Hang Seng Insurance Company Limited

恒生保險有限公司

31 December 2024

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Report of the directors

The directors have pleasure in submitting their report together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Principal place of business

Hang Seng Insurance Company Limited ("the Company") is a company incorporated and domiciled in Hong Kong and has its registered office and principal place of business at 83 Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong.

Principal activities and business review

The principal activities of the Company are the transaction of life assurance and retirement benefit businesses.

The Company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a business review under section 388(3) of the Companies Ordinance Cap. 622 since it is a wholly-owned subsidiary (as defined in section 357(3) of the Companies Ordinance Cap. 622) of Hang Seng Bank Limited ("HASE").

Results and appropriations

The results of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024 are set out in the income statement on page 10.

The directors declared and paid the first and second interim dividend of HK\$3.1590 (2023: an interim dividend of HK\$2.9100) per share totalling HK\$2,030,031,706 (2023: HK\$1,870,019,710). The directors do not recommend any final dividend in respect of the year ended 31 December 2024 (2023: Nil).

Share capital

The Company has not issued any shares for the year ended 31 December 2024. Details of share capital of the Company are set out in Note 23 to the financial statements.

Equity-linked agreements

For the year ended 31 December 2024, the Company has not entered into any equity-linked agreement.

Directors of the Company

The directors of the Company, who were in office as at the date of this report, were:

Diana F Cesar (Chairman)
Ka Chun Cheung
Freddie Y W Chui*
May H M Knight*
Rannie W L Lee
Edward C L Moncreiffe
Say Pin Saw
Chi Fai Yam*

* Independent non-executive director

All the above directors served on the board of the Company throughout the year, except that Ka Chun Cheung, Freddie Y W Chui and Edward C L Moncreiffe were appointed as directors of the Company with effect from 15 July 2024, 1 July 2024 and 1 August 2024 respectively.

Gregory T Hingston, Joe H Y Lam and Jacky C W Muk resigned as directors of the Company with effect from 10 April 2024, 15 July 2024 and 1 July 2024 respectively. No notices in writing have been received from Gregory T Hingston, Joe H Y Lam and Jacky C W Muk specifying that their resignations were due to reasons relating to the affairs of the Company.

Ka Chun Cheung, Freddie Y W Chui and Edward C L Moncreiffe will retire from the board at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting in accordance with the Company's Articles of Association and, being eligible, offer themselves for election.

Diana F Cesar, May H M Knight and Rannie W L Lee will retire from the board by rotation at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting in accordance with the Company's Articles of Association and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Directors' interests in shares

During the term of office in 2024, Diana F Cesar, Ka Chun Cheung, Gregory T Hingston, Joe H Y Lam, Rannie W L Lee, Edward C L Moncreiffe and Say Pin Saw were eligible to be granted conditional awards over ordinary shares of HSBC Holdings plc by that company (being the ultimate holding company of the Company) under various HSBC share plans.

During the term of office in 2024, Diana F Cesar, Gregory T Hingston, Rannie W L Lee and Edward C L Moncreiffe acquired ordinary shares in HSBC Holdings plc following release of conditional awards of shares under HSBC Share Plans awarded in 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. Ka Chun Cheung and Joe H Y Lam acquired ordinary shares in HSBC Holdings plc following release of conditional awards of shares under HSBC Share Plans awarded in 2021, 2022 and 2023. Say Pin Saw acquired ordinary shares in HSBC Holdings plc following release of conditional awards of shares under HSBC Share Plans awarded in 2023 and 2024.

During the term of office in 2024, Ka Chun Cheung and Joe H Y Lam also acquired and/or was awarded ordinary shares of HSBC Holdings plc under the HSBC International Employee Share Purchase Plan.

Apart from the above, at no time during the year was the Company or any of its holding companies or its subsidiary or fellow subsidiaries a party to any arrangement to enable the directors of the Company to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares in, or debentures of, the Company or any other body corporate.

Management contracts

- (1) A service agreement dated 2 September 2021 (as amended from time to time) was entered into with The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited ("HBAP"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc, for a term of three years, provided complex pricing, collateral and derivative management and fund administration services to the Company in return for a fee. Furthermore, an investment management agreement dated 22 May 2023 was entered into between the Company and HBAP to provide foreign exchange hedging solution, in return for a fee based on bid-ask spread of each transaction.
- (2) A management services agreement dated 21 June 2022 and entered into with HSBC Life (International) Limited ("INHK"), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc, for a term of three years, pursuant to which INHK, directly or through one or more of its affiliates, provided certain management services to the Company in return for a fee. On 21 May 2024, the agreement was amended to remove part of the management services.
- (3) The following agreements were in place with HSBC Alternative Investments Limited ("HAIL"), another indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc in respect of collective investment schemes, during the year:
 - (i) An investment management agreement dated 21 June 2016 was entered into between the Company and HAIL for a term of 11 years, pursuant to which HAIL acts as investment manager in respect of certain private equity fund investments made by HAIL on behalf of the Company in return for a fee. On 21 June 2019, the aforesaid private equity investment agreement was amended to remove retainer fee and to revise the annual fee cap for maximum amount payable.
 - (ii) HAIL has been delegated to manage part of assets of the Company by way of a bespoke portfolio in accordance with a specific management mandate entered into between the Company, HSBC Global Asset Management (Hong Kong) Limited ("AMHK"), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc, and HAIL on 21 June 2022 with a term of three years, in return for a fee. On 10 Oct 2024, the agreement was amended to add the service scope of investment.
 - (iii) A fund monitoring agreement dated 21 June 2022 was entered into between the Company and HAIL for a term of three years commencing from 22 June 2022, pursuant to which HAIL would provide fund monitoring and reporting services for certain private equity investments made by the Company in return for a fee.
 - (iv) An investment management agreement dated 27 March 2023 was entered into between the Company, AMHK and HAIL for a term of 3 years, pursuant to which HAIL acts as investment manager in respect of a private equity fund investment called "HSBC Vision Private Equity Programme" made by HAIL on behalf of the Company in return for a fee.
 - (v) An investment advisory agreement dated 7 January 2025 was entered into between the Company and HAIL for a term of 3 years, pursuant to which HAIL acts as investment advisor in respect of providing due diligence service on private asset investments and deal execution on behalf of the Company in return for a fee.

Management contracts (continued)

- (4) An investment management agreement dated 21 June 2022 and entered into with AMHK for a term of three years, pursuant to which AMHK would act as investment manager in respect of certain of the Company's assets held from time to time in return for a fee. On 12 June 2023, certain amendments were made to fee schedule to the same investment management agreement with AMHK.
- (5) An investment management agreement dated 21 September 2024 and entered into between HSBC Global Asset Management (UK) Limited ("AMEU"), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc, and AMHK, for a terms of three years, pursuant to which AMEU would act as investment manager in respect of certain of the Company's assets held from time to time in return for a fee, with AMHK to provide client servicing assistance.
- (6) During the year, to standardise the governing principles and simplify processes for both existing and future continuing connected transactions between HASE and HSBC Holdings plc (together with its subsidiaries) ("HSBC Group"), the Company entered into three master agreements with HSBC Global Asset Management Limited, HBAP and HSBC Bank Plc covering transactions of insurance related investment management and advisory services, effective from 1 January 2024 in respect of services mentioned in (3), (4) and (5) above respectively.
- (7) During the year, the following agreements were effective for an indefinite period for the Company:
 - (i) An agreement whereby, HASE provided certain management services to the Company in return for a fee.
 - (ii) An agreement whereby Hang Seng Investment Management Limited ("HSVM"), a fellow subsidiary of the Company, provided investment management services to the Company in return for a fee. Certain amendments dated 9 May 2024 were made to update the annual management fee rate to respective asset classes.
 - (iii) An arrangement whereby Hang Seng Real Estate Management Limited ("HSRE"), a fellow subsidiary of the Company, provided property management services to the Company in return for a fee.
 - (iv) A management services agreement dated 1 January 2019 entered into between the Company and HSBC Global Services (Hong Kong) Limited ("HGSH"), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc, pursuant to which HGSH, directly or through one or more of its affiliates, would provide certain management services to the Company in return for a fee.
 - (v) Limited partnership agreements dated 28 October 2019, 8 July 2021 and 5 October 2022 entered into between the Company, HSBC (Guernsey) GP PCC Limited ("HGGP") and HSBC Management (Guernsey) Limited ("HMGL"), indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries of HSBC Holdings plc, respectively, to carry out the operation of the Partnership and provide investment management service in respect of alternative investments.

Diana F Cesar and Say Pin Saw are directors of HASE. During the year, Gregory T Hingston, was a director of INHK. May H M Knight, Edward C L Moncreiffe and Chi Fai Yam are directors of INHK. Rannie W L Lee and Say Pin Saw are directors of HSVM. Say Pin Saw is a director of HSRE. Save as aforesaid, no director of the Company has any interest in the above-mentioned arrangements.

Directors' material interests in transactions, arrangements and contracts that are significant in relation to the Company's business

Apart from the above, no transaction, arrangement or contract (that is significant in relation to the Company's business) to which the Company, or any of its holding companies, subsidiaries or fellow subsidiaries was a party, and in which a director of the Company, directly or indirectly, had a material interest, subsisted at the end of the year or at any time during the year.

Indemnity of directors

A permitted indemnity provision for the benefit of the directors of the Company is currently in force and was in force throughout the year.

Auditor

The financial statements have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers who will retire and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-appointment.

On behalf of the Board

Ka Chun Cheung Director Hong Kong, 17 February 2025



To the Members of Hang Seng Insurance Company Limited (incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

Opinion

What we have audited

The financial statements of Hang Seng Insurance Company Limited (the "Company") standing alone, which are set out on pages 10 to 119, comprise:

- the balance sheet as at 31 December 2024;
- the income statement for the year then ended;
- the statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended;
- the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended;
- the cash flow statement for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

Our opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company standing alone as at 31 December 2024, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") and have been properly prepared in compliance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing ("HKSAs") issued by the HKICPA. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements of the Company Standing Alone section of our report.

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

Independence

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the HKICPA's Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants ("the Code"), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.



To the Members of Hang Seng Insurance Company Limited (incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability) (Continued)

Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the report of the directors, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Directors and the Audit Committee for the Financial Statements of the Company Standing Alone

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with HKFRSs issued by the HKICPA and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.



