2%	18	3%	4	5%	22	3%	30	1%	184	2%
Other ⁽²⁾	750	15%	199	36%	-	-	199	31%	-	-	949	12%
	5,283	100%	566	100%	75	100%	641	100%	2,018	100%	7,942	100%
ECLs												
PD deterioration	27	61%	55	50%	3	42%	58	51%	40	46%	125	51%
Forbearance	7	16%	2	2%	2	29%	4	3%	17	20%	28	11%
AFD or Watch List ⁽¹⁾	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	34%	30	12%
> 30 DPD	1	2%	11	10%	2	29%	13	11%	-	-	14	6%
Other ⁽²⁾	9	21%	41	38%	-	-	41	35%	-	-	50	20%
	44	100%	109	100%	7	100%	116	100%	87	100%	247	100%

	Mortgages		Unsecured						Business		Total	
			Cards		Loans & Overdrafts		Combined					
30 September 2021	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%
PD deterioration	6,100	85%	300	60%	48	86%	348	63%	1,443	59%	7,891	78%
Forbearance	176	2%	11	2%	3	5%	14	3%	374	15%	564	6%
AFD or Watch List ⁽¹⁾	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	584	24%	595	6%
> 30 DPD	146	2%	15	3%	5	9%	20	4%	18	1%	184	2%
Other ⁽²⁾	759	11%	171	35%	-	-	171	30%	12	1%	942	8%
	7,192	100%	497	100%	56	100%	553	100%	2,431	100%	10,176	100%
ECLs												
PD deterioration	43	67%	51	52%	14	74%	65	55%	52	43%	160	53%
Forbearance	4	6%	2	2%	1	5%	3	3%	24	20%	31	10%
AFD or Watch List ⁽¹⁾	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	27%	32	11%
> 30 DPD	2	3%	9	9%	4	21%	13	11%	-	-	15	5%
Other ⁽²⁾	15	24%	37	37%	-	-	37	31%	12	10%	64	21%
	64	100%	99	100%	19	100%	118	100%	120	100%	302	100%

(1) Approaching Financial Difficulty (AFD) and Watch markers are early warning indicators of Business customers who may be approaching financial difficulties. If these indicators are not reversed, they may lead to a requirement for more proactive management by the Group.

(2) Other includes high indebtedness, county court judgement and previous arrears, as well as a number of smaller value drivers.

Risk management

Credit risk

Credit risk exposure, by internal PD rating, by IFRS 9 stage allocation

The distribution of the Group's credit exposures by internal PD rating is analysed below:

31 March 2022		Gross carrying value							
		Stage 1		Stage 2		Stage 3 ⁽¹⁾		Total	
		£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%
Mortgages	PD range								
Strong	0 – 0.74	48,626	93%	3,582	68%	-	-	52,208	90%
Good	0.75 – 2.49	3,292	6%	1,004	19%	-	-	4,296	7%
Satisfactory	2.50 – 99.99	299	1%	697	13%	-	-	996	2%
Default	100	-	-	-	-	630	100%	630	1%
Total		52,217	100%	5,283	100%	630	100%	58,130	100%
Unsecured									
Strong	0 – 2.49	4,937	91%	112	18%	-	-	5,049	82%
Good	2.50 – 9.99	486	9%	348	54%	-	-	834	14%
Satisfactory	10.00 – 99.99	8	-	181	28%	-	-	189	3%
Default	100	-	-	-	-	79	100%	79	1%
Total		5,431	100%	641	100%	79	100%	6,151	100%
Business									
Strong	0 – 0.74	4,616	79%	1,010	50%	-	-	5,626	69%
Good	0.75 – 9.99	1,203	21%	945	47%	-	-	2,148	26%
Satisfactory	10.00 – 99.99	-	-	63	3%	-	-	63	1%
Default	100	-	-	-	-	297	100%	297	4%
Total		5,819	100%	2,018	100%	297	100%	8,134	100%

30 September 2021		Gross carrying value							
		Stage 1		Stage 2		Stage 3 ⁽¹⁾		Total	
		£m	%	£m	%	£m	%	£m	%
Mortgages	PD range								
Strong	0 – 0.74	46,984	93%	4,555	63%	-	-	51,539	88%
Good	0.75 – 2.49	3,313	6%	1,888	27%	-	-	5,201	9%
Satisfactory	2.50 – 99.99	299	1%	749	10%	-	-	1,048	2%
Default	100	-	-	-	-	653	100%	653	1%
Total		50,596	100%	7,192	100%	653	100%	58,441	100%
Unsecured									
Strong	0 – 2.49	4,730	92%	85	15%	-	-	4,815	83%
Good	2.50 – 9.99	411	8%	325	59%	-	-	736	13%
Satisfactory	10.00 – 99.99	7	-	143	26%	-	-	150	3%
Default	100	-	-	-	-	69	100%	69	1%
Total		5,148	100%	553	100%	69	100%	5,770	100%
Business									
Strong	0 – 0.74	3,298	58%	505	21%	-	-	3,803	46%
Good	0.75 – 9.99	2,374	42%	1,821	75%	-	-	4,195	50%
Satisfactory	10.00 – 99.99	-	-	105	4%	-	-	105	1%
Default	100	-	-	-	-	235	100%	235	3%
Total		5,672	100%	2,431	100%	235	100%	8,338	100%

(1) Stage 3 includes POCI of £63m for Mortgages and £1m for Unsecured (30 September 2021: £67m and £2m respectively). Nil for business in both periods.

Risk management

Credit risk

Movement in gross lending balances and impairment loss allowance

The following table shows the changes in the loss allowance and gross carrying value of the portfolios. Values are calculated using the individual customer account balances, and the stage allocation is taken as at the end of each month. The monthly position of each account is aggregated to report a net closing position for the period, thereby incorporating all movements an account has made during the year.

	Stage 1		Stage 2		Stage 3 ⁽¹⁾		Total gross loans	Total provisions
	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL		
31 March 2022	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Opening balance at 1 October 2021	61,416	111	10,176	302	957	91	72,549	504
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(4,614)	(17)	4,587	142	-	-	(27)	125
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	5,287	12	(5,316)	(79)	-	-	(29)	(67)
Transfers to Stage 3	(48)	-	(286)	(43)	332	49	(2)	6
Transfers from Stage 3	24	-	66	5	(91)	(6)	(1)	(1)
Changes to model methodology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New assets originated or purchased ⁽²⁾	10,741	114	719	85	113	21	11,573	220
Repayments and other movements ⁽³⁾	(1,129)	4	(284)	(51)	(43)	(5)	(1,456)	(52)
Repaid or derecognised	(8,210)	(93)	(1,720)	(114)	(200)	(55)	(10,130)	(262)
Write-offs	-	-	-	-	(62)	(62)	(62)	(62)
Cash recoveries	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	15
Individually assessed impairment charge	-	-	-	-	-	53	-	53
Closing balance at 31 March 2022	63,467	131	7,942	247	1,006	101	72,415	479

	Stage 1		Stage 2		Stage 3 ⁽¹⁾		Total gross loans	Total provisions
	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL		
30 September 2021	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Opening balance at 1 October 2020	59,219	136	12,842	465	862	134	72,923	735
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(11,131)	(62)	11,076	389	-	-	(55)	327
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	10,397	58	(10,484)	(284)	-	-	(87)	(226)
Transfers to Stage 3	(115)	(1)	(623)	(91)	734	108	(4)	16
Transfers from Stage 3	33	-	217	23	(253)	(25)	(3)	(2)
Changes to model methodology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New assets originated or purchased ⁽²⁾	19,276	206	1,621	158	132	22	21,029	386
Repayments and other movements ⁽³⁾	(2,955)	(59)	(933)	(140)	(16)	(72)	(3,904)	(271)
Repaid or derecognised	(13,308)	(167)	(3,540)	(218)	(376)	(55)	(17,224)	(440)
Write-offs	-	-	-	-	(126)	(126)	(126)	(126)
Cash recoveries	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	26
Individually assessed impairment charge	-	-	-	-	-	79	-	79
Closing balance at 30 September 2021	61,416	111	10,176	302	957	91	72,549	504

(1) Stage 3 includes POCI for gross loans and advances of £63m for Mortgages and £1m for Unsecured (30 September 2021: £67m and £2m respectively), and ECL of (£1m) for Mortgages and (£2m) for Unsecured (30 September 2021: £Nil and (£2m) respectively). Nil for business in both periods.

(2) Includes assets where the term has ended, and a new facility has been provided.

(3) 'Repayments' comprises payments made on customer lending which are not yet fully paid at the reporting date and the customer arrangement remains live at that date. 'Repaid' refers to payments made on customer lending which is either fully repaid or derecognised by the reporting date and the customer arrangement is therefore closed at that date.

In addition to the above on-balance sheet position, the Group also has £18,326m of loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts (30 September 2021: £17,121m) of which £17,067m (93.1%) are held under Stage 1, £1,222m in Stage 2 and £37m in Stage 3. ECLs of £7m (30 September 2021: £8m) are included in the table above, of which £1m (30 September 2021: £2m) is held under Stage 1 and £6m (30 September 2021: £6m) under Stage 2.

The overall improvement in staging evidenced in a shift from Stage 2 to Stage 1 in the period is driven by a variety of factors at portfolio levels, with further detail provided in the following portfolio performance pages. Customer repayment activity remains strong as customers deleverage as much as possible. Low levels of default are evident across the portfolio.

The contractual amount outstanding on loans and advances that were written off during the reporting period or still subject to enforcement activity was £4.2m (30 September 2021: £2.6m). The Group has not purchased any lending assets in the year (30 September 2021: none). Further information on staging profile is provided at a portfolio level in the respective portfolio performance section on the following pages.

Risk management

Credit risk

Mortgage credit performance

The table below presents key information which is important for understanding the asset quality of the Group's Mortgage portfolio and should be read in conjunction with the supplementary data presented in the following pages of this section.

Breakdown of Mortgage portfolio

	Gross lending £m	Modelled ECL £m	PMA £m	Total ECL £m	Net lending £m	Coverage %	Average LTV %
31 March 2022							
Residential – capital repayment	35,005	14	10	24	34,981	0.06%	56.1%
Residential – interest only	8,296	4	1	5	8,291	0.07%	46.6%
Buy-to-let (BTL)	14,829	6	31	37	14,792	0.24%	54.4%
Total Mortgage portfolio	58,130	24	42	66	58,064	0.11%	54.4%
30 September 2021							
Residential – capital repayment	35,192	19	21	40	35,152	0.10%	57.2%
Residential – interest only	8,341	6	2	8	8,333	0.10%	47.2%
BTL	14,908	8	31	39	14,869	0.24%	54.8%
Total Mortgage portfolio	58,441	33	54	87	58,354	0.15%	55.3%

Mortgage lending reduced in the period to £58.1bn (30 September 2021: £58.4bn) as the Group continued to prioritise margin in an increasingly competitive environment.

The portfolio continues to evidence strong underlying credit performance with 90% of loans held in Stage 1 (30 September 2021: 87%). During the period the volume and value of loans in forbearance has reduced to 4,771 / £662m from 6,743/£830m, this followed the completion of the probation period for some loans and a return to fully performing status. The relative stability in the book and low LTV mix of the portfolio mirrors conditions in the UK housing market, which continues to perform well following the easing of government restrictions applied during the COVID-19 pandemic. The weighted average LTV remains low at 54.4% (30 September 2021: 55.3%). Further detail on LTV bandings and forbearance measures is provided on the following pages.

The stability in the Mortgage portfolio metrics together with the improvement in the applicable economic metrics, such as house prices, have contributed to a release of £9m in the modelled ECL, taking the provision to £24m at 31 March 2022 (from £33m at 30 September 2021). Total PMAs have similarly reduced in the period, as detailed below, from £54m at 30 September 2021 to £42m at 31 March 2022. The total Mortgage portfolio impairment provision therefore stands at £66m at 31 March 2022, down from £87m at 30 September 2021.

The Group has maintained PMA's for the Mortgage portfolio to address the ongoing heightened uncertainty over anticipated future default rates across the portfolio. The most significant of these is the PMA on the BTL portfolio which has held broadly stable at £29m (30 September 2021: £28m) and reflects that the Group continues to take a cautious approach on this component of the loan book. A PMA for payment holidays, which was introduced in 2020 at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, has continued to unwind as customers have successfully exited payment holiday arrangements and returned to normal repayment patterns; this PMA is now £8m at 31 March 2022 (30 September 2021: £22m). In the current environment, with high inflation and rising fuel costs, the Group considers that there is likely to be a group of borrowers who will suffer increased stress from the heightened cost of living pressure; a £3m temporary affordability stress PMA has been introduced in response to this. Other small PMAs totalling £2m (30 September 2021: £4m) have also been retained.

The release of modelled provisions and previously applied PMAs is the primary driver of the impairment credit in the income statement of £21m (12 months to 30 September 2021: credit of £44m) and associated cost of risk of (7)bps for the period (12 months to 30 September 2021: (7)bps). The total book coverage has reduced to 11bps but remains substantially higher than the pre-pandemic level of 7bps.

Risk management

Credit risk

Mortgage credit performance (continued)

Collateral

The quality of the Group's Mortgage portfolio can be considered in terms of the average LTV of the portfolio and the staging of the portfolio, as set out in the following tables:

Average LTV of Mortgage portfolio by staging

31 March 2022	Stage 1			Stage 2			Stage 3 ⁽²⁾			Total		
	Loans £m	%	ECL £m	Loans £m	%	ECL £m	Loans £m	%	ECL £m	Loans £m	%	ECL £m
LTV ⁽¹⁾												
Less than 50%	20,451	39%	2	2,186	42%	6	282	44%	2	22,919	40%	10
50% to 75%	25,753	49%	3	2,700	51%	26	258	41%	3	28,711	50%	32
76% to 80%	3,450	7%	1	262	5%	3	37	6%	1	3,749	6%	5
81% to 85%	1,843	4%	1	111	2%	2	16	3%	1	1,970	3%	4
86% to 90%	523	1%	-	14	-	-	10	2%	1	547	1%	1
91% to 95%	151	-	-	2	-	1	8	1%	-	161	-	1
96% to 100%	11	-	-	3	-	-	4	1%	-	18	-	-
Greater than 100%	35	-	-	5	-	6	15	2%	7	55	-	13
	52,217	100%	7	5,283	100%	44	630	100%	15	58,130	100%	66

30 September 2021	Stage 1			Stage 2			Stage 3 ⁽²⁾			Total		
	Loans £m	%	ECL £m	Loans £m	%	ECL £m	Loans £m	%	ECL £m	Loans £m	%	ECL £m
LTV ⁽¹⁾												
Less than 50%	19,907	39%	1	2,268	32%	6	274	41%	2	22,449	38%	9
50% to 75%	24,383	49%	1	3,648	51%	37	256	39%	3	28,287	49%	41
76% to 80%	3,123	6%	1	729	10%	9	49	8%	1	3,901	7%	11
81% to 85%	2,346	5%	1	426	6%	6	30	5%	1	2,802	5%	8
86% to 90%	715	1%	-	102	1%	3	17	3%	1	834	1%	4
91% to 95%	79	-	-	7	-	-	8	1%	1	94	-	1
96% to 100%	8	-	-	2	-	-	5	1%	-	15	-	-
Greater than 100%	35	-	-	10	-	3	14	2%	10	59	-	13
	50,596	100%	4	7,192	100%	64	653	100%	19	58,441	100%	87

(1) LTV of the Mortgage portfolio is defined as Mortgage portfolio weighted by balance. The portfolio is indexed using the MIAC Acadametrics indices at a given date.

(2) Stage 3 includes £63m (30 September 2021: £67m) of POCI gross loans and advances.

The Mortgage portfolio remains highly secured with 88.8% of mortgages, by loan value, having an indexed LTV of less than 75% (30 September 2021: 86.8%), and an average portfolio LTV of 54.4% (30 September 2021: 55.3%). New lending has increased the value of loans in stage 1 with an LTV between 91% to 95%. The increase from September 2021 is exacerbated as higher LTV lending was not available during most of the lockdown period.

Risk management

Credit risk

Mortgage credit performance (continued)

Forbearance

A key indicator of underlying Mortgage portfolio health is the level of loans subject to forbearance measures. Forbearance can occur when a customer experiences longer-term financial difficulty. In such circumstances, the Group considers the customer's individual circumstances, uses judgement in assessing whether SICR, an impairment or default event has occurred, and then applies tailored forbearance measures in order to support the customer in a route to stability. Customers may potentially be subject to more than one forbearance strategy at any one time where this is considered to be the most appropriate course of action.

The table below summarises the level of forbearance in respect of the Group's Mortgage portfolio at each balance sheet date. All balances subject to forbearance are classed as either Stage 2 or Stage 3 for ECL purposes.

	Total loans and advances subject to forbearance measures			Impairment allowance on loans and advances subject to forbearance measures	
	Number of loans	Gross carrying amount £m	% of total portfolio	Impairment allowance £m	Coverage %
31 March 2022					
Formal arrangements	1,160	137	0.24	5.8	4.26
Temporary arrangements	571	86	0.14	2.7	3.12
Payment arrangement	1,222	128	0.22	0.9	0.67
Payment holiday ⁽¹⁾	281	27	0.05	0.1	0.28
Interest only conversion	1,322	264	0.46	0.9	0.33
Term extension	91	8	0.01	-	0.46
Other	17	2	-	-	0.60
Legal	107	10	0.02	0.2	2.11
Total mortgage forbearance	4,771	662	1.14	10.6	1.60
30 September 2021					
Formal arrangements	1,115	133	0.23	4.9	3.66
Temporary arrangements	675	100	0.17	6.8	6.81
Payment arrangement	1,865	176	0.30	2.3	1.30
Payment holiday ⁽¹⁾	1,436	123	0.21	0.5	0.41
Interest only conversion	1,390	273	0.47	1.3	0.47
Term extension	127	12	0.02	0.1	0.57
Other	19	2	0.01	-	0.68
Legal	116	11	0.02	0.3	3.09
Total mortgage forbearance	6,743	830	1.43	16.2	1.95

(1) In the prior year, payment holidays granted in line with regulation were not classified as forbearance due to the extenuating circumstances arising from COVID-19. The standard approach of classifying payment holidays as forbearance resumed in August 2021.

