

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2015

26 Called-up share capital

	2015 £'000	2014 £'000
Allotted, called up and fully paid		
516,603,910 (2014: 516,603,910) ordinary shares of 10 pence each	51,660	51,660

During the financial year, the Company did not purchase any of its own shares (2014: Nil); however, the Company funds Employee Share Trusts to meet its obligations under the Company's share schemes. During the year the Trusts purchased 4,170,000 (2014: 2,043,000) of the Company's ordinary shares through purchases on the London Stock Exchange for a total cash consideration of £4,058,000 (2014: £1,778,000) in order to meet future obligations under the Company's SIP, EIP and LTIP schemes. The total amount paid to acquire the shares, net of expenses and cash received for the exercise of share options, of £4,058,000 (2014: £1,764,000) has been deducted from retained earnings.

As of 31 March 2015, the total number of ordinary shares held by the Trusts to meet obligations under the Company's share schemes was 165,000 (2014: 205,000).