To the Members of Hang Seng Insurance Company Limited (incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability) (Continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements of the Company Standing Alone

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. We report our opinion solely to you, as a body, in accordance with Section 405 of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with HKSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with HKSAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

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





To the Members of Hang Seng Insurance Company Limited (incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability) (Continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements of the Company Standing Alone (Continued)

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

PricewaterhouseCoopers Certified Public Accountants

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Hong Kong, 17 February 2025

Income Statement for the year ended 31 December 2024 (Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Insurance revenue		3,299,931	2,881,173
Insurance service expenses		(1,020,779)	(821,936)
Net income from reinsurance contracts held		104,304	13,064
Insurance service results	5	2,383,456	2,072,301
Interest income from financial assets not measured at FVPL		351,682	323,570
Net gain from financial assets measured at FVPL		6,026,161	10,786,560
Net loss on derecognition of financial assets not measured at FVPL			(13)
Movement in investment contract liabilities	7	(9,354)	2,096
Change in expected credit losses	,	824	(521)
Finance costs	19(c)	(116,151)	(210,958)
Other net investment income	15(0)	74,013	78,252
Loss on property revaluation	13(a)	(201,000)	(15,000)
Net investment income	6	6,126,175	10,963,986
Net finance expenses from insurance contracts	6	(5,558,717)	(10,805,982)
Net finance income from reinsurance contracts held	6	231,882	218,529
Net insurance finance expenses	_	(5,326,835)	(10,587,453)
Net investment results	6	799,340	376,533
Net insurance service and investment results	=	3,182,796	2,448,834
Fee income		1,436	1,735
Other operating income		33,808	48,893
Other operating expenses	8	(389,040)	(391,347)
Profit before tax	_	2,829,000	2,108,115
Tax expense	9	(417,246)	(276,183)
•			
Profit for the year attributable to shareholders	=	2,411,754	1,831,932

The Notes on pages 17 to 119 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2024

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Profit for the year		2,411,754	1,831,932
Other comprehensive income for the year (net of tax)			
Items that are or may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:			
Debt securities measured at fair value through other comprehensive income			
- Fair value (losses)/gains taken to equity	6	(356)	320
- Change in expected credit losses recognised in income statement		2	6
- Deferred tax	17(b)	58	(54)
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to shareholders		2,411,458	1,832,204

Other comprehensive income for the year 2024 included HK\$138 (2023: HK\$16,000) in relation to a reclassification adjustment to transfer fair value reserve to profit or loss upon derecognition of debt securities measured at fair value.

The Notes on pages 17 to 119 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2024

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Note	31 December 2024 \$'000	31 December 2023 \$'000
Assets		\$	\$ 000
Goodwill	11	1,447,006	1,447,006
Investment in a subsidiary	12	2,585,192	2,585,970
Investment property	13	1,769,000	1,970,000
Insurance contract assets	15	2,829	10,071
Reinsurance contract assets	15	12,867,096	5,377,650
Deferred tax assets	17(b)	2,720,553	1,607,508
Investment assets	14(a)	173,269,930	165,018,948
Other assets	16	1,735,459	2,111,122
Placings with and advances to banks			
and other financial institutions	18	6,684,363	3,766,487
Cash and deposit balances	19	3,265,604	1,223,023
Total assets		206,347,032	185,117,785
Liabilities			
Insurance contract liabilities	15	188,444,854	167,208,805
Reinsurance contract liabilities	15	1,001,603	1,110,808
Liabilities under investment contracts	20	244,901	263,772
Subordinated loan	21	1,045,000	1,045,000
Investment liabilities	14(a)	160,224	155,139
Other liabilities	22	2,989,728	2,055,770
Repurchase agreements	14(k)	-	2,078,734
Current tax liabilities	17(a)	1,246,821	367,282
Total liabilities		195,133,131	174,285,310
Net assets		11,213,901	10,832,475

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024 (continued)

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

Capital and reserves	Note	31 December 2024 \$'000	31 December 2023 \$'000
Share capital	23(a)	6,426,185	6,426,185
Reserves	23(b)	4,787,716	4,406,290
Total equity		11,213,901	10,832,475

Approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 17 February 2025.

)
Ka Chun Cheung) Directors
Say Pin Saw)

The Notes on pages 17 to 119 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 31 December 2024

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Attributable to equity shareholders of the Company				
	Share capital \$'000 (Note 23(a))	General reserve \$'000 (Note 23(b)(i))	Fair value reserve \$'000 (Note 23(b)(ii))	Retained profits \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance at 1 January 2024	6,426,185	380,847	272	4,025,171	10,832,475
Changes in equity for 2024:					
Profit for the year Other comprehensive loss (net of tax):	-	-	-	2,411,754	2,411,754
Debt securities measured at FVOCI			(296)		(296)
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the year Dividend paid (Note 23(d))			(296)	2,411,754 (2,030,032)	2,411,458 (2,030,032)
Balance at 31 December 2024	6,426,185	380,847	(24)	4,406,893	11,213,901

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Attributable to equity shareholders of the Company				
	Share capital \$'000 (Note 23(a))	General reserve \$'000 (Note 23(b)(i))	Fair value reserve \$'000 (Note 23(b)(ii))	Retained profits \$'000	Total \$'000
	(1voie 25(u))	(11016 25(0)(1))	(Note 25(b)(ii))		
Balance at 1 January 2023	6,426,185	380,847	-	3,819,613	10,626,645
Changes in equity for 2023:					
Profit for the year Other comprehensive income (net of tax):	-	-	-	1,831,932	1,831,932
Debt securities measured at FVOCI			272		272
Total comprehensive income	-	-	272	1,831,932	1,832,204
Dividend paid (Note 23(d))	-	-	-	(1,870,020)	(1,870,020)
Other movement	<u></u>		<u> </u>	243,646	243,646
Balance at 31 December 2023	6,426,185	380,847	272	4,025,171	10,832,475

The Notes on pages 17 to 119 form part of these financial statements.

Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 December 2024

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Operating activities			
Net cash generated from operating activities	19(b)	8,484,324	13,249,515
Investing activities			
Purchase of investments Proceeds from sales or redemption of investments Interest received		1,975,118	(5,702,133) 5,403,047 169,292
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities		975,148	(129,794)
Financing activities			
Dividend paid	23(d)	(2,030,032)	(1,870,020)
Proceeds from issue of repurchase agreements		3,701,787	
Repayment of repurchase agreements	19(c)	(5,735,346)	(12,642,727)
Interest paid on subordinated loan and repurchase agreements	19(c)	(162,798)	(280,699)
Net cash used in from financing activities		(4,226,389)	(9,776,531)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		5,233,083	3,343,190
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		9,797,208	6,454,018
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	19(a)	15,030,291	9,797,208

The Notes on pages 17 to 119 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars unless otherwise indicated)

1 Material accounting policies

(a) Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with all applicable Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs"), which collective term includes all applicable individual HKFRSs, Hong Kong Accounting Standards ("HKASs") and Interpretations issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA"), accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong and the requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance ("HKCO"). A summary of the material accounting policies adopted by Hang Seng Insurance Company Limited ("the Company") is set out below.

The HKICPA has issued certain amendments to HKFRSs that are first effective or available for early adoption for the current accounting period of the Company. Note 2 provides information on the initial application of these developments to the extent that they are relevant to the Company for the current and prior period reflected in these financial statements.

(b) Basis of preparation of the financial statements

For the purposes of compliance with sections 379 and 380 of the HKCO, the financial statements of Hang Seng Insurance Company Limited have been prepared to present a true and fair view of the financial position and financial performance of the Company only.

The Company is exempted from preparing the consolidated financial statements as:

- (i) The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hang Seng Bank Limited and has satisfied the exemption requirement sets out in section 379(3)(a) of the HKCO and therefore it is not required to prepare consolidated financial statements.
- (ii) Hang Seng Bank Limited's principal place of business and country of incorporation is in Hong Kong and has produced consolidated financial statements in accordance with HKFRSs available for public use. The consolidated financial statements of Hang Seng Bank Limited are obtainable on the Company's website www.hangseng.com.
- (iii) The Company's debt or equity instruments are not traded in a public market.
- (iv) The Company did not file, nor is it in the process of filing, its financial statements with a securities commission or other regulatory organisations for the purpose of issuing any class of instruments in a public market.

(b) Basis of preparation of the financial statements (continued)

Unless otherwise indicated, the financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars, rounded to the nearest thousand.

For the purpose of preparation of financial statements, information is considered material if such information is reasonably expected to influence decisions made by primary users.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with HKFRSs requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

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

Judgements made by management in the application of HKFRSs that have significant effect on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment in next year are discussed in Note 3.

Certain comparative figures in the financial statements have been reclassified to conform with current year's presentation.

(c) A subsidiary

A subsidiary is a company in which the Company, directly or indirectly, holds more than half of the issued share capital, or controls more than half of the voting power, or controls the composition of the Board of Directors. A subsidiary is considered to be controlled when the Company is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity.

In the Company's balance sheet, investment in a subsidiary is stated at cost less accumulated impairment allowance (see Note 1(q)(ii)). Loan to a subsidiary is stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less accumulated impairment allowance (see Note 1(q)(i)).

(d) Insurance and reinsurance contracts held

A contract is classified as an insurance contract where the Company accepts significant insurance risk from another party by agreeing to compensate that party if it is adversely affected by a specified uncertain future event. An insurance contract may also transfer financial risk, but is accounted for as an insurance contract if the insurance risk is significant.

(i) Aggregation of insurance contracts

Individual insurance contracts that are managed together and subject to similar risks are identified as a portfolio. Contracts that are managed together usually belong to the same product group, and have similar characteristics such as being subject to a similar pricing framework or similar product management. If a contract is exposed to more than one risk, the dominant risk of the contract is used to assess whether the contract features similar risks. Each portfolio is further separated by the contract's expected profitability. The portfolios are split by their profitability into (i) contracts that are onerous at initial recognition, (ii) contracts that at initial recognition have no significant possibility of becoming onerous subsequently, and (iii) the remaining contracts. These profitability groups are then divided by issue date, with contracts the Company issues being grouped into calendar quarter cohorts. For multi-currency groups of contracts, the Company considers its groups of contracts as being denominated in a single currency.