As at 31 March 2022, forbearance totalled £662m (4,771 customers), a decrease from the 30 September 2021 position of £830m (6,743 customers). This represents 1.14% of total mortgage balances (30 September 2021: 1.43%) with the decrease primarily driven by loans exiting the reporting probation period.

When all other avenues of resolution, including forbearance, have been explored, the Group will take steps to repossess and sell underlying collateral. In the 6 months to 31 March 2022, there were 28 repossessions of which 6 were voluntary (2021 Full year: 33 including 13 voluntary). The key driver of the increase was the removal of the possession moratorium, part of the government's measures to support borrowers throughout COVID-19, part way through 2021 rather than a change in policy as the Group remains committed to supporting the customer and place the right outcome for them at the centre of the strategy.

Risk management

Credit risk

Mortgage credit performance (continued)

IFRS 9 staging

The Group closely monitors the staging profile of the Mortgage portfolio over time which can be indicative of general trends in book health. Movements in the staging profile of the portfolio in the current and prior year are presented in the tables below.

	Stage 1		Stage 2		Stage 3 ⁽¹⁾		Total gross loans £m	Total provisions £m
	Gross loans £m	ECL £m	Gross loans £m	ECL £m	Gross loans £m	ECL £m		
31 March 2022								
Opening balance at 1 October 2021	50,596	4	7,192	64	653	19	58,441	87
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(3,376)	(1)	3,354	29	-	-	(22)	28
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	4,643	2	(4,657)	(34)	-	-	(14)	(32)
Transfers to Stage 3	(24)	-	(102)	(3)	125	2	(1)	(1)
Transfers from Stage 3	15	-	52	3	(68)	(2)	(1)	1
Changes to model methodology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New assets originated or purchased ⁽²⁾	4,409	-	8	-	1	-	4,418	-
Repayments and other movements ⁽³⁾	(893)	2	(78)	(9)	(10)	(2)	(981)	(9)
Repaid or derecognised	(3,153)	-	(486)	(6)	(70)	(1)	(3,709)	(7)
Write-offs	-	-	-	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Cash recoveries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Individually assessed impairment charge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Closing balance at 31 March 2022	52,217	7	5,283	44	630	15	58,130	66

	Stage 1		Stage 2		Stage 3 ⁽¹⁾		Total gross loans £m	Total provisions £m
	Gross loans £m	ECL £m	Gross loans £m	ECL £m	Gross loans £m	ECL £m		
30 September 2021								
Opening balance at 1 October 2020	49,970	14	8,166	95	516	22	58,652	131
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(8,172)	(4)	8,140	113	-	-	(32)	109
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	7,479	5	(7,522)	(101)	-	-	(43)	(96)
Transfers to Stage 3	(64)	-	(367)	(9)	429	7	(2)	(2)
Transfers from Stage 3	24	-	108	13	(137)	(4)	(5)	9
Changes to model methodology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New assets originated or purchased ⁽²⁾	9,662	2	76	2	2	-	9,740	4
Repayments and other movements ⁽³⁾	(2,141)	(11)	(405)	(36)	(38)	(3)	(2,584)	(50)
Repaid or derecognised	(6,162)	(2)	(1,004)	(13)	(118)	(2)	(7,284)	(17)
Write-offs	-	-	-	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Cash recoveries	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Individually assessed impairment charge	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	(1)
Closing balance at 30 September 2021	50,596	4	7,192	64	653	19	58,441	87

(1) Stage 3 includes POCI for gross loans and advances of £63m (30 September 2021: £67m), and ECL of (£1m) (30 September 2021: £Nil).

(2) Includes assets where the term has ended, and a new facility has been provided.

(3) 'Repayments' comprises payments made on customer lending which are not yet fully paid at the reporting date and the customer arrangement remains live at that date. 'Repaid' refers to payments made on customer lending which is either fully repaid or derecognised by the reporting date and the customer arrangement is therefore closed at that date.

Despite the economic uncertainty, the Mortgage portfolio continues to evidence strong performance and benefits from relatively positive economic forecasts. This has combined to increase the level of mortgage lending classed as Stage 1 to 89.8% (30 September 2021: 86.6%), with a corresponding decrease of assets in Stage 2 from 12.3% to 9.1%. Of the Stage 2 category, 8.6% is not yet past due at the balance sheet date (30 September 2021: 11.8% not yet past due) but fall into the Stage 2 classification due predominantly to PD deterioration. The proportion of mortgages classified as Stage 3 remains modest at 1.1% (30 September 2021: 1.1%).

These conditions have also contributed to an increase in assets classed as 'Strong' from 88% at 30 September 2021 to 90% at 31 March 2022, with over 97% (30 September 2021: 97%) of the Mortgage portfolio now classed as 'Good' or 'Strong'.

The sustained quality in the internal PD ratings and high quality of collateral underpinning the book are key factors supporting the lower level of provision coverage required.

Risk management

Credit risk

Unsecured credit performance

The table below presents key information which is important for understanding the asset quality of the Group's Unsecured lending portfolio and should be read in conjunction with the supplementary data presented in the following pages of this section.

Breakdown of Unsecured credit portfolio

	Gross lending £m	Modelled ECL £m	PMA £m	Total ECL £m	Net lending £m	Coverage %
31 March 2022						
Credit cards	5,116	163	36	199	4,917	4.22%
Personal loans	1,002	11	8	19	983	2.59%
Overdrafts	32	3	-	3	29	11.96%
Total Unsecured lending portfolio	6,150	177	44	221	5,929	4.04%
30 September 2021						
Credit cards	4,655	142	18	160	4,495	3.79%
Personal loans	1,082	14	17	31	1,051	3.57%
Overdrafts	33	3	-	3	30	11.14%
Total Unsecured lending portfolio	5,770	159	35	194	5,576	3.80%

Unsecured gross lending balances increased to £6.2bn (30 September 2021: £5.8bn) led by above market growth in credit card balances.

The quality of the Unsecured portfolio remains high, with 98.0% of the portfolio in Stage 1 or Stage 2 not past due (30 September 2021: 98.1%), and a modest 1.3% in Stage 3 (30 September 2021: 1.2%). The level of customers in forbearance remains very low at 1.14% of the portfolio at 31 March 2022 (30 September 2021: 1.30%).

There has been an overall increase in the modelled provision to £177m (30 September 2021: £159m), primarily in the Cards portfolio where a number of drivers, such as a widening of risk appetite, an increase in early stage arrears and a return to more normalised customer indebtedness model inputs, combine to more than offset the positive impact of the current macroeconomics. PMAs continue to feature in this portfolio. As with the Mortgage portfolio, a COVID-19 related payment holiday PMA was established at the outset of the pandemic and, similar to Mortgages, has unwound as anticipated to £3m at 31 March 2022 (30 September 2021: £12m). Other PMAs introduced in prior periods to address specific factors not currently incorporated in the models have remained relatively stable at £18m (30 September 2021: £23m). Lastly, a new affordability PMA of £23m (£22m for Cards, £1m for Personal loans) has been introduced in the period to address the short-term risk of customers suffering increased stress from the heightened cost of living pressure in the current environment. The overall PMAs in the unsecured portfolio have therefore increased to £44m at 31 March 2022 (30 September 2021: £35m).

As a result, the total ECL provision at 31 March 2022 is £221m (30 September 2021: £194m), giving rise to an impairment charge in the income statement in the period of £69m (12 months to 30 September 2021: credit of £32m).

The coverage ratio for the whole Unsecured portfolio has increased to 404bps (30 September 2021: 380bps), driven mainly by the increase in coverage for our high-quality credit card portfolio focused on more affluent customers, which has increased from coverage of 379bps at 30 September 2021 to 422bps at 31 March 2022 and reflects a considered shift in risk appetite.

Risk management

Credit risk

Unsecured credit performance (continued)

Forbearance

The table below summarises the level of forbearance in respect of the Group's Unsecured lending portfolios at each balance sheet date. All balances subject to forbearance are classed as either Stage 2 or Stage 3 for ECL purposes.

	Total loans and advances subject to forbearance measures			Impairment allowance on loans and advances subject to forbearance measures	
	Number of loans	Gross carrying amount £m	% of total portfolio	Impairment allowance £m	Coverage %
31 March 2022					
Credit cards arrangements	14,247	58	1.22%	22.7	39.32%
Loans arrangements	836	5	0.65%	2.1	44.54%
Overdraft arrangement	73	-	0.04%	-	38.52%
Total Unsecured lending forbearance⁽¹⁾	15,156	63	1.14%	24.8	39.61%
30 September 2021					
Credit cards arrangements	14,151	60	1.39%	23.9	39.88%
Loans arrangements	1,174	6	0.78%	3.3	49.61%
Overdraft arrangement	280	1	2.55%	0.4	51.89%
Total Unsecured lending forbearance⁽¹⁾	15,605	67	1.30%	27.6	40.98%

(1) In the prior year, payment holidays granted in line with regulation were not classified as forbearance due to the extenuating circumstances arising from COVID-19. The standard approach of classifying payment holidays as forbearance resumed in August 2021.

The full credit card forbearance portfolio is now reported in line with the EBA financial reporting guidelines and accounts are retained in the reporting for a minimum of 2 years, previously 1 year for some heritage VM accounts, and the prior period shown has been restated to the current methodology. All portfolios are now reported on the EBA financial reporting requirements.

As at 31 March 2022, credit cards forbearance totalled £58m (14,247 accounts), a decrease from the 30 September 2021 position of £60m (14,151 accounts). This represents 1.22% of total credit cards balances (30 September 2021: 1.39%). The level of impairment coverage on forborne loans is stable at 39.3% from 39.9% at 30 September 2021. Limited forbearance is exercised in relation to Personal loans and overdrafts, with a modest reduction to £5m (0.63%) of the loans and overdrafts portfolio from £7m (0.85%) at 30 September 2021.

Risk management

Credit risk

Unsecured credit performance (continued)

IFRS 9 staging

The Group closely monitors the staging profile of its Unsecured lending portfolio over time which can be indicative of general trends in book health. Movements in the staging profile of the portfolio in the current and prior year are presented in the tables below:

	Stage 1		Stage 2		Stage 3 ⁽¹⁾		Total gross loans	Total provisions
	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL		
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
31 March 2022								
Opening balance at 1 October 2021	5,148	41	553	118	69	35	5,770	194
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(468)	(10)	468	94	-	-	-	84
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	232	6	(242)	(31)	-	-	(10)	(25)
Transfers to Stage 3	(9)	-	(57)	(35)	68	42	2	7
Transfers from Stage 3	1	-	1	1	(3)	(3)	(1)	(2)
Changes to model methodology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New assets originated or purchased ⁽²⁾	994	12	11	4	6	5	1,011	21
Repayments and other movements ⁽³⁾	(142)	24	(66)	(26)	(1)	(1)	(209)	(3)
Repaid or derecognised	(325)	(7)	(27)	(9)	(6)	(38)	(358)	(54)
Write-offs	-	-	-	-	(54)	(54)	(54)	(54)
Cash recoveries	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	12
Individually assessed impairment charge	-	-	-	-	-	41	-	41
Closing balance at 31 March 2022	5,431	66	641	116	79	39	6,151	221

	Stage 1		Stage 2		Stage 3 ⁽¹⁾		Total gross loans	Total provisions
	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL		
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
30 September 2021								
Opening balance at 1 October 2020	4,660	70	823	194	67	37	5,550	301
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(954)	(32)	951	209	-	-	(3)	177
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	859	21	(890)	(113)	-	-	(31)	(92)
Transfers to Stage 3	(19)	(1)	(100)	(68)	119	80	-	11
Transfers from Stage 3	2	-	3	2	(5)	(5)	-	(3)
Changes to model methodology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New assets originated or purchased ⁽²⁾	1,319	17	38	6	1	-	1,358	23
Repayments and other movements ⁽³⁾	(493)	(28)	(217)	(98)	15	(52)	(695)	(178)
Repaid or derecognised	(226)	(6)	(55)	(14)	(29)	(25)	(310)	(45)
Write-offs	-	-	-	-	(99)	(99)	(99)	(99)
Cash recoveries	-	-	-	-	-	24	-	24
Individually assessed impairment charge	-	-	-	-	-	75	-	75
Closing balance at 30 September 2021	5,148	41	553	118	69	35	5,770	194

(1) Stage 3 includes POCI for gross loans and advances of £1m (30 September 2021: £2m), and ECL of (£2m) (30 September 2021: (£2m)).

(2) Includes assets where the term has ended, and a new facility has been provided.

(3) 'Repayments' comprises payments made on customer lending which are not yet fully paid at the reporting date and the customer arrangement remains live at that date. 'Repaid' refers to payments made on customer lending which is either fully repaid or derecognised by the reporting date and the customer arrangement is therefore closed at that date.

The balance of unsecured lending in Stage 2 increased by 0.8% to 10.4% (30 September 2021: 9.6%), driven primarily by a conscious widening of risk appetite, an increase in early stage arrears and a return to more normalised customer indebtedness model inputs from that seen from the cyclical lows during lockdown. This resulted in a corresponding reduction in Stage 1 from 89.1% to 88.2% while Stage 3 remains modest at 1.3% (30 September 2021: 1.2%).

The short-term risk on credit performance attributable to the cost of living crisis has the potential to affect customers currently in Stage 1 and may lead to increased levels of arrears and defaults. The affordability PMA of £23m has been established to mitigate this risk on the book.

Risk management

Credit risk

Business credit performance

The table below presents key information which is important for understanding the asset quality of the Group's Business lending portfolio and should be read in conjunction with the supplementary data presented in the following pages of this section.

Breakdown of Business credit portfolio

	Gross lending £m	Government ⁽¹⁾ £m	Total gross £m	Model- led ECL £m	PMA £m	Total ECL £m	Net lending £m	Cover- age ⁽²⁾ %
31 March 2022								
Agriculture	1,323	72	1,395	6	5	11	1,384	0.80%
Business services	864	305	1,169	25	22	47	1,122	4.65%
Commercial Real Estate	612	10	622	2	1	3	619	0.58%
Government, health and education	1,032	64	1,096	8	11	19	1,077	1.75%
Hospitality	580	92	672	4	6	10	662	1.69%
Manufacturing	589	127	716	22	15	37	679	5.48%
Resources	106	8	114	2	3	5	109	4.34%
Retail and wholesale trade	634	222	856	12	12	24	832	3.41%
Transport and storage	280	72	352	4	3	7	345	2.13%
Other	928	214	1,142	14	15	29	1,113	3.04%
Total Business portfolio	6,948	1,186	8,134	99	93	192	7,942	2.58%
30 September 2021								
Agriculture	1,361	80	1,441	7	5	12	1,429	0.89%
Business services	943	337	1,280	21	27	48	1,232	4.82%
Commercial Real Estate	667	13	680	4	3	7	673	1.00%
Government, health and education	1,031	73	1,104	7	10	17	1,087	1.62%
Hospitality	563	105	668	6	7	13	655	2.29%
Manufacturing	556	144	700	22	21	43	657	6.93%
Resources	95	8	103	3	4	7	96	6.85%
Retail and wholesale trade	623	248	871	14	14	28	843	4.13%
Transport and storage	300	80	380	4	4	8	372	2.50%
Other	881	230	1,111	17	23	40	1,071	4.42%
Total Business portfolio	7,020	1,318	8,338	105	118	223	8,115	3.06%

(1) Government includes all lending provided to business customers under UK Government schemes including BBLS, CBILS, CLBILS and RLS. When onboarding, some new borrowers for BBLS loans were coded as business services; a portion of these may be reclassified over time. This excludes £38m (30 September 2021: £Nil) of guarantee claim funds received from British Business Bank.

(2) Coverage ratio excludes the guaranteed element of government-backed loan schemes.

Risk management

Credit risk

Business credit performance (continued)

Gross Business lending reduced to £8.1bn (30 September 2021: £8.3bn) principally driven by reductions in government-guaranteed lending schemes as borrowers continued to repay balances following the expiry of the 1-year interest free period. Excluding the government lending, balances were broadly stable given generally subdued market activity, with signs of growth in Q2 in line with broader economic recovery and improved business confidence. Growth is targeted to sectors and sub sectors where we have well established expertise.

There has been no deterioration in asset quality metrics across the portfolio and, as yet, no significant increase in specific provision recognition. The lending book continues to be biased away from sectors likely to experience more disruption from higher cost of living such as hospitality and retail, and towards sectors expected to be resilient, such as agriculture and health and social care. However, there are many external risks which could develop in 2022 including geopolitical, general inflationary pressures, interest rate rises, ongoing supply chain distribution and labour market disruption, in addition to our customers' increased debt burden and fatigue from crisis management.

The pressure on cash flow is expected to be a notable challenge in 2022 compared to 2021 when the positive impact of government and other support provided some breathing space. Repayments on government support loans, together with deferred HMRC and other creditor payments, are now due, albeit Time to Pay and Pay as You Grow schemes can provide assistance.

The stable economic conditions experienced to date result in an increase in the proportion of loans in Stage 1 from 68.0% at 30 September 2021 to 71.5% at 31 March 2022. Total balances in Stage 1 and Stage 2 not past due is c.£7.8bn representing 95.8% of the portfolio (30 September 2021: £8.1bn representing 96.7% of the portfolio). Of the Stage 2 loans, 95% were rated 'Strong' or 'Good' (30 September 2021: 96%). Stage 3 loans remain modest at 3.7%. Government interventions, including the ongoing loan schemes, continue to result in a reduced requirement for granting of forbearance; low levels were maintained with only 5.33% of the total portfolio being forborne at 31 March 2022 (30 September 2021: 5.82%).

The refreshed macroeconomic scenarios resulted in a small reduction of £6m in modelled provisions to £99m. At 30 September 2021, the Group recognised PMAs for Sector stress (£80m) and PD neutralisation (£34m) together with other minor factors (£4m); each of these PMAs has been reviewed in the current period. While the removal of all practical COVID-19 restrictions is seen as a move away from the downside impact of the pandemic and is a rationale for a reduction in some sector stress, more recent geopolitical events in Ukraine and the widely publicised cost of living crisis in the UK contribute to ongoing uncertainty over the impact that these broader economic conditions could have on UK businesses. As a result, the same sectors have been reviewed and there is only a modest release of £3m to the Sector Stress PMA which is now £77m at 31 March 2022. The PD neutralisation PMA introduced in 2021 has been retained, however the methodology has been updated to be anchored to a pre-COVID PD of 2.01%, resulting in a provision release of £21m and a PMA of £13m at 31 March 2022. The other small PMAs are broadly unchanged at £3m. This results in an overall provision of £192m (30 September 2021: £223m) which has driven an impairment credit in the income statement of £27m in the period (12 months to 30 September 2021: credit of £55m).

Overall, portfolio coverage remains prudent at 258bps (30 September 2021: 306bps), reflecting the high quality of the portfolio and little evidence of deterioration in asset quality to date. A cautious position has been maintained through the targeted approach to PMAs, with coverage over those sectors most susceptible to further economic shocks remaining elevated.

Risk management

Credit risk

Business credit performance (continued)

Forbearance

Forbearance is considered to exist where customers are experiencing or about to experience financial difficulty and the Group grants a concession on a non-commercial basis. The Group reports business forbearance at a customer level and at a value which incorporates all facilities and the related impairment allowance, irrespective of whether each individual facility is subject to forbearance. Authority to grant forbearance measures for business customers is held by the Group's Strategic Business Services unit and is exercised, where appropriate, on the basis of detailed consideration of the customer's financial position and prospects.

Where a customer is part of a larger group, forbearance is exercised and reported across the Group at the individual entity level. Where modification of the terms and conditions of an exposure meeting the criteria for classification as forbearance results in derecognition of loans and advances from the balance sheet and the recognition of a new exposure, the new exposure shall be treated as forborne.

The tables below summarise the total number of arrangements in place and the loan balances and impairment provisions associated with those arrangements. All balances subject to forbearance are classed as either Stage 2 or Stage 3 for ECL purposes.

	Total loans and advances subject to forbearance measures			Impairment allowance on loans and advances subject to forbearance measures	
	Number of loans	Gross carrying amount £m	% of total portfolio	Impairment allowance £m	Coverage %
31 March 2022					
Term extension	175	161	1.88	9.2	5.72
Payment holiday ⁽¹⁾	79	145	1.68	24.3	16.81
Reduction in contracted interest rate	2	1	0.01	-	1.37
Alternative forms of payment	-	-	-	-	-
Debt forgiveness	1	-	-	-	1.60
Refinancing	11	3	0.04	0.3	8.24
Covenant breach/reset/waiver	48	148	1.72	8.5	5.74
Total Business forbearance	316	458	5.33	42.3	9.24

30 September 2021

Term extension	188	196	2.27%	10.2	5.19%
Payment holiday ⁽¹⁾	86	130	1.51%	17.6	13.48%
Reduction in contracted interest rate	1	1	0.01%	-	0.02%
Alternative forms of payment	1	13	0.15%	5.6	43.14%
Debt forgiveness	2	4	0.04%	-	0.67%
Refinancing	10	3	0.04%	0.2	7.21%
Covenant breach/reset/waiver	44	155	1.80%	8.2	5.27%
Total Business forbearance	332	502	5.82%	41.8	8.31%

(1) In the prior year, payment holidays granted in line with regulation were not classified as forbearance due to the extenuating circumstances arising from COVID-19. The standard approach of classifying payment holidays as forbearance has resumed in August 2021.

Business portfolio forbearance has reduced from £502m (332 customers) at 30 September 2021 to £458m (316 customers) at 31 March 2022. Forbearance remains an important metric, reflecting the volume and value of concessions granted to customers on a non-commercial basis. Changes to forbearance levels reflect the proportion of business customers requiring support on non-standard terms and evidencing financial difficulty. As a percentage of the Business portfolio, forborne balances have reduced to 5.33% (30 September 2021: 5.82%) with impairment coverage slightly increasing to 9.24% (30 September 2021: 8.31%). The majority of forbearance arrangements relate to term extensions allowing customers a longer term to repay their obligations in full than initially contracted.

Customers within the forbearance portfolio have received £31m of COVID-19 related support loans: £5m CLBIL, £16m CBIL, £5m BBL and £5m RLS.

The table includes a portfolio of financial assets at fair value. The gross value of fair value loans subject to forbearance as at 31 March 2022 is £5.3m (30 September 2021: £5.3m), representing 0.06% of the total business portfolio (30 September 2021: 0.06%). The credit risk adjustment on these amounts totalled £0.1m (30 September 2021: £0.1m). Coverage is 2.38% (30 September 2021: 2.32%).

Risk management

Credit risk

Business credit performance (continued)

IFRS 9 staging

The Group closely monitors the staging profile of its Business lending portfolio over time which can be indicative of general trends in book health. Movements in the staging profile of the portfolio in the current and prior year are presented in the tables below.

	Stage 1		Stage 2		Stage 3		Total gross loans	Total provisions
	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL		
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
31 March 2022								
Opening balance at 1 October 2021	5,672	66	2,431	120	235	37	8,338	223
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(770)	(6)	765	19	-	-	(5)	13
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	412	4	(417)	(14)	-	-	(5)	(10)
Transfers to Stage 3	(15)	-	(127)	(5)	139	5	(3)	-
Transfers from Stage 3	8	-	13	1	(20)	(1)	1	-
Changes to model methodology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New assets originated or purchased ⁽¹⁾	5,338	102	700	81	106	16	6,144	199
Repayments and other movements ⁽²⁾	(94)	(22)	(140)	(16)	(32)	(2)	(266)	(40)
Repaid or derecognised	(4,732)	(86)	(1,207)	(99)	(124)	(16)	(6,063)	(201)
Write-offs	-	-	-	-	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)
Cash recoveries	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Individually assessed impairment charge	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	12
Closing balance at 31 March 2022	5,819	58	2,018	87	297	47	8,134	192

	Stage 1		Stage 2		Stage 3		Total gross loans	Total provisions
	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL	Gross loans	ECL		
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
30 September 2021								
Opening balance at 1 October 2020	4,589	52	3,853	176	279	75	8,721	303
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(2,005)	(26)	1,985	67	-	-	(20)	41
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	2,059	32	(2,072)	(70)	-	-	(13)	(38)
Transfers to Stage 3	(32)	-	(156)	(14)	186	21	(2)	7
Transfers from Stage 3	7	-	106	8	(111)	(16)	2	(8)
Changes to model methodology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New assets originated or purchased ⁽¹⁾	8,295	187	1,507	150	129	22	9,931	359
Repayments and other movements ⁽²⁾	(321)	(20)	(311)	(6)	7	(17)	(625)	(43)
Repaid or derecognised	(6,920)	(159)	(2,481)	(191)	(229)	(28)	(9,630)	(378)
Write-offs	-	-	-	-	(26)	(26)	(26)	(26)
Cash recoveries	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Individually assessed impairment charge	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5
Closing balance at 30 September 2021	5,672	66	2,431	120	235	37	8,338	223

(1) Includes assets where the term has ended, and a new facility has been provided.

(2) 'Repayments' comprises payments made on customer lending which are not yet fully paid at the reporting date and the customer arrangement remains live at that date. 'Repaid' refers to payments made on customer lending which is either fully repaid or derecognised by the reporting date and the customer arrangement is therefore closed at that date.

Despite the economic uncertainty, the level of Business lending classed as Stage 1 has remained relatively stable at 71.5% (30 September 2021: 68.0%), with a reduction in Stage 2 from 29.2% at 31 March 2022 to 24.8% at 30 September 2021. The proportion of the portfolio in Stage 2 does remain heightened, reflective of the Group's prudent approach to early deterioration and support measures such as forbearance. As at 31 March 2022, 58% of balances in Stage 2 are associated with a deterioration in PD (30 September 2021: 59%). Business loans in Stage 3 remain modest at 3.7% (30 September 2021: 2.8%).

The PDs for Business lending combine both internal ratings information and forward-looking economic forecasts. The material drivers of the PD and stage migrations in the period are the economic forecasts, rather than internal downgrades or the emergence of arrears or defaults. The proportion of assets classed as 'Strong' has increased to 69% (30 September 2021: 46%), with assets classed as 'Good' correspondingly decreasing to 26% (30 September 2021: 50%). 95% of the business portfolio is categorised as 'Strong' or 'Good' (30 September 2021: 96%).

Risk management

Credit risk

Macroeconomic assumptions, scenarios and weightings

The Group's ECL allowance at 31 March 2022 was £479m (30 September 2021: £504m).

Macroeconomic assumptions

The Group engages OE to provide a wide range of future macroeconomic assumptions which are used in the scenarios over the five-year forecast period, reflecting the best estimate of future conditions under each scenario. The Group has identified the following key macroeconomic drivers as the most significant inputs for IFRS 9 modelling purposes: UK GDP growth, inflation, house prices, base rates, and unemployment rates. The external data provided is assessed and reviewed on a quarterly basis to ensure appropriateness and relevance to the ECL calculation, with more frequent updates provided as and when the circumstances require them. Further adjustments supplement the modelled output when it is considered that not all the risks identified in a product segment have been accurately reflected within the models or for other situations where it is not possible to provide a modelled outcome.

As the UK economy continues to recover from the impact of COVID-19, and the effect of the Omicron variant does seem to have been as profound as had been anticipated in Q4 2021, the outlook continues to be more optimistic than it was at this point in 2021 especially with the ending of self-isolation restrictions. Recent bank base rate rises, concerns over energy prices, the increase in national insurance contributions, and the headwinds from higher inflation will all have an impact on household incomes in 2022. The potential impact on the UK economy of the Russian invasion of Ukraine is uncertain at this time. Against this environment, the Group has continued to assess the possible IFRS 9 economic scenarios to select appropriate forecasts and weightings. The selection of scenarios and the appropriate weighting to apply are considered and debated by an internal review panel each quarter with final proposed recommendations for use in the IFRS 9 models made to Asset and Liability Committee (ALCO) for formal approval. The three scenarios selected, together with the weightings applied, have been updated to reflect the current economic environment and are:

Scenario	31 Mar 2022 (%)	30 Sept 2021 (%)
Upside	10	15
Base	55	50
Downside	35	35

The Group continued to select three scenarios with the largest weighting applied to the base scenario. In the current period, there is a 5% shift in the weightings from the Upside scenario towards the Base scenario, reflecting greater confidence in the Base scenario over the short term as a result of the updated macroeconomic assumptions. The Group are comfortable with the current weighting applied to the Downside scenario and see no compelling reasons why this should be adjusted at this time.

Upside (10%)⁽¹⁾

- GDP increased sharply by 8.1% in the first quarter of 2022 (Q1 2022 v Q1 2021), before slowing down to a c.4.0% increase in each of the remaining quarters in 2022. Overall year-on-year growth in 2022 is forecast at 5.0% with a slight decrease to 4.4% in 2023 before reverting to more modest increases over the remainder of the forecast period.
- Inflation rises steeply and peaks at 7.8% in Q2 2022 from a low base of 0.6% at Q1 2021. This reverts back to sub 2.0% levels from Q1 2024 for much of the remaining forecast period.
- BoE base rate rises are anticipated throughout 2022 and are expected to continue through 2023 and into 2024, reaching 2.3% in Q1 2024. Base rate continues at that level for the remainder of the forecast period.
- HPI rises modestly in each quarter over the entire forecast period. Overall, HPI sees Q4 v Q4 growth of 9.7% in 2022 declining to 1.7% in 2023 before rising again to between 2.4% and 2.9% over the next three years.
- Unemployment peaks in Q1 2022, at 4.1%, and drops to 3.5% in Q4 2022. From then, there is no significant movement over the remaining forecast period, reaching 3.7% in Q1 2025 where it remains until the end of 2026.

Base (55%)

- GDP increases sharply by 8.1% in the first quarter of 2022 (Q1 2022 v Q1 2021) before contracting in Q2 2022, with overall year-on-year growth in 2022 forecast at 3.8%, and modestly falling to 2.6% in 2023. GDP settles over the remaining forecast period at between 1.7% and 1.9%.
- Inflation peaks at 7.5% in Q2 2022 before scaling back and reverting to under 2% in Q2 2023. This rises slightly and remains at 2% from Q4 2025 for the remaining forecast period.
- BoE base rate hits 1.2% in Q3 2022 and rise steadily over the forecast period reaching 1.7% in Q3 2025 and remaining there throughout 2026.
- HPI sees steady rises between Q1 2022 to Q4 2022 before modestly declining from then until Q2 2024 when it rebounds slowly in each quarter after this until the end of the forecast period. Overall, HPI sees Q4 v Q4 year-on-year growth of 5.4% in 2022 which regresses to (14.7%) in 2023 and remains negative until 2026 where it reverts to positive growth of 4.4%.
- Unemployment peaks at 4.1% in Q1 2022 and drops to 3.5% in Q3 2022. From then, there is no significant movement with unemployment averaging at 4% in 2022 and steadily declining and reaching 3.7% in 2025 and remaining there for 2026.

(1) The time periods referenced in this section relate to calendar years unless otherwise stated.

Risk management

Credit risk

Macroeconomic assumptions (continued)

Downside (35%)

- GDP increases to 8.1% (Q1 2022 v Q1 2021) before turning negative for the three remaining quarters in 2022 to (3.7%) by the end of 2022 (Q4 2022 v Q4 2021) and remains sluggish over the remaining forecast period. The overall year-on-year negative growth of 0.3% in 2022 returns positive in 2024 at 1.2% and increases slightly over the next two years finishing at 1.9% in 2026.
- Inflation peaks at 6.4% in Q2 2022 before declining and turning negative in Q2 2023 and remains negative for the remainder of 2023. From there, inflation rises steadily each quarter reaching 2.3% in Q3 2025 before falling back again and finishing in Q4 2026 at 1.6%.
- The BoE base rate reaches 0.8% in Q2 2022 before steadily falling back to 0.3% in Q3 2023 where it is unchanged for the remaining forecast period.
- HPI falls steadily and deeply from Q1 2022 to Q1 2025 but then experiences modest increases in each quarter until the end of the forecast period but finishes well below the levels experienced in 2021. Overall, HPI sees a Q4 v Q4 decline of (5.5%) in 2022 worsening to (16.52%) by 2024 and not turning positive until 2026.
- Unemployment peaks at 6.6% in Q1 2024 and remains at over 6.0% for the remainder of the forecast period. Overall, unemployment averages at 5.6% in 2022 rising to 6.6% by 2024 before falling modestly to finish at 6.3% in 2026.

Five-year simple averages for the most sensitive inputs of unemployment, GDP and HPI

	Unemployment	GDP	HPI
	%	%	%
31 March 2022			
Upside	3.7	3.1	3.9
Base	3.8	2.4	2.0
Downside	6.3	0.8	(6.9)
30 September 2021			
Upside	3.9	4.6	4.6
Base	4.3	3.8	2.1
Downside	6.5	2.1	(5.8)

Risk management

Credit risk

The use of estimates, judgements and sensitivity analysis

The following are the main areas where estimates and judgements are applied to the ECL calculation:

The use of estimates

Economic scenarios

The calculation of the Group's impairment provision is sensitive to changes in the chosen weightings as highlighted above. The effect on the closing modelled provision of each portfolio as a result of applying a 100% weighting to each of the selected scenarios is shown below:

	Probability Weighted ⁽¹⁾ £m	Upside £m	Base £m	Downside £m
31 March 2022				
Mortgages	16	12	13	27
Unsecured of which:	178	174	173	187
<i>Cards</i>	163	161	160	170
<i>Personal loans and overdrafts</i>	15	13	13	17
Business	68	44	52	123
Total	262	230	238	337

(1) In addition to the probability weighted modelled provision shown in the table, the Group holds £179m relative to PMAs (30 September 2021: £207m) and £39m of individually assessed provision (30 September 2021: £31m).

	Probability Weighted £m	Upside £m	Base £m	Downside £m
30 September 2021				
Mortgages	24	16	19	37
Unsecured of which:	159	155	155	167
<i>Cards</i>	142	139	139	147
<i>Personal loans and overdrafts</i>	17	16	16	20
Business	83	47	61	127
Total	266	218	235	331

One of the criteria for moving exposures between stages is the PD which incorporates macroeconomic factors. As a result, the stage allocation will be different in each scenario and so the probability weighted ECL cannot be recalculated using the scenario ECL provided and the scenario weightings.

Certain asset classes are less sensitive to specific macroeconomic factors, showing lower relative levels of sensitivity. To ensure appropriate levels of ECL, the relative lack of sensitivity is compensated for through the application of PMAs, further detail of which can be found on page 32.

Within each portfolio, the following are the macroeconomic inputs which are more sensitive and therefore more likely to drive the move from Stage 1 to Stage 2 under a stress scenario:

Mortgages: Unemployment and HPI

Unsecured: Unemployment

Business: Unemployment, HPI, GDP and interest rates

In addition to assessing the ECL impact of applying a 100% weighting to each of the three chosen scenarios, the Group has also considered what the effect of changes to a few key economic inputs would make to the modelled ECL output.

The Group considers that the unemployment rate and HPI are the inputs that would have the most significant and sensitive ECL impact and has assessed how these would change the ECL across the relevant portfolios, with the reported output assessed against the base case. All changes have been implemented as immediate effects seen within the first year of the base case scenario, persisting throughout the scenario.