The measurement of the insurance contract liability is based on groups of insurance contracts as established at initial recognition, and will include fulfilment cash flows as well as the contractual service margin ("CSM") representing unearned profit. The Company has elected to update the estimates used in the measurement on a year-to-date basis.

(ii) Fulfilment cash flows

The fulfilment cash flows comprise the followings:

(1) Best estimates of future cash flows

These cash flows within the contract boundary of each contract in the group include amounts expected to be collected from premiums and payouts for claims, benefits and expenses, and are projected using a range of scenarios and assumptions in an unbiased way based on the Company's demographic and operating experience along with external mortality data where the Company's own experience data is not sufficiently large in size to be credible.

(2) Adjustment for the time value of money (i.e. discounting) and financial risks associated with the future cash flows

The estimates of future cash flows are adjusted to reflect the time value of money and the financial risks to derive an expected present value. The Company generally makes use of stochastic modelling techniques in the estimation for products with options and guarantees.

(d) Insurance and reinsurance contracts held (continued)

(ii) Fulfilment cash flows (continued)

(2) Adjustment for the time value of money (i.e. discounting) and financial risks associated with the future cash flows (continued)

A bottom-up approach is used to determine the discount rate to be applied to a given set of expected future cash flows. This is derived as the sum of the risk-free yield and an illiquidity premium. The Risk-free yield is determined based on observable market data, where such markets are considered to be deep, liquid and transparent. When information is not available, management judgement is applied to determine the appropriate risk-free yield. Illiquidity premiums reflect the liquidity characteristics of the associated insurance contracts.

(3) Risk adjustment for non-financial risk

The risk adjustment reflects the compensation required for bearing the uncertainty about the amount and timing of future cash flows that arises from non-financial risk. It is calculated as a 75th percentile level stress over one year period. The level of the stress is determined with reference to external regulatory stresses and internal economic capital stresses.

The 75th percentile is estimated to be equivalent to 59th percentile (2023: 60th percentile) for the Company, determined on the basis of an ultimate view over the whole duration of the of the contract.

The Company does not disaggregate changes in the risk adjustment between insurance service result (comprising insurance revenue and insurance service expense) and insurance finance income or expenses. All changes are included in insurance service result.

(iii) Measurement models

Variable fee approach ("VFA") measurement model is mandatory upon meeting the following eligibility criteria at inception:

- (1) the contractual terms specify that the policyholder participates in a share of a clearly identified pool of underlying items;
- (2) the Company expects to pay to the policyholder a substantial share of the fair value returns on the underlying items. The Company considers that a substantial share is a majority of returns; and
- (3) the Company expects a substantial proportion of any change in the amounts to be paid to the policyholder to vary with the change in fair value of the underlying items. The Company considers that a substantial proportion is a majority proportion of change on a present value probability weight average of all scenarios.

(d) Insurance and reinsurance contracts held (continued)

(iii) Measurement models (continued)

These criteria are assessed at the individual contract level based on the Company's expectations at the contract's inception, and they are not reassessed in subsequent periods, unless the contract is modified. The variability in the cash flows is assessed over the expected duration of a contract. The duration of a contract takes into account all cash flows within the boundary.

Most of the contracts issued by the Company are insurance contracts with direct participation features where the Company holds the pool of underlying assets and accounts for these groups of contracts under the VFA, upon meeting the eligibility criteria above.

Life direct participating contracts are viewed as creating an obligation to pay policyholders an amount that is equal to the fair value of underlying items, less a variable fee for service. The variable fee comprises the amount of the Company's share of the fair value of the underlying items, which is based on a fixed percentage of investment management fees (withdrawn from policyholder account values based on the fair value of underlying assets and specified in the contracts with policyholders), less the fulfilment cash flow that do not vary based on the returns on underlying items. These contracts are measured under VFA so as to reflect the consideration that the Company receives for the contracts is a variable fee.

The risk mitigation option is used for a number of economic offsets against the instruments that meet specific requirements.

The remaining contracts issued and the reinsurance contracts held are accounted for under the general measurement model ("GMM").

(iv) CSM and coverage units

The CSM represents the unearned profit and results in no income or expense at initial recognition unless a group of contracts is onerous. The CSM is adjusted at each subsequent reporting period for changes in fulfilment cash flows relating to future service (e.g. changes in non-economic assumptions, including mortality and morbidity rates). For initial recognition of onerous groups of contracts and when groups of contracts become onerous subsequently, losses are recognised in insurance service expense immediately.

For groups of contracts measured using the VFA, changes in the Company's share of the underlying items, and economic experience and economic assumption changes adjust the CSM, whereas these changes do not adjust the CSM under the GMM but are recognised in profit or loss as they arise. However, under the risk mitigation option for VFA contracts, the changes in the fulfilment cash flows and the changes in the Company's share in the fair value return on underlying items that the instruments mitigate are not adjusted in CSM but recognised in profit or loss. Certain instruments are eligible for risk mitigation option, including coinsurance arrangement on annuity business and mortality reinsurance on universal life business, which economic offset exists between fulfilment cash flow of underlying contracts and reinsurance contracts in response to interest rate movement.

(d) Insurance and reinsurance contracts held (continued)

(iv) CSM and coverage units (continued)

The CSM is systematically recognised in insurance revenue to reflect the insurance contract services provided, based on the coverage units of the group of contracts. Coverage units are determined by the quantity of benefits and the expected coverage period of the contracts.

The Company identifies the quantity of the benefits provided as follows:

- For insurance coverage based on the expected net policyholder insurance benefit at each period
 after allowance for decrements, where net policyholder insurance benefit refers to the amount of
 sum assured less the fund or surrender value.
- For investment services (including both investment-return service and investment-related service)
 based on a constant measure basis which reflects the provision of access for the policyholder to the facility.
- For contracts that provide both insurance coverage and investment services, coverage units are weighted according to the expected present value of the future cash outflows for each service.

(d) Insurance and reinsurance contracts held (continued)

(v) Insurance service result

Insurance revenue reflects the consideration to which the Company expects to be entitled in exchange for the provision of coverage and other insurance contract services (excluding any investment components). Insurance service expenses comprise the incurred claims and other incurred insurance service expenses (excluding any investment components), and losses on onerous groups of contracts and reversals of such losses.

(vi) Net insurance finance income and expenses

Insurance finance income or expenses comprise the change in the carrying amount of the group of insurance contracts arising from the effects of the time value of money, financial risk and changes therein. For VFA contracts, changes in the fair value of underlying items (excluding additions and withdrawals) are recognised in insurance finance income or expenses.

(vii) Reinsurance contracts held

The Company purchased reinsurance in the normal course of business for the purpose of limiting its net loss potential. Reinsurance arrangements do not relieve the Company from its direct obligations to its policyholders.

The measurement of reinsurance contracts held follows the same principles as those for insurance contracts issued, with the exception of the following:

- Measurement of the cash flows include an allowance on a probability-weighted basis for the effect
 of any non-performance by the reinsurers, including the effects of collateral and losses from
 disputes.
- The Company determines the risk adjustment for non-financial risk so that it represents the amount of risk being transferred to the reinsurer.
- The Company recognises both net gain and net cost on purchasing reinsurance at initial recognition in the balance sheet as CSM and releases this to profit or loss as the reinsurer renders services, except for the net cost that relates to events before initial recognition.

(e) Investment contracts

Investment contracts are recognised as financial liabilities in the balance sheet when the Company becomes party to their contractual provisions. Contributions received from policyholders are not recognised in the income statement but are accounted for as deposits.

All investment contracts issued by the Company are designated by the Company on initial recognition for measurement at fair value through profit or loss. This designation is consistent with the documented risk management and investment strategies of the Company.

Investment contracts consist of contracts with guarantee features (i.e. capital and minimum return guarantees), being non-linked investment contract, and contracts without guarantee features, being the linked investment contracts. For linked investment contract, the fair value is determined based on the fair value of the assets held in the linked funds. For the non-linked investment contract, the fair value is determined based on the fair value of the assets held in the non-linked funds, plus where applicable an allowance for the future cost of guarantee. The fair value of investment contracts is the accrued policy fund balance, plus where applicable an allowance for the future cost of guarantee in the non-linked investment contracts. Changes in the fair value of investment contracts are included in the income statement in the period in which they arise.

(f) Tax expense

Tax expense for the year comprises current tax and movements in deferred tax assets and liabilities. Current tax and movements in deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognised in the income statement except to the extent that they relate to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, in which case the relevant amounts of tax are recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

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

Deferred tax assets and liabilities arise from deductible and taxable temporary differences respectively, being the differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and their tax bases. Deferred tax assets also arise from unused tax losses and unused tax credits.

(f) Tax expense (continued)

Where investment properties are carried at their fair value in accordance with the accounting policy set out in Note 1(h), the amount of deferred tax recognised is measured using the tax rates that would apply on the sale of those assets at their carrying value at the balance sheet date unless the property is depreciable and is held within a business model whose objective is to consume substantially all of the economic benefits embodied in the property over time, rather than through sale. In all other cases, the amount of deferred tax recognised is measured based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when they relate to income tax levied by the same taxation authority and when a legal right to offset exists in the Company.

The carrying amount of a deferred tax asset is reviewed at each balance sheet date and is reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow the related tax benefit to be utilised.

(g) Foreign currency translation

Items included in the financial statements are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Company operates ("the functional currency"). The financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars which is also the Company's functional currency.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the foreign exchange rates ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are translated to Hong Kong dollars at the foreign exchange rates ruling at that date. Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognised in the income statement.

Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates ruling at the transaction dates. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are stated at fair value are translated into Hong Kong dollars at foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates the fair value was measured.

(h) Investment property

An investment property is land and/or building which is owned or held under a leasehold interest to earn rental income and/or for capital appreciation. An investment property is stated in the balance sheet initially at cost, including related transaction costs and where applicable borrowing costs. Subsequently they are carried at fair value. Any gain or loss arising from a change in fair value is recognised in the income statement.

(i) Goodwill

The purchase method of accounting is used for all business acquisitions.

Goodwill arises on the portfolio transfer of business when the cost of acquisition exceeds the Company's interest in the net fair value of the identifiable assets acquired and liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed.

Goodwill arising on acquisition is initially recognised in the balance sheet as an asset and measured at cost and subsequently at cost less any accumulated impairment allowance.