Risk management

Credit risk

The use of estimates (continued)

The following table discloses the ECL impact of HPI changes on the Group's Mortgage and Business lending:

	31 Mar 2022	30 Sept 2021
	£m	£m
Mortgages +10%	(1)	(2)
Business +10%	(2)	(2)
Mortgages -10%	1	3
Business -10%	1	3

Unemployment is a key input that affects all of the Group's lending categories and the following table highlights the ECL impact of a one percent change in the unemployment rate:

	31 Mar 2022	30 Sept 2021
	£m	£m
Mortgages +1%	1	1
Unsecured +1%	5	4
Business +1%	5	6
Mortgages -1%	-	(1)
Unsecured -1%	(5)	(4)
Business -1%	(3)	(4)

Altering the basis of how the changes are reflected would produce different results, with a sharper rise or decline in unemployment having a much more material ECL impact.

While the above sensitivities provide a view of how the ECL would be impacted based on these single changes, such changes would not ordinarily occur in isolation and the economic inputs used are linked within each chosen scenario.

The use of judgement

SICR

Judgement is required in determining the point at which a SICR has occurred, as this is the point at which a 12-month ECL is replaced by a lifetime ECL. The Group has developed a series of triggers that indicate where a SICR has occurred when assessing exposures for the risk of default occurring at each reporting date compared to the risk at origination. There is no single factor that influences this decision, rather a combination of different criteria that enables the Group to make an assessment based on the quantitative and qualitative information available. This includes the impact of forward-looking macroeconomic factors but excludes the existence of any collateral implications.

Indicators of a SICR include deterioration of the residual lifetime PD by set thresholds which are unique to each product portfolio, non-default forbearance programmes, and watch list status. The Group adopts the backstop position that a SICR will have taken place when the financial asset reaches 30 DPD.

The Group does not have a set absolute threshold by which the PD would have to increase by in establishing that a SICR has occurred, and has implemented an approach with the required SICR threshold trigger varying on a portfolio and product basis according to the origination PD.

Risk management

Credit risk

The use of judgement (continued)

Changes to the overall SICR thresholds can also impact staging, driving accounts into higher stages with the resultant impact on the ECL allowance:

	31 Mar 2022	30 Sept 2021
	£m	£m
A 10% movement in the mortgage portfolio from Stage 1 to Stage 2 ⁽¹⁾	+5	+6
A 10% movement in the credit card portfolio from Stage 1 to Stage 2 ⁽¹⁾	+76	+69
A 10% movement in the business portfolio from Stage 1 to Stage 2 ⁽¹⁾	+13	+13
A PD stress which increases PDs upwards by 20% for all portfolios	+91	+94

(1) The comparative has been restated in line with current year presentation.

Definition of default

The PD of a credit exposure is a key input to the measurement of the ECL allowance. Default under Stage 3 occurs when there is evidence that a customer is experiencing significant financial difficulty which is likely to affect the ability to repay amounts due. The Group utilises the 90 DPD backstop for default purposes.

PMA

At 31 March 2022, £179m of PMAs (30 September 2021: £207m) are included within the total ECL provision of £479m (30 September 2021: £504m).

These are management judgements which impact the ECL provision by increasing the collectively assessed modelled output where not all of the known risks identified in a particular product segment have been accurately reflected within the models and are described in more detail below:

Mortgages: as the impact of the wind-down in payment holidays recedes, a reduced adjustment is held for COVID-19 reasons. The Group continued to monitor the level of ECL held on BTL mortgages in the year due to uncertainty of the extended impact on landlords and that of their tenants. A new PMA is now held to reflect an impact on debt affordability as a result of rising energy prices and other inflationary effects.

Unsecured: as with Mortgages, reduced PMAs for the customer group who used payment holidays are held. This is more than offset with the new PMA for debt affordability and likely customers' reduced disposable incomes. As a result, PMAs rose as a proportion of ECLs for Unsecured lending.

Business: unlike Retail, the effects of the government measures put in place for businesses throughout COVID-19 are still thought to be a material dampening effect on the levels of insolvency and default compared to long-term UK trends, with concerns on how businesses will adapt once the economy fully reopens. The Group considers that certain sectors within its Business portfolio require additional ECL to more adequately reflect the strains observed and expected in those sectors that are not fully captured in the modelled output. This also includes a modest adjustment to address technical model corrections.

Risk management

Credit risk

The use of judgement (continued)

The impact of PMAs on the Group's ECL allowance and coverage ratios is as follows:

	Mortgages	Unsecured	Business	Total
31 March 2022	£42m	£44m	£93m	£179m
% of total ECL	64%	20%	49%	37%
Coverage – total	0.11%	4.04%	2.58%	0.66%
Coverage – total ex PMAs	0.04%	3.25%	1.33%	0.42%
30 September 2021	£54m	£35m	£118m	£207m
% of total ECL	62%	18%	53%	41%
Coverage – total	0.15%	3.80%	3.06%	0.70%
Coverage – total ex PMAs	0.06%	3.11%	1.44%	0.41%

PMAs are primarily directed towards Stages 1 and 2 and are discussed in more detail in the divisional commentary pages.

The Group assesses and reviews the need for and quantification of PMAs on a quarterly basis, with the CFO recommending the level of PMAs on a divisional basis to the Board Audit Committee twice a year at each external reporting period. The Group has strengthened the governance around PMAs in the year with the Model Risk Oversight and Group Credit Oversight teams reviewing the methodology supporting material PMAs and presenting their findings to the Board Audit Committee.

In the absence of significant events that might impact ECLs going forward, the Group expects the current level of PMAs to materially reduce over the next 18-24 months.

Risk management

Credit risk

Macroeconomic assumptions

Annual macroeconomic assumptions used over the five-year forecast period in the scenarios and their weighted averages are as follows:⁽¹⁾

31 March 2022

Scenario	VMUK weighting	Economic measure ⁽²⁾	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	2025 %	2026 %
Upside	10%	Base rate	1.0	1.9	2.3	2.3	2.3
		Unemployment	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7
		GDP	5.0	4.4	2.4	2.0	1.7
		Inflation	6.5	3.0	1.2	1.6	2.2
		HPI	9.7	1.7	2.5	2.4	2.9
Base	55%	Base rate	0.9	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.7
		Unemployment	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.7
		GDP	3.8	2.6	1.9	1.8	1.7
		Inflation	6.2	2.0	1.1	1.8	2.0
		HPI	5.4	(0.9)	0.2	2.0	3.1
Downside	35%	Base rate	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
		Unemployment	5.6	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.3
		GDP	(0.3)	(0.2)	1.2	1.6	1.9
		Inflation	5.0	(0.1)	0.8	2.0	1.5
		HPI	(5.5)	(14.7)	(16.5)	(2.2)	4.4
Weighted average		Base rate	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3
		Unemployment	4.5	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.6
		GDP	2.5	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8
		Inflation	5.8	1.3	1.0	1.9	1.9
		HPI	2.0	(5.5)	(5.4)	0.6	3.6

30 September 2021

Scenario	VMUK weighting	Economic measure ⁽²⁾	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	2025 %
Upside	15%	Base rate	0.2	0.6	1.2	1.5	1.6
		Unemployment	4.3	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.6
		GDP	8.1	8.8	2.8	1.8	1.5
		Inflation	2.4	3.7	2.5	1.6	1.8
		HPI	8.2	0.8	5.2	5.2	3.6
Base	50%	Base rate	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.5
		Unemployment	4.8	4.6	4.3	4.0	3.9
		GDP	7.3	6.7	2.1	1.5	1.5
		Inflation	2.1	2.7	1.9	1.8	1.8
		HPI	5.0	(1.6)	0.6	2.7	3.9
Downside	35%	Base rate	0.0	(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.3)
		Unemployment	5.6	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.4
		GDP	4.4	2.4	1.1	1.0	1.7
		Inflation	1.5	0.7	0.8	2.2	1.7
		HPI	(2.9)	(15.2)	(12.1)	(3.5)	4.9
Weighted average		Base rate	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.4
		Unemployment	5.0	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.7
		GDP	6.4	5.5	1.9	1.4	1.6
		Inflation	2.0	2.1	1.6	1.9	1.8
		HPI	2.7	(6.0)	(3.2)	0.9	4.2

(1) Economic assumptions are provided by Oxford Economics and reported on a calendar year basis unless otherwise stated.

(2) The percentages shown for base rate, unemployment and inflation are averages. GDP is the year-on-year movement, with HPI the Q4 v Q4 movement.

Risk management

Financial risk

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Risk management

Financial risk

Financial risk covers several categories of risk which impact the way in which the Group can support its customers in a safe and sound manner. They include capital risk, funding risk, liquidity risk, market risk and pension risk.

Capital risk

Capital is held by the Group to cover inherent risks in a normal and stressed operating environment, to protect unsecured creditors and investors and to support the Group's long-term strategy of pioneering growth. Capital risk is the risk that the Group has or forecasts insufficient capital and other loss-absorbing debt instruments to operate effectively, including meeting minimum regulatory requirements, operating within Board approved risk appetite and supporting its strategic goals.

Regulatory capital developments

The regulatory landscape for capital is subject to change, which can lead to uncertainty on eventual outcomes. In order to mitigate this risk, the Group actively monitors emerging regulatory change, assesses the impact and puts plans in place to address.

COVID-19 regulatory capital developments

Following the BoE's announcements in 2020 regarding supervisory and prudential policy measures to address the challenges of COVID-19, the requirements relating to compliance with updates to definition of default, mortgage Hybrid PD and LGD were extended and the Group no longer expects the adoption of hybrid mortgage models in FY22.

The Group continues to apply relevant relief measures introduced by regulatory and supervisory bodies to help address and alleviate various COVID-19 driven financial impacts. These include amendments to the CRR introduced by the 'Quick Fix' package in June 2020, which introduced a number of beneficial modifications, including changes to IFRS 9 transitional arrangements for capital and the accelerated implementation of revised small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) supporting factors under CRR II.

UK Leverage Ratio Framework

In June 2021 the Financial Policy Committee (FPC) and Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) published consultations (Consultation Paper 14/21) on their proposed changes to the UK leverage ratio framework, with feedback and final policy published in October (Policy Statement 21/21). The changes, effective from 1 January 2022, simplify the framework with the Group being subject to the UK leverage ratio only, rather than the two leverage ratio definitions that currently exist. The Group exceeds the 3.25% leverage ratio requirements.

IRB approach to UK mortgage risk weights

In July 2021, the PRA issued a policy statement in response to a consultation process setting out proposals to introduce certain floors in respect of the IRB approach to UK mortgage risk weights. In response to the feedback the PRA received, including useful quantitative data that enabled the PRA to better gauge the distribution of risk weights across mortgage exposures, the PRA made two changes to the draft policy: (1) it will not introduce the proposed 7% minimum risk weight expectation on individual UK mortgage exposures; and (2) mortgage exposures classified as in default are excluded from the 10% minimum risk weight expectation which took effect in January 2022.

Instead, the PRA will consider the calibration of the incoming PD and LGD parameter floors for mortgages as part of the PRA's Basel 3.1 implementation.

UK implementation of Basel Standards

In July 2021, the PRA published Policy Statement 17/21 which provided feedback to the Consultation Paper 5/21 with the same title: 'Implementation of Basel standards' with the publication of Policy Statement 22/21 in October containing final rules. The policy statements cover a range of areas including: definition of capital; market risk; collective investment undertakings; counterparty credit risk; operational risk; large exposures; LCR; net stable funding ratio; reporting; and disclosure. These standards became effective in the UK from 1 January 2022.

Policy Statement 22/21 confirms the PRA's treatment to fully deduct software assets from CET1 capital, applicable from 1 January 2022. This is a reversal of the preferential treatment permitted under the CRR Quick Fix which came into force from December 2020 whereby the CET1 deduction was replaced with a simple approach based on a prudential amortisation of software assets calibrated over a maximum period of three years. The PRA's view is that intangible assets are not sufficiently loss absorbent on a going concern basis to warrant recognition as CET1 capital.

Risk management

Financial risk (continued)

Regulatory capital developments (continued)

Basel 3.1

The Basel Committee published its final reforms to the Basel III framework in December 2017. The amendments include changes to the standardised approaches to credit and operational risks and the introduction of a new RWA output floor. There are a number of areas within Basel 3.1 subject to national discretion and choice. Taking into account the publicly announced implementation timetables in other major jurisdictions, and the need to provide firms with sufficient time to implement the final policies, the PRA's current intention is to release a Consultation Paper on UK implementation in the fourth quarter of 2022 with the proposal that these reforms will become effective on 1 January 2025. Uncertainties therefore remain for a number of topics and in response the Group has undertaken an assessment across a range of scenarios for potential outcomes to assist with planning.

Solvency Stress Test

The Group participated in the BoE UK-wide SST for the first time during 2021. Results from the stress tests are used by the FPC to assess the stress severity required to threaten resilience and test the Group's ability to absorb losses and continue to lend. The BoE concluded that "the major UK banks are resilient" including VMUK.

Capital resources

The Group's capital position as at 31 March 2022 is summarised below:

	31 Mar 2022	30 Sep 2021
	£m	£m
Regulatory capital⁽¹⁾		
Statutory total equity	5,656	5,582
CET1 capital: Regulatory adjustments⁽²⁾		
AT1 capital instruments	(672)	(672)
Defined benefit pension fund assets	(645)	(551)
Prudent valuation adjustment	(4)	(5)
Intangible assets	(329)	(208)
Goodwill	(11)	(11)
Deferred tax asset relying on future profitability ⁽³⁾	(358)	(388)
Cash flow hedge reserve	(60)	(10)
AT1 coupon accrual	(14)	(14)
Foreseeable dividend on ordinary shares	(59)	(254)
Excess expected losses	(27)	-
IFRS 9 transitional adjustments	84	134
Total regulatory adjustments to CET1	(2,095)	(1,979)
Total CET1 capital	3,561	3,603
AT1 capital		
AT1 capital instruments	672	672
Total AT1 capital	672	672
Total Tier 1 capital	4,233	4,275
Tier 2 capital		
Subordinated debt	1,020	1,019
Total Tier 2 capital	1,020	1,019
Total regulatory capital	5,253	5,294

(1) This table shows the capital position on a CRD IV 'fully loaded' basis and transitional IFRS 9 basis as implemented by the PRA.

(2) A number of regulatory adjustments to CET1 capital are required under CRD IV regulatory capital rules.

(3) Comparative includes deferred tax on losses in relation to Virgin Money Unit Trust Managers Limited (UTM) which is proportionately consolidated under prudential rules.

Risk management

Financial risk (continued)

Capital resources (continued)

Regulatory capital flow of funds ⁽¹⁾	31 Mar 2022	30 Sep 2021
	£m	£m
CET1 capital⁽²⁾		
CET1 capital at 1 October	3,603	3,508
Retained earnings and other reserves (including special purpose entities)	278	502
Prudent valuation adjustment	1	1
Amendment to software asset deduction rules ⁽³⁾	(151)	151
Intangible assets	30	118
Deferred tax asset relying on future profitability	30	(173)
Defined benefit pension fund assets	(94)	(81)
AT1 foreseeable distribution	-	7
Foreseeable dividend on ordinary shares	(59)	(254)
Excess expected losses	(27)	-
IFRS 9 transitional adjustments	(50)	(176)
Total CET1 capital	3,561	3,603
AT1 capital		
AT1 capital at 1 October	672	672
Total AT1 capital	672	672
Total Tier 1 capital	4,233	4,275
Tier 2 capital		
Tier 2 capital at 1 October	1,019	749
Capital instruments issued: subordinated debt	-	298
Capital instruments purchased: subordinated debt	-	(30)
Amortisation of issue costs	1	2
Total Tier 2 capital	1,020	1,019
Total capital	5,253	5,294

(1) Data in the table is reported under CRD IV on a fully loaded basis with IFRS 9 transitional arrangements applied.

(2) CET1 capital is comprised of shares issued and related share premium, retained earnings and other reserves less specified regulatory adjustments.

(3) Regulatory capital is calculated in line with current rules which incorporate the amendments introduced by the CRR Quick Fix in December 2020, which apply the CET1 software asset deduction on a prudential amortisation basis over a period of three years. The PRA confirmed in the year that this relief will be removed with effect from 1 January 2022.

The Group's CET1 capital reduced by £42m during the period, primarily due to the removal of the software asset relief in January 2022 which reduced capital resources by £151m. After this one-off movement, the main movements arose from increases in retained earnings and other reserves of £278m (driven mainly by statutory profit after tax of £222m), reductions in the intangible assets balance of £30m and in the deferred tax recognised on tax losses carried forward of £30m. Retained earnings and other reserves movements also included an increase in the defined benefit fund pension asset of £94m, which has been deducted from capital resources. The reduction in IFRS 9 provisions recognised in the period together with a tapering of relief reduced the IFRS 9 transitional adjustments by £50m.

Risk management

Financial risk (continued)

Risk-Weighted Assets

	31 March 2022			30 September 2021		
	Exposure £m	RWA £m	Minimum capital requirement £m	Exposure £m	RWA £m	Minimum capital requirement £m
Minimum capital requirements						
Retail mortgages	61,605	10,023	802	61,146	10,010	801
Business lending	11,626	6,005	480	11,668	6,038	483
Other retail lending	16,934	4,602	368	16,201	4,311	345
Other lending	14,954	233	19	15,462	326	25
Other ⁽¹⁾	582	649	52	756	835	67
Total credit risk RWA	105,701	21,512	1,721	105,233	21,520	1,721
Credit valuation adjustment		61	5		103	8
Operational risk		2,466	197		2,466	197
Counterparty credit risk		109	9		105	8
Total RWA	105,701	24,148	1,932	105,233	24,194	1,934

(1) The items included in the Other exposure class that attract a capital charge include items in the course of collection, fixed assets, prepayments, other debtors and deferred tax assets that are not deducted.

RWA movements

	6 months to 31 March 2022					6 months to 30 September 2021				
	IRB RWA £m	STD RWA £m	Other RWA ⁽²⁾ £m	Total £m	Minimum capital requirement £m	IRB RWA £m	STD RWA £m	Other RWA £m	Total £m	Minimum capital requirement £m
Opening RWA	15,698	5,822	2,674	24,194	1,934	15,709	5,558	2,871	24,138	1,931
Asset size	(61)	315	-	254	20	(456)	261	-	(195)	(17)
Asset quality	(461)	(1)	-	(462)	(37)	(132)	35	-	(97)	(8)
Model updates ⁽¹⁾	470	-	-	470	38	577	-	-	577	46
Methodology and policy	-	(173)	(32)	(205)	(15)	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	(97)	(6)	(103)	(8)	-	(32)	(197)	(229)	(18)
Closing RWA	15,646	5,866	2,636	24,148	1,932	15,698	5,822	2,674	24,194	1,934

(1) Model updates include the mortgage quarterly PD calibrations.

(2) 'Other' includes operational risk, credit valuation adjustment and counterparty credit risk.

RWA stayed relatively stable in the period, reducing by £46m (0.2%) to £24,148m.

Increases in mortgage RWAs is primarily due to quarterly PD re-calibrations which have been largely offset by improvements in the quality of the book following increases to HPI, due to the continued uplift witnessed in market house prices.

In the table above, methodology and policy movement is largely driven by the removal of the £151m RWA uplift in relation to the CRR Quick Fix amendments in respect of intangible assets, which was removed by the PRA in January 2022.

Other standardised RWA movements mainly arose from reductions in cash balances held with other institutions in relation to issued covered bonds, as a direct result of changes in the structure of our covered bond programme.

Risk management

Financial risk (continued)

IFRS 9 transitional arrangements

This table shows a comparison of capital resources, requirements and ratios with and without the application of transitional arrangements for IFRS 9:

	31 March 2022 (£m)	
	IFRS 9 Transitional basis	IFRS 9 Fully loaded basis
Available capital (amounts)		
CET1 capital	3,561	3,477
Tier 1 capital	4,233	4,149
Total capital	5,253	5,169
RWA (amounts)		
Total RWA	24,148	24,076
Capital ratios		
CET1 (as a percentage of RWA)	14.7%	14.4%
Tier 1 (as a percentage of RWA)	17.5%	17.2%
Total capital (as a percentage of RWA)	21.8%	21.5%
Leverage ratio		
Leverage ratio total exposure measure	83,500	83,416
UK leverage ratio	5.1%	5.0%

Transitional arrangements in CRR mean the regulatory capital impact of ECL is being phased in over time. Following the CRR Quick Fix amendments package, which applied from 27 June 2020, relevant provisions raised from 1 January 2020 through to 2024 have a CET1 add-back percentage of 100% in 2021, reducing to 75% in 2022, 50% in 2023 and 25% in 2024.

At 30 March 2022, £84m of IFRS 9 transitional adjustments (30 September 2021: £134m) have been applied to the Group's capital position in accordance with CRR: £7m of static and £77m of dynamic adjustments (30 September 2021: £10m static and £124m dynamic).

Capital requirements

The Group measures the amount of capital it is required to hold by applying CRD IV as implemented in the UK by the PRA and supplemented through additional regulation under the PRA Rulebook. The table below summarises the amount of capital in relation to RWA the Group is currently required to hold, excluding any PRA Buffer.

Minimum requirements	As at 31 March 2022	
	CET1	Total capital
Pillar 1 ⁽¹⁾	4.5%	8.0%
Pillar 2A	1.7%	3.1%
Total capital requirement	6.2%	11.1%
Capital conservation buffer	2.5%	2.5%
UK countercyclical capital buffer	0.0%	0.0%
Total (excluding PRA buffer)⁽²⁾	8.7%	13.6%

(1) The minimum amount of total capital under Pillar 1 of the regulatory framework is determined as 8% of RWA, of which at least 4.5% of RWA is required to be covered by CET1 capital.

(2) The Group may be subject to a PRA buffer as set by the PRA but is not permitted to disclose the level of any buffer. A PRA buffer can consist of two components:

- a risk management and governance buffer that is set as a scalar of the Pillar 1 and Pillar 2A requirements; and
- a buffer relating to the results of the BoE's stress tests.

The Group continues to maintain a significant buffer of 6.0% (equivalent to c£1.5bn) over its CRD IV minimum CET1 requirement of 8.7%.

The Group's total capital Pillar 2A requirement has reduced from 3.9% at September 2021 to 3.1% at March 2022 following revisions made by the PRA during the year.

Risk management

Financial risk (continued)

Capital requirements (continued)

The UK countercyclical capital buffer (CCyB) is dependent upon the BoE's view of credit conditions in the economy and will be set between 1% and 2% in a standard risk environment. As part of a package of measures to support the economy from the impact of COVID-19, the FPC announced a reduction in the UK CCyB to 0%. During December 2021, the FPC announced the UK CCyB would increase to 1%. The increase to the CCyB has a twelve month implementation period, therefore will take effect at the end of 2022.

Dividend

The Directors have declared an interim dividend in respect of the year ended 30 September 2022 of 0.29p per ordinary share in the Company, amounting to £36m, to be paid by the end of June 2022.

MREL

Under the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive the Group is required to hold additional loss-absorbing instruments to support an effective resolution. The MREL establishes a minimum amount of equity and eligible debt to recapitalise the Bank. An analysis of the Group's current MREL position is provided below:

	31 Mar 2022	30 Sep 2021
	£m	£m
Total capital resources ⁽¹⁾	5,253	5,294
Eligible senior unsecured securities issued by Clydesdale Bank PLC ⁽²⁾	2,395	2,408
Total MREL resources	7,648	7,702
Risk-weighted assets	24,148	24,194
MREL Ratio	31.7%	31.8%

(1) This table shows the capital position on a CRD IV 'fully loaded' basis and transitional IFRS 9 basis.

(2) Excludes instruments with less than one year to maturity.

During 2022, the Group is subject to an end-state MREL requirement of 22.2% of RWA, or 24.7% of RWA when including its combined buffer requirements.

The Group's IFRS 9 transitional MREL ratio is 31.7% as at 31 March 2022 (30 September 2021: 31.8%). This represents prudent headroom of 7.0% or c.£1.7bn over the Group's MREL requirement including buffers.

Risk management

Financial risk (continued)

Leverage

	31 Mar 2022	30 Sep 2021
	£m	£m
Leverage ratio		
Total Tier 1 capital for the leverage ratio		
Total CET1 capital	3,561	3,603
AT1 capital	672	672
Total Tier 1	4,233	4,275
Exposures for the leverage ratio		
Total assets as per published financial statements	88,717	89,216
Adjustment for off-balance sheet items	3,000	2,884
Adjustment for derivative financial instruments	227	91
Adjustment for securities financing transactions	2,893	2,235
Adjustment for qualifying central bank claims	(9,180)	(9,094)
Other adjustments	(2,157)	(1,930)
UK leverage ratio exposure⁽¹⁾	83,500	83,402
CRD IV leverage ratio exposure⁽²⁾	N/A	84,293
CRD IV leverage ratio⁽²⁾	N/A	5.1%
UK leverage ratio⁽³⁾	5.1%	5.1%
Average UK leverage ratio exposure⁽⁴⁾	82,688	83,206
Average UK leverage ratio⁽⁴⁾	4.9%	4.7%

(1) As the UK leverage ratio is now the single leverage ratio exposure measure, the analysis of the CRD IV leverage ratio exposure has been replaced with the UK equivalent for this period and the comparative.

(2) From 1 January 2022, the CRD IV leverage ratio is no longer applicable to UK banks.

(3) IFRS 9 transitional capital arrangements have been applied to the leverage ratio calculation.

(4) The fully loaded average leverage exposure measure is based on the daily average of on-balance sheet items and three month-end average of off-balance sheet items. The average leverage ratio is based on the average of the month end tier 1 capital position.

The UK leverage ratio framework is relevant to PRA regulated banks and building societies with consolidated retail deposits equal to or greater than £50bn. The Group exceeds this threshold and accordingly the average UK leverage ratio exposure and average UK leverage ratio are disclosed.

The PRA published its Policy Statement on the UK leverage ratio framework on 8 October 2021. The Policy Statement confirms that UK banks will be subject to a single UK leverage ratio exposure measure from 1 January 2022 meaning that the CRD IV leverage ratio is no longer applicable for UK banks.

The leverage ratio is monitored against a Board-approved RAS, with the responsibility for managing the ratio delegated to ALCO, which monitors it on a monthly basis.

The leverage ratio is the ratio of Tier 1 capital to total exposures, defined as:

- capital: Tier 1 capital defined on a CRD IV fully loaded and IFRS 9 transitional basis; and
- exposures: total on- and off-balance sheet exposures (subject to credit conversion factors) as defined in the delegated act amending CRR article 429 (Calculation of the Leverage Ratio), which includes deductions applied to Tier 1 capital.

Other regulatory adjustments consist of adjustments that are required under CRD IV to be deducted from Tier 1 capital. The removal of these from the exposure measure ensures consistency is maintained between the capital and exposure components of the ratio.

The Group's CRD IV leverage ratio of 5.1% (30 September 2021: 5.1%) exceeds the UK minimum ratio of 3.25%.

The Group's leverage ratio buffer currently stands at 0%. Following the FPC's announced increase to the CCyB, the leverage ratio buffer will increase to 0.4% from December 2022.

Risk management

Financial risk (continued)

Funding and liquidity risk

Funding risk occurs where the Group is unable to raise or maintain funds of sufficient quantity and quality to support the delivery of the business plan or sustain lending commitments. Prudent funding risk management reduces the likelihood of liquidity risks occurring, increases the stability of funding sources, minimises concentration risks and ensures future balance sheet growth is sustainable.

Liquidity risk occurs when the Group is unable to meet its current and future financial obligations as they fall due or at acceptable cost, or when the Group reduces liquidity resources below internal or regulatory stress requirements.

Sources of funding

The table below provides an overview of the Group's sources of funding as at 31 March 2022:

	31 Mar 2022	30 Sep 2021
	£m	£m
Total assets	88,717	89,216
Less: Other liabilities ⁽¹⁾	(6,438)	(6,504)
Funding requirement	82,279	82,712
Funded by:		
Customer deposits	64,458	66,971
Debt securities in issue	4,576	4,241
Due to other banks	7,589	5,918
<i>of which:</i>		
Secured loans	7,209	5,896
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	350	-
Deposits with other banks	30	22
Equity	5,656	5,582
Total funding	82,279	82,712

(1) Other liabilities include derivative financial instruments, amounts due to related entities, deferred tax liabilities, provisions for liabilities and charges, amounts due to related entities and other liabilities as per the balance sheet line item.

The Group's funding objective is to prudently manage the sources and tenor of funds in order to provide a sound base from which to support sustainable lending growth. At 31 March 2022, the Group had a funding requirement of £82,279m (30 September 2021: £82,712m) with the majority being used to support loans and advances to customers.

Customer deposits

The majority of the Group's funding requirement was met by customer deposits of £64,458m (30 September 2021: £66,971m). Customer deposits are comprised of interest bearing deposits, term deposits and non-interest bearing demand deposits from a range of sources including Unsecured and Business customers. There has been a decrease in customer deposits of £2,513m in the year which reflects both a reduced funding requirement and the impact of managed balance sheet actions.

Equity

Equity of £5,656m (30 September 2021: £5,582m) was also used to meet the Group's funding requirement. Equity comprises ordinary share capital, retained earnings, other equity investments and a number of other reserves. For full details on equity refer to note 4.1 within the consolidated financial statements.

Risk management

Financial risk (continued)

Liquid assets

The quantity and quality of the Group's liquid assets are calibrated to the Board's view of liquidity risk appetite and remain at a prudent level above regulatory requirements.

	31 Mar 2022	30 Sep 2021
	£m	£m
Liquidity coverage ratio		
Eligible liquidity buffer	10,932	10,996
Net stress outflows	7,863	7,289
Surplus	3,069	3,707
Liquidity coverage ratio	139%	151%

The liquid asset portfolio provides a buffer against sudden and potentially sharp outflows of funds. Liquid assets must therefore be high-quality so they can be realised for cash and cannot be encumbered for any other purpose (e.g. to provide collateral for payments systems).

The volume and quality of the Group's liquid asset portfolio is defined through a series of internal stress tests across a range of time horizons and stress conditions. The liquid asset portfolio is primarily comprised of cash at the BoE, UK Government securities (Gilts) and listed securities (e.g. bonds issued by supra-nationals and AAA-rated covered bonds).

	31 Mar 2022	30 Sep 2021	Change	Average at 31 Mar 2022 ⁽³⁾	Average at 30 Sep 2021 ⁽³⁾
	£m	£m	%	£m	£m
Liquid asset portfolio ⁽¹⁾					
Level 1					
Cash and balances with central banks	6,978	7,060	(1.2)	7,323	7,232
UK Government treasury bills and gilts	1,187	771	54.0	892	779
Other debt securities	2,840	3,239	(12.3)	3,172	3,296
Total level 1	11,005	11,070	(0.6)	11,387	11,307
Level 2⁽²⁾	23	23	0.0	23	24
Total LCR eligible assets	11,028	11,093	(0.6)	11,410	11,331

(1) Excludes encumbered assets.

(2) Includes Level 2A and Level 2B.

(3) Represents the rolling average balance over the previous 12 months.

Analysis of debt securities in issue by residual maturity

The table below shows the residual maturity of the Group's debt securities in issue:

	3 months or less	3 to 12 months	1 to 5 years	Over 5 years	Total at 31 Mar 2022	Total at 30 Sep 2021
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Covered bonds	27	-	2,368	-	2,395	1,852
Securitisation	287	1,454	440	-	2,181	2,389
Total debt securities in issue	314	1,454	2,808	-	4,576	4,241

Risk management

Financial risk (continued)

External credit ratings

The Group's long-term credit ratings are summarised below:

	Outlook as at	As at	
	31 Mar 2022 ⁽¹⁾	31 Mar 2022	30 Sep 2021
Virgin Money UK PLC			
Moody's	Stable	Baa2	Baa2
Fitch	Stable	BBB+	BBB+
Standard & Poor's	Stable	BBB-	BBB-
Clydesdale Bank PLC			
Moody's ⁽²⁾	Stable	Baa1	Baa1
Fitch	Stable	A-	A-
Standard & Poor's	Stable	A-	A-

(1) For detailed background on the latest opinion by Standard & Poor's, Fitch and Moody's, please refer to the respective rating agency website.

(2) Long-term deposit rating.

In December 2021, Moody's affirmed the long-term ratings of Virgin Money UK PLC and Clydesdale Bank PLC with unchanged Stable outlook, citing the Group's low stock of problem loans, good risk-weighted capital and sound funding and liquidity.

In January 2022, Standard & Poor's affirmed the ratings of Virgin Money UK PLC and Clydesdale Bank PLC with unchanged Stable outlook, citing the Group's solid market position, improving performance and sound capitalisation.

As at 4 May 2022, there have been no other changes to the Group's long-term credit ratings or outlooks since the report date.

Net interest income

Earnings sensitivity measures calculate the change in NII over a 12-month period resulting from an instantaneous and parallel change in interest rates. The +/- 25 bps shock represents the primary NII sensitivity assessed internally, though a range of scenarios are assessed on a monthly basis.

	31 Mar 2022	30 Sep 2021
	£m	£m
12 months NII sensitivity		
+25 bps parallel shift	12	30
-25 bps parallel shift	(5)	(23)

The reduction in NII sensitivity since year end is primarily the result of an increase in the size of the structural hedge from £26bn to £32bn lowering the exposure to quantum and timing of Bank Base Rate (BBR) changes. The sensitivity has further reduced due to the impact of the increases in BBR on the mix, cost and pass through of the deposit book.

Sensitivities disclosed reflect the expected mechanical response to a movement in rates and represent a prudent outcome. The sensitivities are indicative only and should not be viewed as a forecast. The key assumptions and limitations are outlined below:

- the sensitivities are calculated based on a static balance sheet and it is assumed there is no change to margins on reinvestment of maturing fixed rate products;
- there are no changes to basis spreads with the rate change passed on in full to all interest rate bases;
- administered rate products receive a full rate pass on in the rate fall scenario, subject to internal product floor assumptions. In the rate rise scenario administered products receive a rate pass on in line with internal scenario specific pass on assumptions;
- additional commercial pricing responses and management actions are not included; and
- while in practice hedging strategy would be reviewed in light of changing market conditions, the sensitivities assume no changes over the 12-month period.

Risk management

Financial risk (continued)

LIBOR replacement

The Group's LIBOR cessation programme successfully met the 2021 GBP regulatory and industry milestones. Group Treasury proactively transitioned all external transactions across issuance, hedging and liquid assets and over 90% of Business Lending customer transactions also switched from LIBOR to alternative reference rates (ARRs), with numbers continuing to reduce.

As at 31 March 2022, all market-facing derivative flows are executed against the Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA). The focus for 2022 is ongoing management of the small business lending tough legacy and USD cohort. Business as usual processes have been implemented to ensure continued effort to move customers off synthetic LIBOR to ARR's throughout 2022.

Amounts yet to be transitioned

Financial instruments that have yet to transition to alternative benchmark rates are summarised below:

	Non derivative financial assets - carrying value ⁽²⁾	Non derivative financial liabilities - carrying value ⁽⁵⁾	Derivatives - nominal amount ⁽³⁾
31 March 2022	£m	£m	£m
GBP LIBOR	251	-	130
Other ⁽⁴⁾	149	-	
Cross currency swaps			
GBP LIBOR to USD LIBOR			46
Total	400	-	176

	Non derivative financial assets - carrying value ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	Non derivative financial liabilities - carrying value ⁽⁵⁾	Derivatives - nominal amount ⁽¹⁾⁽³⁾
30 September 2021	£m	£m	£m
GBP LIBOR	2,037	-	4,754
Other ⁽⁴⁾	157	-	-
Cross currency swaps			
GBP LIBOR to USD LIBOR			95
Total	2,194	-	4,849

(1) Excludes exposures that are expected to expire or mature before the Interbank Offered Rate (IBOR) ceases.