Goodwill is allocated to the Company's cash-generating units. Impairment is determined by assessing the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the goodwill relates. The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less cost to sell and its value in use. Where the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit is less than the carrying amount, an impairment allowance is recognised in the income statement and this impairment allowance recognised for goodwill is not reversed in a subsequent period.

At the date of disposal of a cash-generating unit, any attributable goodwill is included in the calculation of the gain or loss on disposal.

(j) Financial instruments

Purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the trade date, which is when the Company commits to purchase or sell the assets. Financial assets are derecognised when contractual rights to receive cash flows from the assets expire, or where the assets, together with substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership, have been transferred. Financial liabilities are derecognised when they are extinguished, that is, when the obligation is discharged or cancelled or expired.

On initial recognition, a financial instrument is classified as measured at:

- fair value through profit or loss ("FVPL");
- amortised cost;
- fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVOCI").

Financial instruments are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition, except in the period after the company changes its business model for managing financial instruments.

(j) Financial instruments (continued)

(i) Financial instruments mandatorily measured at FVPL

Financial assets that are held to support contracts within the scope of HKFRS 17 (financial assets "backing" insurance contracts) are mandatorily measured at FVPL as default and no business model assessment, or having to demonstrate either trading intent or the need to apply the fair value option is necessary. Changes in the fair value of the investment (including interest) are recognised in profit or loss.

(ii) Financial instruments measured at amortised cost

Financial assets that are not eligible for supporting insurance contracts and are held to collect the contractual cash flows and that contain contractual terms that give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest (the "SPPI") are measured at amortised cost. In addition, most financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost. The carrying value of these financial assets at initial recognition includes the directly attributed transactions costs.

(iii) Financial instruments measured at FVOCI

Financial assets that are not eligible for supporting insurance contracts and are held for a business model that is achieved by both selling and collecting contractual cash flows and that contain contractual terms that give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are SPPI are measured at FVOCI. They are subsequently remeasured at fair value and changes therein (except for those relating to impairment allowance, interest income and foreign currency exchange gains and losses) are recognised in other comprehensive income until the assets are sold. Upon disposal, the cumulative gain or loss in other comprehensive income is reclassified from equity to income statement.

(iv) Financial instruments designated at FVPL

Financial instruments designated at FVPL are financial instruments which on initial recognition are designated by the Company for measurement at FVPL.

Financial instruments so designated are recognised initially at fair value. Any attributable transaction costs are recognised in income statement as incurred. After initial recognition, the Company measures financial instruments designated at FVPL, at their fair value. Gains and losses from changes in the fair value of such instruments are recognised in the income statement as they arise.

(j) Financial instruments (continued)

(iv) Financial instruments designated at FVPL (continued)

The Company has designated all investment contract liabilities for measurement at FVPL. The risk management and investment strategies of these financial instruments are set by the Investment Committee and Risk Management Meeting of the Company with performance being evaluated on a fair value basis. These risk management and investment strategies are documented and approved by the Investment Committee and Risk Management Meeting of the Company.

(v) Derivatives

Derivatives are financial instruments that derive their value from the price of underlying item such as foreign exchange rates, interest rates or other indices. Derivatives are recognised at FVPL. Derivatives are classified as assets when their fair value is positive or as liabilities when their fair value is negative.

(vi) Repurchase agreements

When debt securities measured at amortised cost are sold subject to a commitment to repurchase them at a predetermined price, they remain on the balance sheet and a liability is recorded in respect of the consideration received. Repurchase agreements are then also measured at amortised cost. The difference between the sale and repurchase price or between the purchase and resale price is treated as interest and recognised as an interest expense over the life of the agreement.

(k) Other assets

Other assets are initially recognised at fair value and thereafter stated at amortised cost less accumulated impairment allowance, unless the effect of discounting would be immaterial, in which case they are stated at cost less accumulated impairment allowance.

Impairment allowance for other assets is accounted for according to Note 1(q)(ii).

(1) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, fixed deposits with banks and other financial institutions, and short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, having been within three months of maturity at acquisition. Cash and deposit balances, placings with and advances to banks and other financial institutions (see Note 1(m)) and treasury bills with less than three months' maturity from the date of acquisition are also included as a component of cash and cash equivalents for the purpose of the cash flow statement.

(m) Placings with and advances to banks and other financial institutions

Placings with and advances to banks and other financial institutions are cash at banks and deposits with banks that are held by fund managers and to be invested.

(n) Other liabilities

Other liabilities are initially recognised at fair value and thereafter stated at amortised cost unless the effect of discounting would be immaterial, in which case they are stated at cost.

(o) Subordinated loan

Subordinated loan is initially recognised at fair value and thereafter stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

(p) Valuation of financial instruments

All financial instruments are recognised initially at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an instrument or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value of a financial instrument on initial recognition is generally its transaction price (that is the fair value of the consideration given or received). However, the fair value will be based on other observable current market transactions in the same instrument, without modification or repackaging, or on a valuation technique whose variables include only data from observable markets, such as interest rate yield curves, option volatilities and currency rates.

The fair value of financial instruments is generally measured on an individual basis. However, in cases where the Company manages a group of financial instruments and liabilities according to its net market or credit risk exposure, the Company measures the fair value of the group of financial instruments on a net basis but presents the underlying financial instruments and liabilities separately in the financial statements, unless they satisfy the HKFRS offsetting criteria.

(q) Impairment of assets

(i) Impairment of amortised cost and FVOCI financial assets

Expected credit losses ("ECL") are recognised for debt securities measured at amortised cost and FVOCI, and other financial assets measured at amortised cost. At initial recognition, allowance is required for ECL resulting from default events that are possible within the next 12 months (or less, where the remaining life is less than 12 months) ("12-month ECL"). In the event of a significant increase in credit risk, allowance is required for ECL resulting from all possible default events over the expected life of the financial instrument ("lifetime ECL"). Financial assets where 12-month ECL is recognised are considered to be "stage 1"; financial assets which are considered to have experienced a significant increase in credit risk are in "stage 2"; and financial assets for which there is objective evidence of impairment or are considered to be in default or otherwise credit-impaired are in "stage 3".

- Credit-impaired (stage 3)

The Company determines that a financial asset is credit-impaired and in stage 3 by considering relevant objective evidence, primarily whether:

- contractual payments of either principal or interest are past due for more than 90 days;
- there are other indications that the counterparty is unlikely to pay such as that a concession has been granted to the counterparty for economic or legal reasons relating to the counterparty's financial condition; and
- the exposure is otherwise considered to be in default.

If such unlikeliness to pay is not identified at an earlier stage, it is deemed to occur when an exposure is 90 days past due. Therefore, the definitions of credit-impaired and default are aligned as far as possible so that stage 3 represents all financial assets which are considered defaulted or otherwise credit-impaired.

- Write-off

Financial assets (and the related impairment allowance) are normally written off, either partially or in full, when there is no realistic prospect of recovery.

(q) Impairment of assets (continued)

- (i) Impairment of amortised cost and FVOCI financial assets (continued)
 - Significant increase in credit risk (stage 2)

An assessment of whether credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition is performed at each reporting period by comparing the risk of default occurring at the reporting date compared to that at initial recognition.

The quantitative comparison assesses default risk using a lifetime probability of default which encompasses a wide range of information including the obligor's customer risk rating ("CRR"), macroeconomic condition forecasts and credit transition probabilities. Note 14(b)(vi) gives details of relationship between credit quality and CRR.

Significant increase in credit risk is measured by comparing the average probability of default ("PD") for the remaining term estimated at origination with the equivalent estimation at reporting date. The quantitative measure of significance varies depending on the credit quality at origination as follows:

Origination CRR	Significance trigger – PD to increase by
0.1-1.2	15bps
2.1-3.3	30bps
Greater than 3.3 and not impaired	2x

The quantitative comparison is supplemented with additional CRR deterioration-based thresholds as set out in the table below:

Origination CRR	Additional significance criteria – Number of CRR grade notches deterioration required to identify as significant credit deterioration (stage 2) (> or equal to)
0.1	5 notches
1.1-4.2	4 notches
4.3-5.1	3 notches
5.2-7.1	2 notches
7.2-8.2	1 notch
8.3	0 notch

(q) Impairment of assets (continued)

- (i) Impairment of amortised cost and FVOCI financial assets (continued)
 - Unimpaired and without significant increase in credit risk (stage 1)

ECL resulting from default events that are possible within the next 12 months ("12-month ECL") are recognised for financial assets that remain in stage 1.

- Movement between stages

Financial assets can be transferred between the different stages depending on their relative increase in credit risk since initial recognition.

Measurement of ECL

The assessment of credit risk, and the estimation of ECL, are unbiased and probability-weighted, and incorporate all available information which is relevant to the assessment including information about past events, current conditions and reasonable and supportable forecasts of future events and economic conditions at the reporting date. In addition, the estimation of ECL should take into account the time value of money.

In general, the Company calculates ECL using three main components, PD, a loss given default ("LGD") and the exposure at default ("EAD").

The 12-month ECL is calculated by multiplying the 12-month PD, LGD and EAD. Lifetime ECL is calculated using the lifetime PD instead. The 12-month and lifetime PDs represent the probability of default occurring over the next 12 months and the remaining maturity of the financial assets respectively.

(q) Impairment of assets (continued)

- (i) Impairment of amortised cost and FVOCI financial assets (continued)
 - Measurement of ECL (continued)

The EAD represents the expected balance at default, taking into account the repayment of principal and interest from the balance sheet date to the default event. The LGD represents expected losses on the EAD given the event of default, taking into account, among other attributes, the mitigating effect of collateral value at the time it is expected to be realised and the time value of money.

- Forward-looking economic forecast

The Company applies multiple forward-looking global economic scenarios determined with reference to external forecast distributions representative of our view of forecast economic conditions. This approach is considered sufficient to calculate unbiased expected credit loss in most economic environments. In certain economic environments, additional analysis may be necessary and result in additional scenarios or adjustments, to reflect a range of possible economic outcomes for an unbiased expected credit loss estimate. The detailed methodology is disclosed in "Measurement uncertainty and sensitivity analysis of ECL estimates" in Note 14(b)(iv).