(2) Gross carrying amount excluding allowances for ECLs.

(3) The IBOR exposures for derivative nominal amounts include undrawn loan commitments shown as GBP LIBOR. This is materially the case although some facilities allow drawdowns in a number of different currencies.

(4) Comprises financial instruments referencing other IBOR rates yet to transition to alternative benchmark rates (Euro, USD, AUD, CHF).

(5) In addition to the financial liabilities included in the table, at 30 September 2021 £742m issued Covered Bonds were fixed rate with an option to convert to GBP LIBOR if not redeemed on the scheduled maturity date. The option to convert was transitioned to SONIA on 22 October 2021. Also at 30 September 2021, Gosforth 2018-1 notes in issue of £788m were still based on LIBOR, but following a successful consent solicitation earlier in the year, the notes converted to SONIA effective from 25 February 2022.

The Group maintains engagement with the BoE's Working Group on Sterling Risk Free Reference Rates and other industry forums. The programme ensures that the risks of being unable to offer products with suitable reference rates will be mitigated and that full consideration is given to the other risks, including legal, conduct, financial and operational risks, that may arise. While no material changes to the Group's risk management strategy are expected, the programme will continuously monitor progress and amend the approach accordingly.

Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The Directors confirm that to the best of their knowledge these interim condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with UK adopted International Accounting Standard 34 'Interim Financial Reporting' (IAS 34) and that the interim management report includes a fair review of the information required by Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules (DTR) 4.2.7R and DTR 4.2.8R, namely:

- a) an indication of important events that have occurred during the six months ended 31 March 2022 and their impact on the condensed consolidated interim financial statements and a description of the principal risks and uncertainties for the remaining six months of the financial year; and
- b) material related party transactions in the six months ended 31 March 2022 and any material changes in the related party transactions described in the last Annual Report of Clydesdale Bank PLC.

Signed by order of the Board



David Duffy
Chief Executive Officer
4 May 2022

Independent review report to Clydesdale Bank PLC

Conclusion

We have been engaged by Clydesdale Bank PLC to review the condensed set of financial statements in the interim financial report for the six months ended 31 March 2022 which comprises the interim condensed consolidated income statement, interim condensed consolidated statement of comprehensive income, interim condensed consolidated balance sheet, interim condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity, interim condensed consolidated statement of cash flows and the related explanatory notes 1.1 to 5.3. We have read the other information contained in the interim financial report and considered whether it contains any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the information in the condensed set of financial statements.

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the condensed set of financial statements in the interim financial report for the six months ended 31 March 2022 is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with UK adopted International Accounting Standard 34 and the Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules of the United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority.

Basis for Conclusion

We conducted our review in accordance with International Standard on Review Engagements 2410 (UK and Ireland) "Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity" issued by the Auditing Practices Board. A review of interim financial information consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

As disclosed in note 1, the annual financial statements of the Group will be prepared in accordance with UK adopted international accounting standards. The condensed set of financial statements included in this interim financial report has been prepared in accordance with UK adopted International Accounting Standard 34, "Interim Financial Reporting".

Responsibilities of the Directors

The Directors are responsible for preparing the interim financial report in accordance with the Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules of the United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the review of the financial information

In reviewing the interim report, we are responsible for expressing to Clydesdale Bank PLC a conclusion on the condensed set of financial statements in the interim financial report. Our conclusion is based on procedures that are less extensive than audit procedures, as described in the Basis for Conclusion paragraph of this report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Company in accordance with guidance contained in International Standard on Review Engagements 2410 (UK and Ireland) "Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity" issued by the Auditing Practices Board. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusions we have formed.

Ernst & Young LLP

Ernst & Young LLP
London
4 May 2022

Financial statements

Interim condensed consolidated income statement

	Note	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Interest income		1,013	953	1,906
Other similar interest		1	2	4
Interest expense and similar charges		(237)	(309)	(550)
Net interest income	2.2	777	646	1,360
Gains less losses on financial instruments at fair value		(7)	(16)	(9)
Other operating income		72	64	136
Non-interest income	2.3	65	48	127
Total operating income		842	694	1,487
Operating and administrative expenses before impairment losses	2.4	(508)	(585)	(1,202)
Operating profit before impairment losses		334	109	285
Impairment (credit)/losses on credit exposures		(21)	(39)	131
Profit on ordinary activities before tax		313	70	416
Tax (expense)/credit	2.5	(91)	39	116
Profit for the period		222	109	532
Attributable to:				
Ordinary shareholders		192	79	473
Other equity holders		30	30	59
Profit for the period		222	109	532

All material items dealt with in arriving at the profit before tax for the periods relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 54 to 72 form an integral part of these interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

Financial statements

Interim condensed consolidated statement of comprehensive income

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited)	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 (unaudited)	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited)
	£m	£m	£m
Profit for the period	222	109	532
Items that may be reclassified to the income statement			
<i>Change in cash flow hedge reserve</i>			
Gains during the period	73	111	99
Transfers to the income statement	(5)	22	24
Taxation thereon - deferred tax charge	(17)	(34)	(33)
Taxation thereon - current tax charge	(1)	(1)	-
	50	98	90
<i>Change in FVOCI reserve</i>			
Gains during the period	9	27	34
Taxation thereon - deferred tax charge	(1)	(7)	(11)
	8	20	23
Total items that may be reclassified to the income statement	58	118	113
Items that will not be reclassified to the income statement			
Change in defined benefit pension plan	126	(16)	54
Taxation thereon - deferred tax charge	(49)	(1)	(46)
Taxation thereon - current tax credit	4	5	21
Total items that will not be reclassified to the income statement	81	(12)	29
Other comprehensive income, net of tax	139	106	142
Total comprehensive income for the period, net of tax	361	215	674
Attributable to:			
Ordinary shareholders	331	185	615
Other equity holders	30	30	59
Total comprehensive income attributable to equity holders	361	215	674

The notes on pages 54 to 72 form an integral part of these interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

Financial statements

Interim condensed consolidated balance sheet

	Note	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Assets			
<i>Financial assets at amortised cost</i>			
Loans and advances to customers	3.1	71,411	71,874
Cash and balances with central banks		9,527	9,711
Due from other banks		858	800
<i>Financial assets at FVTPL</i>			
Loans and advances to customers	3.2	115	133
Derivative financial instruments	3.3	189	140
Other financial assets	3.2	2	16
Due from related entities	5.2	4	4
Financial assets at FVOCI		4,423	4,352
Property, plant and equipment		227	250
Intangible assets and goodwill		343	373
Current tax assets		-	10
Deferred tax assets	3.4	440	497
Defined benefit pension assets	3.8	992	847
Other assets		186	209
Total assets		88,717	89,216
Liabilities			
<i>Financial liabilities at amortised cost</i>			
Customer deposits		64,458	66,971
Debt securities in issue	3.5	4,576	4,241
Due to other banks	3.6	7,589	5,918
<i>Financial liabilities at FVTPL</i>			
Derivative financial instruments	3.3	262	209
Due to related entities	5.2	3,352	3,450
Current tax liabilities		21	-
Deferred tax liabilities	3.4	347	296
Provisions for liabilities and charges	3.7	82	104
Other liabilities		2,374	2,445
Total liabilities		83,061	83,634
Equity			
Share capital and share premium	4.1	2,792	2,792
Other equity instruments	4.1	672	672
Other reserves		102	44
Retained earnings		2,090	2,074
Total equity		5,656	5,582
Total liabilities and equity		88,717	89,216

The notes on pages 54 to 72 form an integral part of these interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

These interim condensed consolidated financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 4 May 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



David Duffy
Chief Executive Officer



Clifford Abrahams
Chief Financial Officer

Company name: Clydesdale Bank PLC, Company number: SC001111

Financial statements

Interim condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity

Note	Share capital and share premium 4.1.1 £m	Other equity instruments 4.1.2 £m	Other reserves		Retained earnings £m	Total equity £m
			FVOCI reserve £m	Cash flow hedge reserve 4.1.3 £m		
As at 1 October 2020⁽¹⁾	2,792	672	11	(80)	1,595	4,990
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	109	109
Other comprehensive income/(losses) net of tax	-	-	20	98	(12)	106
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	20	98	97	215
AT1 distributions paid	-	-	-	-	(30)	(30)
Dividends paid to ordinary shareholders	-	-	-	-	(10)	(10)
Settlement of Virgin Money Holdings (UK) PLC share awards	-	-	-	-	(3)	(3)
As at 31 March 2021⁽¹⁾	2,792	672	31	18	1,649	5,162
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	423	423
Other comprehensive income/(losses) net of tax	-	-	3	(8)	41	36
Total comprehensive income/(losses) for the period	-	-	3	(8)	464	459
AT1 distributions paid	-	-	-	-	(29)	(29)
Dividends paid to ordinary shareholders	-	-	-	-	(10)	(10)
As at 30 September 2021⁽¹⁾	2,792	672	34	10	2,074	5,582
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	222	222
Other comprehensive income net of tax	-	-	8	50	81	139
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	8	50	303	361
AT1 distributions paid	-	-	-	-	(30)	(30)
Dividends paid to ordinary shareholders	-	-	-	-	(254)	(254)
Settlement of Virgin Money Holdings (UK) PLC share awards	-	-	-	-	(3)	(3)
As at 31 March 2022⁽¹⁾	2,792	672	42	60	2,090	5,656

(1) The balances as at 1 October 2020 and 30 September 2021 have been audited; the movements in the individual six month periods to 31 March 2021 and 31 March 2022 are unaudited.

The notes on pages 54 to 72 form an integral part of these interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Interim condensed consolidated statement of cash flows

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Note			
Operating activities			
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	313	70	416
<i>Adjustments for:</i>			
Non-cash or non-operating items included in profit before tax	(656)	(594)	(1,221)
Changes in operating assets	462	592	819
Changes in operating liabilities	(2,146)	687	(1,026)
Payments for short-term and low value leases	-	(1)	(1)
Interest received	988	1,033	2,088
Interest paid	(163)	(273)	(461)
Tax (paid)/received	(15)	9	(32)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(1,217)	1,523	582
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received	26	23	19
Proceeds from maturity of financial assets at FVOCI	436	770	1,079
Proceeds from sale of financial assets at FVOCI	60	-	-
Purchase of financial assets at FVOCI	(712)	(369)	(521)
Purchase of shares issued by UTM	(4)	(7)	(12)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	-	3	6
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(6)	(10)	(26)
Purchase and development of intangible assets	(33)	(22)	(80)
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(233)	388	465
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid	(67)	(57)	(158)
Repayment of principal portion of lease liabilities	5.3 (13)	(14)	(28)
Redemption and principal repayment on RMBS and covered bonds	5.3 (216)	(943)	(1,543)
Issuance of RMBS and covered bonds	5.3 600	-	-
Amounts drawn under the TFSME	5.3 2,550	1,750	3,350
Amounts repaid under the TFS	5.3 (1,244)	(1,500)	(2,864)
Net increase in amounts due from related entities	-	2	9
Net (decrease)/increase in amounts due to related entities	5.3 (14)	(6)	705
Ordinary dividends paid	4.1 (254)	(10)	(20)
AT1 distributions	4.1 (30)	(30)	(59)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	1,312	(808)	(608)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(138)	1,103	439
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	10,253	9,814	9,814
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	10,115	10,917	10,253

The notes on pages 54 to 72 form an integral part of these interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements

Section 1: Basis of preparation and accounting policies

Overview

On 1 October 2021, the Group transitioned to preparing consolidated financial statements under UK adopted IAS which is a change in accounting framework. This had no impact on the recognition, measurement or disclosure of financial information presented in the period.

These interim condensed consolidated financial statements for the six months ended 31 March 2022 have been prepared in accordance with UK adopted IAS 34 'Interim Financial Reporting'. They have also been prepared in accordance with the Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules of the UK's Financial Conduct Authority. They do not include all the information required by IASs in full annual financial statements and should therefore be read in conjunction with the Group's 2021 Annual Report and Accounts which were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) in conformity with the Companies Act 2006 and IFRS adopted pursuant to regulation (EC) No 1606/2002 as it applies in the EU and also including the early adoption of 'Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4 and IFRS 16 Interest Rate Benchmark Reform – Phase 2', which had been endorsed by the EU and UK in January 2021 and included in UK adopted International Accounting Standards. Copies of the 2021 Annual Report and Accounts are available from the Group's website at <https://www.virginmoneyukplc.com/investor-relations/results-and-reporting/annual-reports/>.

The information in these interim condensed consolidated financial statements is unaudited and does not constitute annual accounts within the meaning of Section 434 of the Companies Act 2006 ('the Act'). Statutory accounts for the year ended 30 September 2021 have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and contained an unqualified audit report under Section 495 of the Act, which did not draw attention to any matters by way of emphasis and did not contain any statements under Section 498 of the Act.

1.1 Going concern

The Group's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance, and position, are set out in the business and financial review section of these interim condensed consolidated financial statements. This should be read in conjunction with the strategic report which can be found in the Group's 2021 Annual Report and Accounts. The Group's objectives, policies and processes for managing capital can be found in the risk management section of this report.

The Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and that the Group is well placed to manage its business risks successfully. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing these interim condensed consolidated financial statements. In reaching this assessment, the Directors have considered a wide range of information relating to present and future conditions, including potential impacts from top and emerging risks and the related impact on profitability, capital and liquidity.

1.2 Accounting policies

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these interim condensed consolidated financial statements are consistent with those policies followed in the preparation of the Group's 2021 Annual Report and Accounts. Comparatives are presented on a basis that conforms to the current presentation unless stated otherwise.

1.3 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosed amounts of contingent liabilities. Assumptions made at each balance sheet date are based on best estimates at that date. Although the Group has internal control systems in place to ensure that best estimates can be reliably measured, actual amounts may differ from those estimated. There has been no change to the areas where the Group applies critical accounting estimates and judgements compared to those shown in the Group's 2021 Annual Report and Accounts.

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 1: Basis of preparation and accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Critical accounting estimates and judgements (continued)

An update on ECLs and the allowance for impairment losses on credit exposures is provided within the credit risk section of the Risk report, and an update on the effective interest rate (EIR) is provided below:

EIR

EIR is determined at initial recognition based upon management's best estimate of the future cash flows of the financial instrument. In the event these estimates are revised at a later date, a present value adjustment to the carrying value of the EIR asset may be recognised in profit or loss. Such adjustments can introduce income statement volatility and consequently the EIR method introduces a source of estimation uncertainty. Management considers that material risk of adjustments exists in relation to the application of EIR to the Group's mortgage and credit card portfolios.

Mortgages

The main accounting judgement when assessing the cash flows within the Group's secured lending EIR model is the product life (including assumptions based on observed historic customer behaviour when in a standard variable rate period) and the early repayment charge income receivable. If customer repayments, redemptions or product transfers were to take place one month earlier, the loans and advances to customers balance would reduce by £10m with the adjustment recognised in net interest income.

Credit cards

The Group measures credit card EIR by modelling expected cash flows based on assumptions of future customer behaviour, which is supported by observed experience. Key behavioural assumptions include an estimation of utilisation of available credit, transaction and repayment activity and the retention of the customer balance after the end of a promotional period.

The Group has applied an average attrition rate of 1.5% per month following the end of the promotional period. If, however, the actual level of customer balance attrition was to increase by 0.5% per month, the Group estimates it would result in a negative present value adjustment of approximately £11m, which would be recognised in the income statement.

The Group holds an appropriate level of model risk reserve across both asset classes to mitigate the risk of estimation uncertainty.

1.4 Accounting developments

In May 2020 the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) issued an 'amendment to IFRS 16 and COVID-19 related rent concessions beyond June 2021', which was endorsed for use in the UK and was effective for financial periods beginning on or after 1 June 2020. This amendment introduced the optional practical expedient for lessees from assessing whether a rent concession related to COVID-19 is a lease modification. The IASB subsequently extended this in March 2021, effective for financial periods beginning on or after 1 April 2021.

These pronouncements have had no material impact on the interim condensed consolidated financial statements as the Group does not receive rent concessions.

During the period, there have been no further pronouncements issued by the IASB that are considered relevant and material to the Group.

1.5 Presentation of risk disclosures

Certain disclosures outlined in IFRS 7 'Financial Instruments: Disclosure' concerning the nature and extent of risks relating to financial instruments have been included within the risk management section of this report.

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 2: Results for the period

2.1 Segment information

The Group's operating segments are operating units engaged in providing different products or services and whose operating results and overall performance are regularly reviewed by the Group's Chief Operating Decision Maker, the Executive Leadership Team.

The Group continues to operate under three commercial lines: Mortgages, Unsecured and Business, which are reported through the Chief Commercial Officer. At this point in time, the business continues to be reported to the Group's Chief Operating Decision Maker as a single segment and decisions made on the performance of the Group on that basis. Segmental information will therefore continue to be presented on this single segment basis.