(ii) Impairment of other assets

Internal and external sources of information are reviewed at each balance sheet date to identify indications that the following types of assets may be impaired or, except in the case of goodwill, an impairment allowance previously recognised no longer exists or may have decreased:

- goodwill; and
- investment in a subsidiary.

1 Material accounting policies (continued)

(q) Impairment of assets (continued)

(ii) Impairment of other assets (continued)

If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment allowance is recognised. In addition, for goodwill, the recoverable amount is estimated annually whether or not there is any indication for impairment.

- Calculation of recoverable amount

The recoverable amount of an asset is the greater of its fair value less cost of disposal and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. Where an asset does not generate cash inflows largely independent of those from other assets, the recoverable amount is determined for the smallest group of assets that generate cash inflows independently (i.e. a cash-generating unit).

- Recognition of impairment allowance

An impairment allowance is recognised in the income statement if the carrying amount of an asset, or the cash-generating unit to which it belongs, exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment allowance recognised in respect of cash-generating units are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to the cash-generating unit (or group of units) and then, to reduce the carrying amount of the other assets in the unit (or group of units) on a pro rata basis, except that the carrying value of an asset will not be reduced below its individual fair value less costs to sell, or value in use, if determinable.

- Reversal of impairment allowance

In respect of assets other than goodwill, an impairment allowance is reversed if there has been a favourable change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment allowance in respect of goodwill is not reversed.

A reversal of an impairment allowance is limited to the asset's carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment allowance been recognised in prior years. Reversals of impairment allowance is credited to the income statement in the year in which the reversals are recognised.

1 Material accounting policies (continued)

(r) Related parties

- (i) A person, or a close member of that person's family, is related to the Company if that person:
 - (1) has control or joint control over the Company;
 - (2) has significant influence over the Company; or
 - is a member of the key management personnel of the Company or the Company's parent.
- (ii) An entity is related to the Company if any of the following conditions applies:
 - (1) The entity and the Company are members of the same group (which means that each parent, subsidiary and fellow subsidiary is related to the others).
 - One entity is an associate or joint venture of the other entity (or an associate or joint venture of a member of a group of which the other entity is a member).
 - (3) Both entities are joint ventures of the same third party.
 - (4) One entity is a joint venture of a third entity and the other entity is an associate of the third entity.
 - (5) The entity is a post-employment benefit plan for the benefit of employees of either the Company or an entity related to the Company.
 - (6) The entity is controlled or jointly controlled by a person identified in (i).
 - (7) A person identified in (i)(1) has significant influence over the entity or is a member of the key management personnel of the entity (or of a parent of the entity).
 - (8) The entity, or any member of a group of which it is a part, provides key management personnel services to the Company or to the Company's parent.

Close members of the family of a person are those family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by, that person in their dealings with the entity.

2 Impacts of amendments to HKFRSs

The HKICPA has issued a number of amendments to HKFRSs that are first effective for the current accounting period of the Company. None of these developments is relevant to the Company's financial statements.

The Company has not applied any new and amended standards or interpretations issued that are not yet effective for the current accounting period (see Note 27).

3 Significant judgements and estimates

The results of the Company are sensitive to the accounting policies, assumptions and estimates that underlie the preparation of the financial statements. The material accounting policies are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. The accounting policies that are deemed critical to our results and financial position, in terms of the materiality of the items to which the policies are applied and the high degree of judgement involved, including the use of assumptions and estimation, are discussed below.

(a) Insurance contracts

(i) Determination of the fair value of insurance contract liabilities

Under the FVA approach required by HKFRS 17, the valuation of insurance liabilities on transition is based on the requirements of HKFRS 13 'Fair Value Measurement'. This requires consideration of the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date (an exit price). Under the FVA, the CSM is calculated as the difference between what a market participant would demand for assuming the unexpired risk associated with insurance contracts, including required profit, and the future cash flows committed to under the contract (the fulfilment cash flows - determined using HKFRS 17 principles).

There is judgement involved in determining an appropriate fair value, as there is a lack of observable data for actual transactions for closed book insurance businesses and a range of possible modelling approaches. In determining the fair value, the Company considered the estimated profit margin that a market participant would demand in return for assuming the insurance liabilities, and the discount rate that would be applied within the HKFRS 13 calculation. The approach for setting these included the following:

(1) The discount rate was derived with an allowance for an illiquidity premium that takes into account the level of 'matching' between the Company's assets and related liabilities, utilising local regulatory frameworks.

(a) Insurance contracts (continued)

- (i) Determination of the fair value of insurance contract liabilities (continued)
 - (2) A profit margin was determined considering the level of capital that a market participant would be required to hold under the local regulatory framework, and the associated cost of capital.

(ii) Coverage units

The Company's approach to the determination of coverage units is set out in 'Material accounting policies' in Note 1(d). Significant judgement was involved in the determination of the approach that most faithfully represents the nature of our business and the benefits that are ascribed to the policyholder over the duration of insurance contracts, as the standard does not specify a required basis for determination of coverage units. This judgement is most significant for investment services, which constitute the most material element of service for most of our contracts. The Company determined that the coverage unit basis that best reflects the provision of investment services is the availability of the facility over time. The quantity of benefit selected is therefore a constant measure.

(iii) Discount rates

The Company has elected to apply a bottom-up approach whereby the discount rate is derived using the risk-free rate adjusted for an illiquidity premium as set out in the Material accounting policies in Note 1(d) Insurance and reinsurance contracts held. The blended average of discount rates used within the Company are as follows:

	At 31 December 2024		At 31 December 2		
	HKD	USD	HKD	USD	
rate 10Y (%)	4.43	5.25	4.16	4.62	
rate 20Y (%)	4.53	5.60	4.34	5.06	

(a) Insurance contracts (continued)

(iv) Expenses

HKFRS 17 requires the determination of whether cash flows are directly attributable to the acquisition or fulfilment of insurance contracts. Insurance acquisition cash flows are included in the measurement of a group of insurance contracts only if they are directly attributable to the individual contracts in a group, to the group itself, or the portfolio of insurance contracts to which the group belongs. When estimating fulfilment cash flows, the Company also allocates fixed and variable overheads cash flows directly attributable to the fulfilment of insurance contracts. Judgement is involved in identifying and allocating costs and this determination has been informed by time study assessments which consider factors such as the allocation of frontline staff costs related to distribution including salaries, commissions and bonuses, and associated overhead allocations. Assessments are also performed to determine the amount of maintenance costs such as claims handling, policy administration and associated overheads.

(b) Impairment of goodwill

The Company reviews goodwill at the balance sheet date to assess whether an impairment loss should be recorded in the income statement. The assessment is done by comparing the Company's appraisal value (which is its value in use) and carrying value of its net assets. Assumptions have been applied which are set out in Note 11 in determining the Company's appraisal value and these are reassessed at each reporting date and changes in estimates which affect the impairment test would be reflected in the income statement should there be any impairment.

(c) Fair value of investment property

The fair value of investment property is determined by using valuation technique. Details of the judgement and assumptions have been disclosed in Note 13.

(d) Long-term investment contract liabilities

The Company makes estimates of the fair value of investment guarantees provided in non-linked investment contracts. A best estimate liability plus an allowance for the cost of holding regulatory capital is used to determine the fair value of the guarantee features of these contracts.

(e) Valuation of financial instruments

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price in an actively traded principal market. In the event that the market for a financial instrument is not active, and the valuation technique uses only observable market data, the reliability of the fair value measurement is high. However, when valuation techniques include one or more significant unobservable inputs, they rely to a greater extent on management judgement and the fair value derived becomes less reliable. In absence of observable valuation inputs, due to a lack of or reduced volume of similar transactions, management judgement is required to assess the price at which an arm's length transaction would occur under normal business conditions, in which case management may rely on historical prices for that particular financial instrument or on recent prices for similar instruments.

The main assumptions and estimates which the Company considers when applying a model with valuation techniques are:

- the likelihood and expected timing of future cash flows on the instrument. Judgement may be required to assess the counterparty's ability to service the instrument in accordance with its contractual terms. Future cash flows may be sensitive to changes in market rates;
- selecting appropriate discount rate for the instrument. Judgement is required to assess what a market participant would regard as the appropriate spread of the rate for an instrument over the appropriate risk-free rate; and
- judgement to determine what model to use to calculate fair value in areas where the choice of valuation model is particularly subjective, for example, when valuing complex derivatives.

When applying a model with observable inputs, estimates are made to reflect uncertainties in fair values resulting from a lack of market data inputs, for example, as a result of illiquidity in the market. For these instruments, the fair value measurement is less reliable. Inputs into valuations based on observable data are inherently uncertain because there is little or no current market data available from which to determine the level at which an arm's length transaction would occur under normal business conditions. However, in most cases there is some market data available on which to base a determination of fair value, for example historical data, and the fair values of most financial instruments are based on some market observable inputs even when unobservable inputs are significant.

(f) Impairment of amortised cost and FVOCI financial assets

The Company recognises loss allowances for ECL on financial assets measured at amortised cost and debt securities measured at fair value through other comprehensive income. The measurement of ECL requires the use of complex models and significant assumptions about future economic conditions and credit behaviour. Details of the inputs, assumptions and estimation techniques used for estimating ECL are further explained in Note 14.

A number of significant judgements are also required in applying the accounting requirements for measuring ECL, such as:

- Determining criteria for significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition;
- Choosing appropriate models and assumptions for the measurement of ECL; and
- Establishing the methodology for incorporating forward-looking information into the measurement of ECL.

4 Risk

(a) Overview

The majority of the risk in the insurance business derives from manufacturing activities and can be categorised as insurance underwriting risk and financial risk. Financial risk includes the risk of not being able to match liabilities arising under insurance contracts with appropriate investments and that the expected sharing of financial performance with policyholders under certain contracts is not possible, exposure of which arises from market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. Insurance underwriting risk is the risk that, over time, the cost of insurance policies written, including claims and benefits, may exceed the total amount of premiums and investment income received.

(b) Governance and structure

Insurance underwriting risks are managed to a defined risk appetite, which is aligned to the Company's risk appetite and risk management framework including the Company's "Three Lines of Defence" model. The Company's Risk Management Meeting oversees the control framework. The monitoring of the risks within the insurance business is carried out by the Insurance Risk Team. The Company's risk stewardship sub-functions support the Insurance Risk Team in their respective areas of expertise.

In addition, the Company performs annually an Own Risk and Solvency Assessment ("ORSA") to assess its risk profile, the adequacy of its risk management and also its current, and likely future, solvency and liquidity positions according to local regulation.

(c) Stress and scenario testing

Stress testing forms a key part of the risk management framework for the insurance business. The Company participates in regulatory stress tests, as well as internally developed stress and scenario tests. The results of these stress tests and the adequacy of management action plans to mitigate these risks are considered in the Company's regulatory ORSA as required under Hong Kong Risk-Based Capital Regulation ("HKRBC").

(d) Key risk management processes

(i) Market risk

Market risk is the risk of changes in market factors affecting Company's capital or profit. Market factors include interest rates, equity and growth assets, credit spreads and foreign exchange rates.

Exposure of the Company varies depending on the type of contract issued. Most significant life insurance products of the Company are contracts with Discretionary Participation Feature ("DPF") issued in Hong Kong. These products typically include some form of capital guarantee or guaranteed return, on the sums invested by the policyholders, to which bonuses are added if allowed by the overall performance of the funds. These funds are primarily invested in bonds with a proportion allocated to other asset classes, to provide customers with the potential for enhanced returns. Contracts with DPF are further classified into Life direct participating contracts and Life other contracts under HKFRS 17.

(d) Key risk management processes (continued)

(i) Market risk (continued)

DPF products expose the Company to the risk of variation in asset returns, which will impact the Company's participation in the investment performance. In addition, in some scenarios the asset returns can become insufficient to cover the policyholders' financial guarantees, in which case the shortfall has to be met by the Company. Allowances are made against the cost of such guarantees, calculated by stochastic modelling.

The cost of such guarantees are generally not material as it is absorbed by the CSM.

For unit-linked contracts, market risk is substantially borne by the policyholders, but some market risk exposure typically remains as fees earned are related to the market value of the linked assets.

The Company has market risk mandates which specify the investment instruments in which the Company is permitted to invest and the maximum quantum of market risk which the Company may retain. The Company manages market risk by using, among others, some or all of the techniques listed below, depending on the nature of the contracts written:

- for products with DPF, adjusting bonus rates to manage the liabilities to policyholders and the effect is that a significant portion of the market risk is borne by the policyholders;
- asset and liability matching where asset portfolios are structured to support projected liability cash flows. The Company manages its assets using an approach that considers asset quality, diversification, cash flow matching, liquidity, volatility and target investment return. It is not always possible to match asset and liability durations due to uncertainty over the receipt of all future premiums and the timing of claims; and the forecast payment dates of liabilities may exceed the duration of the longest dated investments available. The Company uses models to assess the effect of a range of future scenarios on the values of financial assets and associated liabilities and the Asset and Liability Management Committee employs the outcomes in determining how to best structure asset holdings to support liabilities;
- using derivatives and other financial instruments to protect against adverse market movements; and
- designing new products to mitigate market risk, such as changing the investment return sharing portion between policyholders and the shareholder.

(d) Key risk management processes (continued)

(ii) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss if a customer or counterparty fails to meet their obligation under a contract, which arises in two main areas:

- risk associated with credit spread volatility and default by counterparties of debt securities after investing premiums to generate a return for policyholders and shareholder; and
- risk of default by reinsurance counterparties and non-reimbursement for claims made after ceding insurance risk.

The Company has credit risk mandates and limits within which it is permitted to operate, which consider the credit risk exposure quality and performance of its investment portfolios. Assessment of the creditworthiness of issuers and counterparties is based primarily upon internationally recognised credit ratings and other publicly available information. Stress testing is performed on the investment credit exposures using credit spread sensitivities and default probabilities.

The Company uses tools to manage and monitor credit risk. These include a credit report which contains a watch-list of investments with current credit concerns to identify investments which may be at risk of future impairment or where high concentrations to counterparties are present in the investment portfolio. Sensitivities to credit spread risk are assessed and monitored regularly.

Impairment for debt securities measured at amortised cost and FVOCI is calculated in three stages and financial assets are allocated into one of the three stages where the transfer mechanism depends on whether there is a significant increase in credit risk between its first recognition and the relevant reporting period. After the allocation, the measurement of ECL, which is the product of PD, LGD and EAD, will reflect the change in risk of default occurring over the remaining life of the instruments. Note 1(q)(i) set out the details on related accounting policy.

Credit risk on assets supporting unit-linked liabilities is predominantly borne by the policyholders; therefore exposure is primarily related to liabilities under non-linked insurance and investment contracts and shareholder's funds.

(d) Key risk management processes (continued)

(ii) Credit risk (continued)

The credit quality of financial assets and reinsurance contract assets are included in the table in Note 14(b)(vi) and 15 respectively. The risk associated with credit spread volatility is to a larger extent mitigated by holding debt securities to maturity, and sharing a degree of credit spread exposures with policyholders.

(iii) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company, though solvent, either does not have sufficient financial resources available to meet its obligations when they fall due, or can secure them only at excessive cost. Liquidity risk may be able to be shared with policyholders for products with DPF.

Liquidity risk is managed by cashflow matching and maintaining sufficient cash resources; investing in high-credit-quality investments with deep and liquid markets, monitoring investment concentrations and restricting them where appropriate and establishing committed contingency borrowing facilities and conducting stress testing to understand the impact on liquidity in the event of a mass lapse.

The Company completes quarterly liquidity risk reports and an annual review of the liquidity risks in which it is exposed.

(iv) Insurance underwriting risk

Insurance underwriting risk is the risk of loss through adverse experience, in either timing or amount, of insurance underwriting parameters (non-economic assumptions). These parameters include mortality, morbidity, longevity, lapses and expense rates. The principal risk the Company faces is that, over time, the cost of the contract, including claims and benefits may exceed the total amount of premiums and investment income received.

(d) Key risk management processes (continued)

(iv) Insurance underwriting risk (continued)

The Company primarily uses the following framework and processes to manage and mitigate insurance underwriting risk:

- a formal approval process for launching new products or making changes to products;
- a product pricing and profitability framework, which requires initial and ongoing assessment of the adequacy of premiums charged on new insurance contracts to meet the risks associated with them;
- a framework for customer underwriting;
- reinsurance, which cedes risks to third-party reinsurer to keep risks within risk appetite, reduce volatility and improve capital efficiency; and
- oversight of the methodology and assumptions that underpin HKFRS 17 reporting by the Company's Actuarial Review Committee.

(v) Foreign exchange risk

The liabilities of the Company are mainly denominated in United States dollar ("USD"), Hong Kong dollar ("HKD") and China Renminbi ("RMB"). While the Company adopts a policy of predominately matching the assets with liabilities in the same currency, assets in other foreign currencies such as Euro ("EUR"), are also used to back such liabilities, and the Company uses foreign exchange forward contracts to effectively reduce the Company's foreign currency exposure such that net foreign currency exposure is kept to an acceptable level under corresponding Limits. Most of the foreign exchange forward contracts have maturities of less than one year.

5 Insurance service results

		2024		2023			
	Life direct participating Contracts (Note i) \$'000	Life Other Contracts (Note ii, iii) \$'000	Total \$'000	Life direct participating Contracts (Note i) \$'000	Life Other Contracts (Note ii, iii) \$'000	Total \$'000	
Contracts issued							
Insurance revenue Amounts relating to changes in liabilities for remaining coverage							
- CSM recognised for services provided	1,935,463	154,424	2,089,887	1,860,602	53,532	1,914,134	
- Change in risk adjustment for non-financial risk expired	37,402	2,386	39,788	8,233	2,262	10,495	
- Expected incurred claims and other insurance service expenses	688,787	57,541	746,328	615,078	43,496	658,574	
Recovery of insurance acquisition cash flows	387,365	36,563	423,928	266,474	31,496	297,970	
Total insurance revenue for contracts issued	3,049,017	250,914	3,299,931	2,750,387	130,786	2,881,173	
Insurance service expenses							
Incurred claims and other insurance service expenses	(480,156)	(74,605)	(554,761)	(457,416)	(59,823)	(517,239)	
Losses and reversal of losses on onerous insurance contracts	(2,423)	(25,076)	(27,499)	44,277	(40,980)	3,297	
Amortisation of insurance acquisition cash flows	(387,365)	(36,563)	(423,928)	(266,474)	(31,496)	(297,970)	
Adjustments to liabilities for incurred claims	(14,422)	(169)	(14,591)	(8,559)	(1,465)	(10,024)	
Total insurance service expenses for contracts issued	(884,366)	(136,413)	(1,020,779)	(688,172)	(133,764)	(821,936)	
Insurance service results before reinsurance contracts held	2,164,651	114,501	2,279,152	2,062,215	(2,978)	2,059,237	
Reinsurance contracts held Expenses from reinsurance contracts held, excluding the effect of changes in non-performance risk of reinsurer - Allocation of reinsurance premiums	_	(21,853)	(21,853)	_	(90,290)	(90,290)	
Income from reinsurance contracts held, excluding the effect of changes in non- performance risk of reinsurer - Amounts recoverable from reinsurers for incurred claims		125,997	125,997		102,559	102,559	
Income from reinsurance contracts held, excluding the effect of		123,791	123,771		102,339	102,339	
changes in non-performance risk of reinsurer	-	104,144	104,144	-	12,269	12,269	
Effect of changes in non-performance risk of reinsurer		160	160		795	795	
Net income from reinsurance contracts held	-	104,304	104,304	-	13,064	13,064	
Insurance service results	2,164,651	218,805	2,383,456	2,062,215	10,086	2,072,301	

Note: (i) Life direct participating contracts are measured under the variable fee approach measurement model.

- (ii) Life other contracts are measured under the general measurement model.
- (iii) Life other contracts mainly include protection insurance contracts as well as reinsurance contracts held. The reinsurance contracts held primarily provide diversification benefits over the life participating contracts.