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Net interest income	777	646	1,360
Non-interest income	65	48	127
Total operating income	842	694	1,487
Operating and administrative expenses	(508)	(585)	(1,202)
Impairment (losses)/credit on credit exposures	(21)	(39)	131
Segment profit before tax	313	70	416
Average interest earning assets	85,729	87,134	86,947

2.2 Net interest income

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Interest income			
Loans and advances to customers	988	940	1,880
Loans and advances to other banks	12	4	8
Financial assets at FVOCI	13	9	18
Total interest income	1,013	953	1,906
Other similar interest			
Financial assets at FVTPL	3	5	9
Derivatives economically hedging interest bearing assets	(2)	(3)	(5)
Total other similar interest	1	2	4
Less: interest expense and similar charges			
Customer deposits	(134)	(208)	(361)
Debt securities in issue	(27)	(24)	(44)
Due to other banks	(12)	(16)	(20)
Due to related entities	(63)	(59)	(122)
Other interest expense	(1)	(2)	(3)
Total interest expense and similar charges	(237)	(309)	(550)
Net interest income	777	646	1,360

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 2: Results for the period (continued)

2.3 Non-interest income

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Gains less losses on financial instruments at fair value			
Held for trading derivatives	(7)	3	6
Financial assets at fair value ⁽¹⁾	(8)	(8)	3
Ineffectiveness arising from fair value hedges	17	(7)	(13)
Amounts recycled to profit and loss from cash flow hedges ⁽²⁾	(2)	(3)	(5)
Ineffectiveness arising from cash flow hedges	(7)	(1)	-
	(7)	(16)	(9)
Other operating income			
Net fee and commission income	67	59	124
Margin on foreign exchange derivative brokerage	9	8	16
Share of joint venture (JV) loss after tax	(5)	(4)	(5)
Other income	1	1	1
	72	64	136
Total non-interest income	65	48	127

(1) Included within financial assets at fair value is a credit risk gain on loans and advances at fair value of £1m (31 March 2021: £Nil, 30 September 2021: £1m gain) and a fair value gain on equity investments of £Nil (31 March 2021: £9m loss, 30 September 2021: £15m gain).

(2) In respect of terminated hedges.

The Group's unrecognised share of losses of JVs for the period was £1m (31 March 2021: £Nil, 30 September 2021: £1m). For entities making losses, subsequent profits earned are not recognised until previously unrecognised losses are extinguished. The Group's unrecognised share of losses net of unrecognised profits on a cumulative basis of JVs is £2m (31 March 2021: £1m, 30 September 2021: £1m).

Non-interest income includes the following fee and commission income disaggregated by product type:

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Current account and debit card fees	49	43	90
Credit cards	23	16	38
Insurance, protection and investments	5	6	10
Other fees ⁽¹⁾	15	13	29
Total fee and commission income	92	78	167
Total fee and commission expense	(25)	(19)	(43)
Net fee and commission income	67	59	124

(1) Includes mortgages, invoice and asset finance and ATM fees.

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 2: Results for the period (continued)

2.4 Operating and administrative expenses before impairment losses

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Staff costs	213	205	426
Property and infrastructure	22	31	89
Technology and communications	59	63	121
Corporate and professional services	62	59	159
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	71	88	191
Other expenses	81	139	216
Total operating and administrative expenses	508	585	1,202

In the Group's 2021 Annual Report and Accounts, the methodology for categorising operating and administrative expenses before impairment losses was refined to provide a more accurate reflection of what these costs represent. The March 2021 comparatives have been amended to conform with the September 2021 and the current period's presentation. There has been no change to the total operating and administrative expenses in the prior period to 31 March 2021 or year to 30 September 2021.

The change took the original other expenses figure of £315m for the 6 month period to March 2021 and analysed this further with new line items created to better reflect the nature of the expenditure. The revised 6 month period to March 2021 other expenses is now £139m, with the £176m reallocated to: i) £161m re-classified into three new line items of property and infrastructure (£31m), technology and communications (£63m), and corporate and professional services (£67m), which has been further adjusted to £59m due to costs (£8m) which have been reclassified from staff costs and now more appropriately classified as corporate and professional services; ii) £1m of impairments to right-of-use assets re-classified to the depreciation, amortisation and impairment line item (previously £87m); and iii) £14m primarily related to redundancy costs that are now reclassified to staff costs.

Staff costs comprise the following items:

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Salaries and wages	136	121	248
Social security costs	14	16	30
Defined contribution pension expense	25	25	49
Defined benefit pension credit	(12)	(2)	(8)
Compensation costs	163	160	319
Equity based compensation ⁽¹⁾	2	3	8
Bonus awards	21	2	22
Performance costs	23	5	30
Redundancy and restructuring	7	14	29
Temporary staff costs	6	7	13
Other	14	19	35
Other staff costs	27	40	77
Total staff costs	213	205	426

(1) Includes National Insurance on equity based compensation.

The analysis of staff costs has therefore also been impacted by this change, with the 6 month period to March 2021 salaries, wages and non-cash benefits and social security costs of £131m increasing by £6m to £137m and now split between salaries and wages (£121m) and social security costs (£16m). Redundancy costs in the 6 month period to March 2021 of £14m is also now separately disclosed. In addition, other personnel costs in the 6 month period to March 2021 of £27m have also been further analysed to provide greater detail on the nature of the costs. These are now disclosed as £19m, with the difference of £8m primarily the result of the introduction of the new temporary staff costs line item of £7m.

The defined benefit pension credit in the current period includes a credit of £8m arising from the ongoing Pension Increase Exchange (PIE) exercise due to complete in calendar year 2022. A PIE gives members the option to exchange future increases on their pensions for a one-off uplift to their current pension.

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 2: Results for the period (continued)

2.5 Taxation

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Current tax			
Current period	42	18	65
Adjustment in respect of prior periods	8	-	-
	50	18	65
Deferred tax			
Current period	49	(56)	(180)
Adjustment in respect of prior periods	(8)	(1)	(1)
	41	(57)	(181)
Tax charge/(credit) for the period	91	(39)	(116)

The tax assessed for the period differs from that arising from applying the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19%. A reconciliation from the charge implied by the standard rate to the actual tax expense/(credit) is as follows:

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	313	70	416
Tax expense based on the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (March and September 2021: 19%)	59	13	79
<i>Effects of:</i>			
Disallowable expenses	2	12	12
Bank levy	-	-	1
Deferred tax assets recognised	(19)	(55)	(126)
Banking surcharge	14	5	20
Impact of rate change	41	(7)	(90)
AT1 distribution	(6)	(6)	(11)
Adjustments in respect of prior periods	-	(1)	(1)
Tax expense/(credit) for the period	91	(39)	(116)

In February 2022 legislation was enacted to reduce the banking surcharge from 8% to 3%, and to increase the threshold below which it is not chargeable to £100m (previously £25m). The changes are effective for current tax from 1 April 2023 but, in accordance with accounting standards, have effect for deferred tax in the current period. The impact is a reduction in the value of deferred tax assets, reflected in the £41m charge to the income statement above.

Deferred tax assets recognised represent historic losses, previously derecognised, that are now brought onto the balance sheet in accordance with the Group's established methodology, reflecting their expected utilisation against future taxable profits. Further detail on deferred tax is provided in note 3.4.

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 3: Assets and liabilities

3.1 Loans and advances to customers

	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Gross loans and advances to customers	72,415	72,549
Impairment provisions on credit exposures ⁽¹⁾	(472)	(496)
Fair value hedge adjustment	(532)	(179)
	71,411	71,874

(1) ECLs on off-balance sheet exposures of £7m (30 September 2021: £8m) are presented as part of the provisions for liabilities and charges balance (note 3.7).

The Group has a portfolio of fair valued business loans of £115m (30 September 2021: £133m) which are classified separately as financial assets at FVTPL (note 3.2). Combined with the above, this is equivalent to total loans and advances of £71,526m (30 September 2021: £72,007m).

The fair value hedge adjustment represents an offset to the fair value movement on hedging derivatives transacted to manage the interest rate risk inherent in the Group's fixed rate mortgage portfolio.

The Group has transferred a proportion of mortgages to the securitisation and covered bond programmes.

3.2 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Loans and advances

Included in financial assets at FVTPL is a historical portfolio of loans. Interest rate risk associated with these loans is managed using interest rate derivative contracts and the loans are recorded at fair value to avoid an accounting mismatch. The maximum credit exposure of the loans is £115m (30 September 2021: £133m) including accrued interest receivable of £Nil (30 September 2021: £Nil). The cumulative loss in the fair value of the loans attributable to changes in credit risk amounts to £2m (30 September 2021: £2m); the change for the current period is an increase of £Nil (30 September 2021: decrease of £1m).

Other financial assets

Other financial assets of £2m (30 September 2021: £16m) consists entirely of unlisted securities. The reduction in the period represents the disposal of an unlisted equity investment.

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 3: Assets and liabilities (continued)

3.3 Derivative financial instruments

The tables below analyse derivatives between those designated as hedging instruments and those classified as held for trading:

	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Fair value of derivative financial assets		
Designated as hedging instruments	139	94
Designated as held for trading	50	46
	189	140
Fair value of derivative financial liabilities		
Designated as hedging instruments	183	143
Designated as held for trading	79	66
	262	209

Cash collateral totalling £129m (30 September 2021: £18m) has been pledged and £30m has been received (30 September 2021: £76m) in respect of derivatives with other banks. These amounts are included within due from and due to other banks respectively. Net collateral received from clearing houses, which did not meet offsetting criteria, totalled £10m (30 September 2021: collateral placed of £82m) and is included within other assets and other liabilities.

The derivative financial instruments held by the Group are further analysed below. The notional contract amount is the amount from which the cash flows are derived and does not represent the principal amounts at risk relating to these contracts.

	31 March 2022 (unaudited)			30 September 2021 (audited)		
	Notional contract amount £m	Fair value of assets £m	Fair value of liabilities £m	Notional contract amount £m	Fair value of assets £m	Fair value of liabilities £m
Total derivative contracts						
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments						
<i>Cash flow hedges</i>						
Interest rate swaps (gross)	42,061	577	358	24,886	71	90
Less: net settled interest rate swaps ⁽¹⁾	(37,347)	(501)	(346)	(21,500)	(64)	(79)
Interest rate swaps (net) ⁽²⁾	4,714	76	12	3,386	7	11
<i>Fair value hedges</i>						
Interest rate swaps (gross)	20,696	503	537	30,707	295	447
Less: net settled interest rate swaps ⁽¹⁾	(18,277)	(443)	(499)	(25,260)	(209)	(390)
Interest rate swaps (net) ⁽²⁾	2,419	60	38	5,447	86	57
Cross currency swaps ⁽²⁾	1,880	3	133	1,880	1	75
	4,299	63	171	7,327	87	132
Total derivatives designated as hedging instruments	9,013	139	183	10,713	94	143
Derivatives designated as held for trading						
<i>Foreign exchange rate related contracts</i>						
Spot and forward foreign exchange ⁽²⁾	853	16	13	805	13	12
Cross currency swaps ⁽²⁾	441	-	-	490	-	3
Options ⁽²⁾	1	-	-	1	-	-
	1,295	16	13	1,296	13	15
<i>Interest rate related contracts</i>						
Swaps (gross)	1,132	5	36	734	14	31
Less: net settled swaps	(468)	(1)	-	-	-	-
Swaps	664	4	36	734	14	31
Swaptions ⁽²⁾	10	-	1	10	-	1
Options ⁽²⁾	376	2	3	495	1	2
	1,050	6	40	1,239	15	34
<i>Commodity related contracts</i>	131	27	26	97	17	17
<i>Equity related contracts</i>	1	1	-	1	1	-
Total derivatives designated as held for trading	2,477	50	79	2,633	46	66

(1) Presented within other assets

(2) Presented within derivative financial instruments

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 3: Assets and liabilities (continued)

3.3 Derivative financial instruments (continued)

Derivatives transacted to manage the Group's interest rate exposure on a net portfolio basis are accounted for as either cash flow hedges or fair value hedges as appropriate. Derivatives traded to manage interest rate, inflation and currency risk on certain fixed rate assets held for liquidity management including UK Government Gilts, are accounted for as fair value hedges.

The Group hedging positions also include those designated as foreign currency and interest rate hedges of debt issued from the Group's securitisation and covered bond programmes. As such, certain derivative financial assets and liabilities have been booked in structured entities and consolidated within these financial statements.

The Group has no remaining hedge relationships exposed to LIBOR and as no uncertainty remains regarding benchmark reform, the Group no longer applies the 'Interest Rate Benchmark Reform - Phase 1 and Phase 2 amendments' to hedge accounting. Further detail on the Group's approach to managing the risk of LIBOR replacement, including derivatives designated as held for trading that have not yet transitioned, is provided on page 46.

3.4 Deferred tax

The Group has recognised deferred tax in relation to the following items:

	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Deferred tax assets		
Tax losses carried forward	358	385
Capital allowances	113	124
Cash flow hedge reserve	(26)	(9)
Acquisition accounting adjustments	(8)	(10)
Transitional adjustment - IFRS 9	12	15
Employee equity based compensation	6	8
Pension spreading	2	5
Gains on financial instruments at FVOCI	(16)	(15)
Intangible assets	(3)	(3)
Other	2	(3)
	440	497
Deferred tax liabilities		
Defined benefit pension scheme surplus	(347)	(296)
Net deferred tax asset	93	201

The deferred tax assets and liabilities detailed above arise primarily in the Bank which has a right to offset current tax assets against current tax liabilities and is party to a Group Payment Arrangement for payments of tax to HMRC. Therefore, in accordance with IAS 12, deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities have also been offset in this period where they relate to payments of income tax to this Tax Authority. The deferred tax liability arising in relation to the defined benefit pension scheme surplus does not meet the accounting standard's criteria for offset, and so continues to be presented separately both on the face of the balance sheet and detailed in this note.

In February 2022 legislation was enacted to reduce the banking surcharge from 8% to 3%, and to increase the threshold below which it is not chargeable to £100m (previously £25m). The changes are effective for current tax from 1 April 2023 but, in accordance with accounting standards, have effect for deferred tax in the current period. The impact is a reduction in the value of deferred tax assets, reflected in the £41m charge to the income statement (Note 2.5).

As in prior periods, deferred tax assets are recognised on profits forecast for 6 years from the balance sheet date. If, instead of six years, the period were five years or seven years, the recognised net deferred tax asset would be £42m or £144m respectively. All tax assets arising will be used within the UK.

In addition, the Group had an unrecognised deferred tax asset at 31 March 2022 of £86m (30 September 2021: £112m) representing trading losses with a gross value of £346m valued at 25% (30 September 2021: £449m valued at 25%).

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 3: Assets and liabilities (continued)

3.5 Debt securities in issue

The breakdown of debt securities in issue is shown below:

31 March 2022 (unaudited)

	Securitisation £m	Covered bonds £m	Total £m
Amortised cost	2,179	2,404	4,583
Fair value hedge adjustments	(1)	(36)	(37)
Total debt securities	2,178	2,368	4,546
Accrued interest payable	3	27	30
	2,181	2,395	4,576

30 September 2021 (audited)

	Securitisation £m	Covered bonds £m	Total £m
Amortised cost	2,382	1,812	4,194
Fair value hedge adjustments	4	30	34
Total debt securities	2,386	1,842	4,228
Accrued interest payable	3	10	13
	2,389	1,852	4,241

Key movements in the year are shown in the table below⁽¹⁾. Full details of all notes in issue can be found at <https://www.virginmoneyukplc.com/investor-relations/debt-investors/>.

	Period to 31 March 2022				Year to 30 Sept 2021			
	Issuances		Redemptions		Issuances		Redemptions	
	Denomination	£m	Denomination	£m	Denomination	£m	Denomination	£m
Securitisation	-	-	USD, EUR, GBP	216	-	-	USD, EUR, GBP	1,543
Covered bonds	GBP	600	-	-	-	-	-	-
		600		216		-		1,543

(1) Other movements relate to foreign exchange and amortisation of issue costs and acquisition accounting adjustments.

On 22 October 2021, following a successful consent solicitation process, the Series 2012-2 Covered Bonds transferred from the Clydesdale Bank PLC Global Covered Bond Programme to the Clydesdale Bank PLC (formerly Virgin Money PLC) Global Covered Bond Programme. There was no financial impact to the Group in relation to this transfer.

3.6 Due to other banks

	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Secured loans	7,209	5,896
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	350	-
Deposits from other banks	30	22
	7,589	5,918

Secured loans comprise amounts drawn under the term funding scheme with additional incentives for SMEs (TFSME) schemes (including accrued interest).

The underlying securities sold under agreements to repurchase have a carrying value of £484m (30 September 2021: £Nil).

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 3: Assets and liabilities (continued)

3.7 Provisions for liabilities and charges

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
PPI redress provision		
Opening balance	1	107
Charge to the income statement	-	59
Utilised	(1)	(165)
Closing balance	-	1
Customer redress and other provisions		
Opening balance	28	31
Charge to the income statement	6	21
Utilised	(7)	(24)
Closing balance	27	28
Property closure and redundancy provision		
Opening balance	67	34
Charge to the income statement	7	68
Utilised	(26)	(35)
Closing balance	48	67
Off-balance sheet ECL provision		
Opening balance	8	-
Transfer of ECL provision from loans and advances	-	7
(Credit)/charge to the income statement	(1)	1
Closing balance	7	8
Total provisions for liabilities and charges	82	104

PPI redress provision

The Group has now dealt with complaints received in the period up to the time bar in August 2019, including the settlement of claims received from the Official Receiver. The total provision raised in respect of PPI is £3,114m (30 September 2021: £3,114m).

Customer redress and other provisions

Other provisions include amounts in respect of a number of non-PPI customer redress matters, legal proceedings, claims arising in the ordinary course of the Group's business and other matters. A number of these matters are now reaching a conclusion and the risk that the final amount required to settle the Group's potential liabilities in these matters being materially more than the remaining provision is now considered to be low.

Property closure and redundancy position

This includes costs for stores and office closures and staff redundancy costs. During the period, provisions of £7m (30 September 2021: £68m) were raised with £Nil (30 September 2021: £33m) relating to stores and office closures and £7m (30 September 2021: £35m) relating to staff redundancy costs.

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 3: Assets and liabilities (continued)

3.8 Retirement benefit obligations

The Group funds a defined benefit pension scheme, the Yorkshire and Clydesdale Bank Pension Scheme ('the Scheme'). The Bank is the sponsoring employer in the Scheme, which was closed to future benefit accrual for the majority of current employees on 1 August 2017. The assets of the Scheme are held in a trustee administered fund, with the Trustee responsible for the operation and governance of the Scheme, including making decisions regarding the Scheme's funding and investment strategy.