6 Net investment results

	2024				2023				
	Life direct participating contracts	Life other contracts	Others (Note)	Total	Life direct participating contracts	Life other contracts	Others (Note)	Total	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Net investment income/(expenses) Amounts recognised in profit or loss Amounts recognised in OCI	5,575,864	289,197	261,114 (356)	6,126,175 (356)	10,268,586	543,522	151,878 320	10,963,986 320	
Total investment return	5,575,864	289,197	260,758	6,125,819	10,268,586	543,522	152,198	10,964,306	
Net finance (expenses)/income from insurance contracts Changes in fair value of underlying items of direct participating contracts Effect of risk mitigation option Interest accreted	(5,575,864) 283,350	(378,663)	- - - -	(5,575,864) 283,350 (378,663)	(10,268,586) (79,560)	(380,780)	- - -	(10,268,586) (79,560) (380,780)	
Effect of changes in interest rates and other financial assumptions Effect of measuring changes in estimates at current rates and adjusting the CSM at rates on initial recognition	-	140,286 (27,826)	-	140,286 (27,826)	-	(94,600) 17,544	-	(94,600) 17,544	
Total net finance (expenses)/income from insurance contracts	(5,292,514)	(266,203)		(5,558,717)	(10,348,146)	(457,836)	<u>-</u>	(10,805,982)	
Represented by: Amounts recognised in profit or loss Amounts recognised in OCI	(5,292,514)	(266,203)	- -	(5,558,717)	(10,348,146)	(457,836)	- -	(10,805,982)	
Total net finance income/(expenses) from reinsurance contracts held	-	231,882	-	231,882	-	218,529	-	218,529	
Represented by: Amounts recognised in profit or loss Amounts recognised in OCI	- -	231,882	- -	231,882	- -	218,529	- -	218,529	
Total net investment results	283,350	254,876	260,758	798,984	(79,560)	304,215	152,198	376,853	
Represented by: Amounts recognised in profit or loss Amounts recognised in OCI	283,350	254,876	261,114 (356)	799,340 (356)	(79,560) 	304,215	151,878 320	376,533 320	

Note: Others include net investment income recognised for investment contracts written for retirement benefit business, Solvency Margin Fund and shareholders' fund.

7 Movement in investment contract liabilities

The Company keeps linked investments separate from other investments and invests them separately in accordance with the requests of the policyholders.

Deficit arisen from linked investment contracts amounting to HK\$8,017,000 (2023: surplus of HK\$2,558,000) are accrued to the contract holders at the fair value of the net losses (2023: net gains) arising from the underlying linked assets.

Deficit of guaranteed investment contracts amounting to HK\$1,337,000 (2023: HK\$462,000) are accrued to the contract holders based on the policy terms.

8 Other operating expenses

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Salaries and other staff costs Auditors' remuneration	190,698	187,183
- Statutory audit		
(i) Annual	8,639	7,802
(ii) HKFRS 17 transition	-	13,895
- Non-statutory audit services and others	5,405	6,772
Others	624,870	552,057
Operating expenses	829,612	767,709
Less: cost directly attributable to insurance business	440,572	376,362
	389,040	391,347

Salaries and other staff costs and auditors' remuneration related to HKFRS 17 transition audit have been included as part of the other administration and support services fee paid/payable to the immediate holding company and a fellow subsidiary company respectively, as disclosed in note 25(c)(ii).

9 Tax expense

(a) Tax expense at income statement represents:

Current tax - Hong Kong profits tax	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Provision for the year Provision for transitional tax adjustment Under/(over)-provision in respect of prior year	17(a) 17(a) 17(a)	1,150,215 361,453 18,565	371,740 337,163 (5,236)
		1,530,233	703,667
Deferred tax			
Origination and reversal of temporary differences	17(b)	(1,112,987)	(427,484)
Tax expense		417,246	276,183

The provision for Hong Kong profits tax is calculated at 16.5% for 31 December 2024 (2023:16.5%)

On 20 June 2023, legislation was substantively enacted in the UK, the jurisdiction of the Company's ultimate parent entity, HSBC Holdings plc, to introduce the 'Pillar Two' Global Minimum Tax model rules (the 'model rules') of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development ('OECD') under the Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting ('BEPS') and a Qualified Domestic Minimum top-up tax ('QDMTT'), with effect from 1 January 2024.

Under these rules, a top-up tax liability arises where the effective tax rate of the HSBC Group's operations in a jurisdiction, calculated based on principles set out in the OECD's Pillar Two model rules, is below 15%. Any top-up tax arising in relation to jurisdictions in which a QDMTT applies will be payable to the tax authority in that jurisdiction. Where there is no QDMTT, the top-up tax is payable by HSBC Holdings plc, being the HSBC Group's ultimate parent, to the UK tax authority.

The Hong Kong government has issued the draft Pillar Two legislations including a QDMTT, which shall be effective from 1 January 2025 once substantively enacted during 2025. Based on the HSBC Group's forecasts, a top-up tax liability is expected to arise in Hong Kong due to low effective tax rate, driven primarily by income from tax-exempt instruments. Nonetheless, the impact is dependent upon the ongoing evolution of rules and guidance in Hong Kong.

9 Tax expense (continued)

(b) Reconciliation between tax expense and accounting profit at applicable tax rates:

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Profit before tax	2,829,000	2,108,115
Notional tax on profit before tax, calculated at Hong Kong tax rate of 16.5% (2023: 16.5%) Over-provision in respect of prior year Tax effect of non-taxable income and non-deductible expenses	466,785 (5,725) (43,814)	347,839 (5,236) (66,420)
Actual tax expense	417,246	276,183

10 Directors' remuneration

Benefits and interests of directors (disclosures required by section 383(1) of the HKCO and Part 2 of the Companies (Disclosure of Information about Benefits of Directors) Regulation) (CAP 622G) are as follows:

		2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000
	Fees	1,071	1,030
	Other emoluments	2,619	2,469
		3,690	3,499
11	Goodwill		
		2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000
	Cost:		
	At 1 January and 31 December	1,447,006	1,447,006
	Accumulated impairment loss:		
	At 1 January and 31 December	- -	
	Carrying amount:		
	At 31 December	1,447,006	1,447,006

11 Goodwill (continued)

The goodwill arose on the transfer of an insurance business from the acquiree when the acquisition cost exceeded the fair value of the Company's share of the net identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities. The goodwill was attributable to the value arising from new business to be generated by the Company, taking into account the future market condition as well as the value that the immediate holding company will act as the Company's agent and hence the value arising from distributing through its immediate holding company, in terms of its network, its company brand name, customer base and sales force. These items are inter-related and could not be recognised separately, thus the goodwill was allocated to the Company (which included the acquired business) as a whole.

Impairment test for the goodwill

Goodwill is assessed for impairment by comparing the Company's appraisal value (which is deemed to be its value in use) and carrying value of its net assets.

The appraisal value comprises the Company's net assets (other than goodwill), the expected value of current business and the expected value of future business.

For the purposes of the impairment test, only a part of the appraisal value was calculated which was determined by discounting future earnings expected from the current business, taking into account factors such as future mortality and morbidity, lapse rates, levels of expenses, risk free rate and risk discount rate that reflects the investment risk and operational risk attributable to the respective long-term insurance business uncertainty in future investment return different economic scenarios.

The following are the key assumptions used in the computation:

	2024	2023
Risk free rate	3.80% for HKD; 3.80% for USD	3.80% for HKD; 3.80% for USD
Discount rate	4.61%	4.69%
Tax rate	16.5%	16.5%
Expense inflation	3.0%	3.0%
Lapse rate	2.38% for first year 3.29% for second year onward	0.97% for first year 3.16% for second year onward

Mortality and morbidity are made references to pricing assumptions considering recent historical, current and expected future experience.

As the sum of net assets of the Company (other than goodwill) and the above estimated amount is larger than the carrying value of net assets of the Company as at 31 December 2024 and 2023, no impairment is required for goodwill.

12 Investment in a subsidiary

				2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
	Unlisted shares, at cos Less: Return of capita		-	2,699,500 (424,504)	2,699,500 (424,504)
	Loan to a subsidiary		_	2,274,996 310,196	2,274,996 310,974
(a)	Details of the subsidi	iary are as follows:	=	2,585,192	2,585,970
	Name of Company	Place of incorporation and kind of legal entity	Particulars of issued and paid up capital	Percentage of ownership of shares held directly	Principal activities
	Imenson Limited	Hong Kong limited liability company	69,950,002 ordinary shares	100%	Investment holding
(b)	Loan to a subsidiary				
	Nominal value	Description Floating rate loan due 20 May 2028		2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
	HK\$300 million			310,196	310,974
	Representing: - measured at amortis	sed cost	_	310,196	310,974

i Interest rate at three-month HK dollar HIBOR plus 125bps per annum, payable annually, to the due date. There are 4 interest rate fixing dates within each interest period, i.e. interest rate is recalculated on a quarterly basis.

The loan is secured by mortgage over an investment property held by a subsidiary with a carrying value of HK\$238,600,000 (2023: HK\$242,800,000).

13 Investment property

(a) Movement of investment property

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Valuation:		
At 1 January	1,970,000	1,985,000
Changes in fair value recognised in the income statement	(201,000)	(15,000)
At 31 December	1,769,000	1,970,000

(b) Fair value measurement of property

(i) Fair value hierarchy

The following table presents the fair value of the Company's property measured at the end of the reporting period on a recurring basis, categorised into the three-level fair value hierarchy as defined in HKFRS 13, Fair value measurement. The level into which a fair value measurement is classified is determined with reference to the observability and significance of the inputs used in the valuation technique as follows:

Level	1:	Fair	value	measured	using	unadjusted	quoted	prices	in	active	markets	for
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identical assets or liabilities at the measurement date.

Level 2: Fair value measured using observable inputs and not using significant

unobservable inputs. Unobservable inputs are inputs for which market data are

not available.

Level 3: Fair value measured using significant unobservable inputs.

	Fair value at 31 December 2024	Fair value measurements as at 31 December 2024 categorised into			
	_	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Recurring fair value measurements					
Investment property	1,769,000	-	-	1,769,000	

13 Investment property (continued)

(b) Fair value measurement of property (continued)

(i) Fair value hierarchy (continued)

	Fair value at 31 December 2023	Fair value measurements as at 31 December 2023 categorised into				
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3		
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000		
Recurring fair value measurements						
Investment property	1,970,000	-	-	1,970,000		

During 2024 and 2023, there were no transfers between Level 1 and Level 2, or transfers into or out of Level 3. Any transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy are deemed to occur at the end of the reporting period.

The property is situated on leasehold land under a medium-term lease in Hong Kong. The property was revalued by Cushman & Wakefield Limited, an independent professional valuer, at 31 December 2024 and 2023. The valuations were carried out by qualified persons who are members of the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors in accordance with the HKIS Valuation Standards published by the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors.