The following table provides a summary of the fair value of plan assets and present value of the defined benefit obligation for the Scheme:

	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Fair value of Scheme assets	4,421	4,636
Total defined benefit obligation	(3,429)	(3,789)
Net defined benefit pension asset	992	847

The latest formal triennial valuation for the Scheme was conducted in accordance with Scheme data and market conditions as at 30 September 2019. The valuation resulted in an improvement in the Scheme's funding position, with a reported surplus of £144m (previously a deficit of £290m) and a technical provisions funding level of 103% (previously 94%).

3.9 Fair value of financial instruments

This section should be read in conjunction with note 3.16 of the Group's 2021 Annual Report and Accounts, which provides more detail about accounting policies adopted and valuation methodologies used in calculating fair value. There have been no changes in the accounting policies adopted or the valuation methodologies used.

(a) Fair value of financial instruments recognised on the balance sheet at amortised cost

The tables below show a comparison of the carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities measured at amortised cost, and their fair values, where these are not approximately equal.

There are various limitations inherent in this fair value disclosure, particularly where prices are derived from unobservable inputs due to some financial instruments not being traded in an active market. The methodologies and assumptions used in the fair value estimates are therefore described in the notes to the tables in note 3.16 of the Group's 2021 Annual Report and Accounts. The difference between carrying value and fair value is relevant in a trading environment but is not relevant to assets such as loans and advances.

	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited)		30 Sep 2021 (audited)	
	Carrying value £m	Fair value £m	Carrying value £m	Fair value £m
Financial assets				
Loans and advances to customers ⁽¹⁾	71,411	71,161	71,874	72,227
Financial liabilities				
Customer deposits ⁽²⁾	64,458	64,396	66,971	67,012
Debt securities in issue ⁽²⁾	4,576	4,671	4,241	4,346
Due to other banks ⁽²⁾	7,589	7,581	5,918	5,918
Due to related entities ⁽²⁾	3,352	3,584	3,450	3,783

(1) Loans and advances to customers are categorised as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy with the exception of £1,107m (30 September 2021: £1,057m) of overdrafts which are categorised as Level 2.

(2) Categorised as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 3: Assets and liabilities (continued)

3.9 Fair value of financial instruments (continued)

(b) Fair value of financial instruments recognised on the balance sheet at fair value

The following tables provide an analysis of financial instruments that are measured subsequent to initial recognition at fair value, using the fair value hierarchy described above:

	Fair value measurement as at 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited)				Fair value measurement as at 30 Sep 2021 (audited)			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Financial assets								
Financial assets at FVOCI	4,423	-	-	4,423	4,352	-	-	4,352
Loans and advances at FVTPL	-	115	-	115	-	133	-	133
Other financial assets at FVTPL	-	-	2	2	-	14	2	16
Derivative financial assets	-	188	1	189	-	139	1	140
Total financial assets at fair value	4,423	303	3	4,729	4,352	286	3	4,641
Financial liabilities								
Derivative financial liabilities	-	262	-	262	-	209	-	209
Total financial liabilities at fair value	-	262	-	262	-	209	-	209

There were no transfers between Level 1 and 2 in the current or prior period.

Additional analysis on assets and liabilities measured at fair value based on valuation techniques for which any significant input is not based on observable market data (Level 3):

Level 3 movement analysis:

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited)		12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited)	
	Financial assets at FVTPL £m	Derivative financial assets £m	Financial assets at FVTPL £m	Derivative financial assets £m
Financial assets at FVTPL				
Balance at the beginning of the period	2	1	1	-
Fair value gains recognised ⁽¹⁾				
In profit or loss – unrealised	-	-	1	1
Purchases	1	-	-	-
Settlements	(1)	-	-	-
Balance at the end of the period	2	1	2	1

(1) Net gains or losses were recorded in non-interest income.

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 4: Capital

4.1 Equity

4.1.1 Share capital and share premium

	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Share capital	1,243	1,243
Share premium	1,549	1,549
Share capital and share premium	2,792	2,792

	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) Number of shares	30 Sep 2021 (audited) Number of shares	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Ordinary shares of £0.10 each - allotted, called up, and fully paid				
Opening and closing ordinary share capital	12,431,538,208	12,431,538,208	1,243	1,243

The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at meetings of the shareholders of the Bank. All shares in issue at 31 March 2022 rank equally with regard to the Bank's residual assets.

During the period to 31 March 2022, interim dividends totalling £240m were paid to the parent company. A final dividend in respect of the year ended 30 September 2021 of 0.12p per ordinary share amounting to £14m was paid in March 2022.

The Directors have declared a further interim dividend in respect of the year ended 30 September 2022 of 0.29p per ordinary share in the Company, amounting to £36m, to be paid by the end of June 2022.

Share premium represents the aggregate of all amounts that have ever been paid above par value to the Bank when it has issued ordinary shares.

A description of the other equity categories included within the statements of changes in equity, and significant movements during the year, is provided below.

4.1.2 Other equity instruments

Other equity instruments consist of the following Perpetual Contingent Convertible Notes which were issued to Virgin Money UK PLC:

- Perpetual securities (fixed 8% up to the first reset date) issued on 8 February 2016 with a nominal value of £450m and optional redemption on 8 December 2022; and
- Perpetual securities (fixed 9.25% up to the first reset date) issued on 13 March 2019 with a nominal value of £250m and optional redemption on 8 June 2024.

The issues are treated as equity instruments in accordance with IAS 32 'Financial Instruments: Presentation' with the proceeds included in equity, net of transaction costs of £3m (30 September 2021: £3m). AT1 distributions of £30m were paid in the period (30 September 2021: £59m; 31 March 2021: £30m).

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 4: Capital (continued)

4.1.3 Cash flow hedge reserve

The cash flow hedge reserve represents the effective portion of cumulative post-tax gains and losses on derivatives designated as cash flow hedging instruments that will be recycled to the income statement when the hedged items affect profit or loss.

	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	12 months to 30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
At 1 October	10	(80)
Amounts recognised in other comprehensive income:		
Cash flow hedge – interest rate risk		
Effective portion of changes in fair value of interest rate swaps	73	127
Amounts transferred to the income statement	(5)	(5)
Taxation	(18)	(33)
Cash flow hedge – foreign exchange risk		
Effective portion of changes in fair value of cross currency swaps	-	(28)
Amounts transferred to the income statement	-	29
Closing cash flow hedge reserve	60	10

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Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 5: Other notes

5.1 Contingent liabilities and commitments

The table below sets out the amounts of financial guarantees and commitments which are not recorded on the balance sheet. Financial guarantees and commitments are credit-related instruments which include acceptances, letters of credit, guarantees and commitments to extend credit. The amounts do not represent the amounts at risk at the balance sheet date but the amounts that would be at risk should the contracts be fully drawn upon and the customer default. Since a significant portion of guarantees and commitments is expected to expire without being drawn upon, the total of the contract amounts is not representative of future liquidity requirements.

	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Guarantees and assets pledged as collateral security:		
Due in less than 3 months	22	20
Due between 3 months and 1 year	37	21
Due between 1 year and 3 years	12	13
Due between 3 years and 5 years	3	2
Due after 5 years	44	45
	118	101
Other credit commitments		
Undrawn formal standby facilities, credit lines and other commitments to lend at call	18,208	17,020

Capital commitments

The Group committed to providing additional funding of up to £5.5m over a 12 month period from June 2021 to support the strategic and customer proposition development of the Group's JV, UTM, of which £Nil was the remaining commitment as at 31 March 2022 (30 September 2021: £4m). Further detail on UTM can be found in the JVs and associates section of note 5.2.

Other contingent liabilities

Conduct risk related matters

There continues to be uncertainty and thus judgement is required in determining the quantum of conduct risk related liabilities, with note 3.7 reflecting the Group's current position in relation to a number of these matters where a provision can be reliably estimated. Until all matters are closed the final amount required to settle the Group's potential liabilities for conduct related matters remains uncertain.

The Group will continue to reassess the adequacy of provisions for these matters and the assumptions underlying the calculations at each reporting date based upon experience and other relevant factors at that time.

Legal claims

The Group is named in and is defending a number of legal claims arising in the ordinary course of business. No material adverse impact on the financial position of the Group is expected to arise from the ultimate resolution of these legal actions.

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Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 5: Other notes (continued)

5.2 Related party transactions

Amounts due from related entities	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Other receivables	4	4

There was no interest income recognised on the above amounts in either the current or prior period.

Amounts due to related entities	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Deposits	22	19
Other payables	7	5
Subordinated debt ⁽¹⁾	983	1,015
Medium-term notes ⁽²⁾	2,340	2,411
Total amounts due to related entities	3,352	3,450

Interest expense on the above amounts was as follows (note 2.2):

Interest expense to related parties	63	122
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(1) Subordinated debt comprises dated, unsecured loan capital and is issued to Virgin Money UK PLC. These debts will, in the event of the winding-up of the issuer, be subordinated to the claims of the depositors and all other creditors of the issuer, other than creditors whose claims rank junior to the claims of the holders of the subordinated liabilities. The debt is employed in the general business of the Bank.

(2) Medium-term notes comprise dated, unsecured loans and are issued to Virgin Money UK PLC. These securities will, in the event of the winding-up of the issuer, be subordinated to the claims of the depositors and all other creditors of the issuer, other than creditors whose claims rank junior to the claims of the medium-term note liabilities, including those of subordinated debt holders. The debt is employed in the general business of the Bank.

Other transactions with related entities	31 Mar 2022 (unaudited) £m	30 Sep 2021 (audited) £m
Other expenses		
Other expenses	9	17
Total other expenses to related entities	9	17

Equity

Ordinary dividends paid	254	20
AT1 distributions	30	59
Total dividends to related entities	284	79

In addition to the above, the Group also undertakes activity with the following entities which are considered to be related party transactions:

Yorkshire and Clydesdale Bank Pension Scheme ('the Scheme')

The Group provides banking services to the Scheme, with customer deposits of £10m (30 September 2021: £40m). Pension contributions of £6m were made to the Scheme in the period (period ended 31 March 2021: £14m; year ended 30 September 2021: £61m).

The Group and the Trustee to the Scheme (note 3.8) have entered into a contingent Security Arrangement which provides additional support to the Scheme by underpinning recovery plan contributions and some additional investment risk. The security is in the form of a pre-agreed maximum level of assets that are set aside for the benefit of the Scheme in certain trigger events. These assets are held by Red Grey Square Funding LLP, an insolvency remote consolidated structured entity.

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 5: Other notes (continued)

5.2 Related party transactions (continued)

JVs and associates

The Group holds investments in JVs of £9m (30 September 2021: £10m). The total share of loss for the period was £5m (period ended 31 March 2021: £4m; year ended 30 September 2021: £5m). In addition, the Group had the following transactions with JV entities during the period:

- Salary Finance Loans Limited ('Salary Finance') - the Group provides Salary Finance with a revolving credit facility funding line, of which the current gross lending balance at 31 March 2022 was £276m (30 September 2021: £223m) and the undrawn facility was £49m (30 September 2021: £37m). The facility is held under Stage 1 for credit risk purposes. Board approval is in place for this facility up until March 2023 with £400m being the approved limit; and
- UTM - the Group provides banking services to UTM which has resulted in amounts due of £3m (30 September 2021: £3m). Additionally, the Group received £4m of recharge income in the period (period ended 31 March 2021: £4m; year ended 30 September 2021: £7m) from UTM in accordance with a Service Level Agreement in respect of resourcing, infrastructure and marketing.

During the period, the Group provided £4m of additional funding to UTM (30 September 2021: £12m).

Other related party transactions with Virgin Group

The Group has related party transactions with other Virgin Group companies:

- The Group incurs credit card commissions and air mile charges with Virgin Atlantic Airways Limited (VAA) in respect of an agreement between the two parties. Amounts payable to VAA totalled £1m (30 September 2021: £2m) and expenses of £7m were incurred in the period (period ended 31 March 2021: £5m; year ended 30 September 2021: £12m).
- The Group incurs charges and receives commissions concerning the cashback incentive scheme with Virgin Red Limited in relation to the credit card and personal current account portfolio. During the period this resulted in expenses of £0.3m (31 March 2021: £0.4m, 30 September 2021: £0.8m) along with income of £0.2m (31 March 2021: £Nil, 30 September 2021: £Nil).
- The Group has an arrangement with Virgin Start Up Limited to host a series of events, podcasts and videos and other digital content. During the period this resulted in expenses of £0.3m (31 March 2021: £Nil, 30 September 2021: £0.1m).

Charities

The Group provides banking services to Virgin Money Foundation which has resulted in customer deposits of £1m (30 September 2021: £1m). The Group has made donations of £1m in the period (period ended 31 March 2021: £1m; year ended 30 September 2021: £1m) to the Foundation to enable it to pursue its charitable objectives. The Group has also provided a number of support services to the Foundation on a pro bono basis, including use of facilities and employee time. The estimated gift in kind for support services provided during the period was £0.2m (period ended 31 March 2021: £0.2m; year ended 30 September 2021: £0.4m).

Financial statements

Notes to the interim condensed consolidated financial statements (continued)

Section 5: Other notes (continued)

5.3 Notes to the statement of cash flows

	Term funding schemes ⁽¹⁾ £m	Debt securities in issue £m	Intercompany loans £m	Lease liabilities £m	Total £m
At 1 October 2020	5,397	5,933	2,822	175	14,327
Cash flows:					
Issuances	-	-	732	-	732
Drawdowns	3,350	-	19	-	3,369
Redemptions	-	(1,543)	(30)	-	(1,573)
Repayment	(2,864)	-	(16)	(28)	(2,908)
Non-cash flows:					
Fair value adjustments and associated unwind on acquired TFS and debt securities in issue	12	(49)	-	-	(37)
Additions to right-of-use asset in exchange for increased lease liabilities	-	-	-	4	4
Remeasurement	-	-	-	1	1
Movement in accrued interest	1	-	7	2	10
Unrealised foreign exchange movements	-	(104)	(28)	-	(132)
Unamortised costs	-	4	-	-	4
Other movements	-	-	(56)	-	(56)
At 30 September 2021	5,896	4,241	3,450	154	13,741
Cash flows:					
Issuances	-	600	-	-	600
Drawdowns	2,550	-	3	-	2,553
Redemptions	-	(216)	-	-	(216)
Repayment	(1,244)	-	(20)	(13)	(1,277)
Non-cash flows:					
Fair value adjustments and associated unwind on acquired TFS and debt securities in issue	-	(70)	-	-	(70)
Additions to right-of-use asset in exchange for increased lease liabilities	-	-	-	4	4
Remeasurement/disposal	-	-	-	1	1
Movement in accrued interest	7	16	7	1	31
Unrealised foreign exchange movements	-	4	(14)	-	(10)
Unamortised costs	-	1	3	-	4
Other movements	-	-	(77)	-	(77)
At 31 March 2022	7,209	4,576	3,352	147	15,284

(1) This includes amounts drawn under the term funding scheme (TFS) and TFSME.

Additional information

Measuring financial performance - glossary

Underlying adjustments to the statutory view of performance

Management exclude certain items from the Group's statutory position to arrive at an underlying performance basis. Management's approach to underlying adjustments is aligned to the European Securities and Markets Authority guidelines on APMs and recommendations are subject to review and agreement by the Board Audit Committee. Additional detail on these items is provided below to help understand their exclusion from underlying performance.

Item	6 months to 31 Mar 2022 £m	6 months to 31 Mar 2021 £m	6 months to 30 Sep 2021 £m	Reason for exclusion from the Group's current underlying performance
Restructuring charges	(46)	(49)	(97)	The current period's costs relate to the Group's accelerated Digital First strategy. The Group expects to incur c.£275m of restructuring charges across FY22-24 with around half the total amount incurred in FY22. FY21 costs represented the Group's three year integration plan following the acquisition of Virgin Money Holidays (UK) PLC and comprised a number of one-off expenses that were required to realise the anticipated cost synergies.
Acquisition accounting unwinds	(14)	(47)	(41)	This consists principally of the unwind of the IFRS 3 fair value adjustments created on the acquisition of Virgin Money Holdings (UK) PLC in October 2018. These represent either one-off adjustments or are the scheduled reversals of the accounting adjustments that arose following the fair value exercise required by IFRS 3. These will continue to be treated as non-underlying adjustments over the expected three to five-year period until they have been fully reversed.
Legacy conduct	(5)	(71)	(5)	These costs are historical in nature and are not indicative of the Group's current practices.
Other:				
SME transformation	-	(1)	-	These costs related to transformation of the Group's Business lending proposition and mainly comprised costs associated with the RBS incentivised switching scheme.
UTM transition costs	(8)	(5)	(1)	These costs relate to UTM's transformation costs principally for the build of a new platform for administration and servicing.
Internally developed software adjustments	-	-	(68)	These costs relate to the write-off of work-in-progress balances held on the balance sheet as a result of a reassessment of the Group's practices on capitalisation against the backdrop of the new digital first strategy and the move to an agile project delivery.
Total other	(8)	(6)	(69)	

Additional information

Glossary

For a glossary of terms and abbreviations used within this report refer to pages 186 to 192 of the Group's 2021 Annual Report and Accounts.

For terms not previously included within the Glossary, or where terms have been redefined refer below:

ARR	Alternative reference rate
BBR	Bank Base Rate

Additional information

Officers and professional advisers

Non-Executive Directors

Chairman	David Bennett
Senior Independent Non-Executive Director	Tim Wade
Independent Non-Executive Directors	Paul Coby ⁽¹⁾ Geeta Gopalan Elena Novokreshchenova Darren Pope
Non-Executive Director	Amy Stirling ⁽¹⁾
Executive Directors	David Duffy Clifford Abrahams
Group Company Secretary	Lorna McMillan
Group General Counsel and Purpose Officer	James Peirson
Independent auditors	Ernst & Young LLP 25 Churchill Place Canary Wharf London E14 5EY

(1) Amy Stirling will step down as a Non-Executive Director on 5 May 2022 and Paul Coby will step down as an independent Non-Executive Director on 30 June 2022.

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