(ii) Information about Level 3 fair value measurements

	Valuation technique(s)	Unobservable input(s)	Data
Investment property	Income approach	Market yield (reversionary yield)	3.0% (2023: 2.7%)
		Market rentals	HK\$26.4 to HK\$27.5 per sq. ft. (2023: HK\$26.4 to HK\$27.6 per sq. ft.)
	Market approach	Premium/(discount) on characteristic of the properties	-6% to +15% (2023: -3% to +6%)

The fair value of investment property is mainly determined using Income Approach on the basis of capitalisation of net incomes with due allowance of outgoings and reversionary income potential, and by Market Approach assuming sale with immediate vacant procession and by making reference to comparable sales evidence.

13 Investment property (continued)

(b) Fair value measurement of property (continued)

(ii) Information about Level 3 fair value measurements (continued)

The following table provides a reconciliation of the movement between opening and closing balances of Level 3 investment property, measured at fair value using a valuation technique with significant unobservable inputs:

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
At 1 January Changes in fair value recognised in the income	1,970,000	1,985,000
statement	(201,000)	(15,000)
At 31 December	1,769,000	1,970,000
Unrealised gains or losses recognised in profit or loss relating to those assets held at the end of the reporting period		
- Deficit on property revaluation	(201,000)	(15,000)

(c) Investment property leased out under operating leases

The Company leases out investment property under operating leases. The leases typically run for an initial period of 1 to 3 years (2023: 1 to 3 years), with an option to renew the lease after that date at which time all terms are renegotiated. None of the leases includes variable lease payments.

The property held under operating lease meets the definition of investment property and is classified as investment property.

Undiscounted lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases in place at the reporting date will be receivable by the Company in future periods as follows:

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Within 1 year	33,774	32,931
After 1 year but within 2 years	17,925	21,582
After 2 years but within 3 years	3,188	8,790
	54,887	63,303

14 Financial instruments

(a) Investment assets

		2024				2023				
	Mandatorily measured at FVPL \$'000	Trading \$'000	Amortised Cost \$'000	FVOCI \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Mandatorily measured at FVPL \$'000	Trading \$'000	Amortised Cost \$'000	FVOCI \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Investment assets										
Equities										
Listed Unlisted	12,758,639 43,629	- -	- 	<u>-</u>	12,758,639 43,629	8,093,364 31,774	- 	- 	<u>-</u>	8,093,364 31,774
	12,802,268				12,802,268	8,125,138				8,125,138
Debt securities - fixed ra	te									
Government bonds Listed Unlisted	2,160,708 37,552,319 73,240,108	- - -	5,106,695 481,975 2,202,416	10,090 17,982 20,372	7,277,493 38,052,276 75,462,896	3,052,424 38,169,117 77,127,094	- - -	3,797,779 474,455 2,987,741	8,380 12,654 14,800	6,858,583 38,656,226 80,129,635
	112,953,135		7,791,086	48,444	120,792,665	118,348,635		7,259,975	35,834	125,644,444
Debt securities - floating	rate									
Listed Unlisted	293,943 230,271	- 	1,044,829	- -	293,943 1,275,100	319,706 216,922	- -	1,044,582	- -	319,706 1,261,504
	524,214		1,044,829		1,569,043	536,628		1,044,582		1,581,210
Collective investment sch	emes									
Listed Unlisted	6,398,360 30,902,114	- 	- 	- -	6,398,360 30,902,114	2,702,453 26,195,070	- 	- 	- -	2,702,453 26,195,070
	37,300,474				37,300,474	28,897,523				28,897,523

(a) Investment assets (continued)

	2024				2023					
	Mandatorily measured at FVPL \$'000	Trading \$'000	Amortised Cost \$'000	FVOCI \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Mandatorily measured at FVPL \$'000	Trading \$'000	Amortised Cost \$'000	<i>FVOCI</i> \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Derivatives		161,046			161,046		48,855	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	48,855
Accreting loans	644,434		_		644,434	721,778				721,778
Total investment assets	164,224,525	161,046	8,835,915	48,444	173,269,930	156,629,702	48,855	8,304,557	35,834	165,018,948
Investment liabilities										
Derivatives	<u></u>	160,224	_		160,224	<u></u> -	155,139			155,139
Total investment liabilities		160,224	<u> </u>		160,224	<u> </u>	155,139	<u>-</u> _	<u>-</u>	155,139

Exposure to market, credit, liquidity and foreign exchange risks arises in the normal course of the Company's business. These risks are managed by the Company's insurance and financial risk management in Notes 4(d)(i) to 4(d)(iii) and 4(d)(v).

(b) Credit risk

(i) Summary of credit risk exposure

The Company's credit exposure is spread across a broad range of asset classes, including debt securities, accreting loans, collective investment schemes, loan to a subsidiary, placings with and advances to banks and other financial institutions. The following table presents the maximum exposure to credit risk from financial assets, before taking account of any collateral held.

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Loan to a subsidiary	310,196	310,974
Debt securities measured at amortised cost	8,835,915	8,304,557
Debt securities measured at FVOCI	48,444	35,834
Debt securities and accreting loans measured at FVPL	114,121,783	119,607,041
Other investment assets measured at FVPL	50,102,742	37,022,661
Derivatives	161,046	48,855
Other assets	1,735,459	2,111,122
Placings with and advances to banks		
and other financial institutions	6,684,363	3,766,487
Cash and deposit balances	3,265,604	1,223,023
	185,265,552	172,430,554

Total exposure to credit risk by types remained broadly unchanged in 2024 with debt securities continuing to be the largest element. Details of credit risk management are disclosed in Note 4(d)(ii).

(ii) Summary of major financial assets to which the impairment requirements in HKFRS 9 are applied.

The following table presents the gross carrying/nominal amount of major financial assets, i.e. debt securities, which the impairment requirements in HKFRS 9 are applied and the associated ECL. For other financial assets, no ECL is recognised upon impairment assessment.

(b) Credit risk (continued)

(ii) Summary of major financial assets to which the impairment requirements in HKFRS 9 are applied (continued)

	At 31 Decei	nber 2024	At 31 December 2023		
	Gross carrying/ Nominal amount \$'000	Allowance for ECL \$'000	Gross carrying/ Nominal amount \$'000	Allowance for ECL \$'000	
Debt securities measured at amortised cost	8,836,544	(629)	8,306,013	(1,456)	
	F . 1	Memorandum	F . 1	Memorandum	
	Fair value \$'000	ECL \$'000	Fair value \$'000	**ECL \$'000	
Debt securities measured at	\$ 000	\$ 000	\$ 000	\$ 000	
FVOCI	48,444	(8)	35,834	(6)	

Debt instruments measured at FVOCI continue to be measured at fair value with the allowance for ECL as a memorandum item. Change in ECL is recognised in 'Change in expected credit losses' in Income Statement.

(b) Credit risk (continued)

(iii) Summary of credit risk (excluding debt securities measured at FVOCI) by stage distribution and ECL coverage

The following table provides an overview of the Company's credit risk by stage for debt securities and the associated ECL coverage, with the characteristics in each stage defined in Note 1(q)(i):

4 .	2.1	-	. 1	20	12
At	≺ /	71	ecember	- 71	1/4

III 31 December 2024	Gross carrying/ nominal amount			Allowance for ECL			ECL coverage %		
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Total	Stage 1	Stage 2	Total	Stage 1	Stage 2	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Debt securities measured at amortised cost	8,836,544	-	8,836,544	(629)	-	(629)	0.01%	N/A	0.01%
At 31 December 2023									
At 31 December 2023	Gross carry	ving/ nominal	amount	Allowance for ECL			ECL coverage %		
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Total	Stage 1	Stage 2	Total	Stage 1	Stage 2	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Debt securities measured									
at amortised cost	8,304,452	1,561	8,306,013	(1,455)	(1)	(1,456)	0.02%	0.06%	0.02%

(iv) Measurement uncertainty and sensitivity analysis of ECL estimates

The recognition and measurement of ECL involves the use of significant judgement and estimation. The Company forms multiple economic scenarios based on economic forecasts, apply these assumptions to credit risk models to estimate future credit losses, and probability-weight the results to determine an unbiased ECL estimate.

Four scenarios were used to capture the latest economic expectations and to articulate management's view of the range of risks and potential outcomes. Each scenario is updated with the latest economic forecasts and distributional estimates every quarter. Three scenarios, the upside, central and downside, are drawn from consensus forecasts, market data and distributional estimates of the entire range of economic outcomes. The fourth scenario, the downside 2, represents management's view of severe downside risks. Consensus estimates are deployed as conditioning variables in a proprietary expansion of the scenario variables.

(b) Credit risk (continued)

(iv) Measurement uncertainty and sensitivity analysis of ECL estimates (continued)

The central scenario is deemed the 'most likely' scenario, and usually attracts the largest probability weighting. It is created using consensus forecasts, which is the average of a panel of external forecasts. The outer scenarios represent the tails of the distribution and are less likely to occur. The consensus upside and downside scenarios are created with reference to forecast probability distributions for select markets that capture economists' views of the entire range of economic outcomes. In the later years of those scenarios, projections revert to long-term consensus expectations. Reversion to trend expectations is done, with reference to historically observed quarterly changes in the values of macroeconomic variables. The fourth scenario, downside 2, is designed to represent management's view of severe downside risks. Consistent with HSBC Group globally, it is a narrative-driven scenario that explores a more extreme economic outcome than those captured by the consensus scenarios. In this scenario, variables do not, by design, revert to long-term trend expectations and may instead explore alternative states of equilibrium, where economic activity moves permanently away from past trends.

The ECL outcome is sensitive to judgement and estimations made with regards to the formulation and incorporation of multiple forward looking economic conditions. ECL typically have a non-linear relationship to the many factors which influence credit losses, such that more favourable macroeconomic factors do not reduce defaults as much as less favourable macroeconomic factors increase defaults. Management considered the sensitivity of the ECL outcome against the economic forecasts as part of the ECL governance process by recalculating the ECL under each scenario described above for selected portfolios, applying a 100% weighting to each scenario in turn. The weighting is reflected in both the determination of significant increase in credit risk as well as the measurement of the resulting ECL. This analysis excludes any management adjustment.

	2024		2023	
ECL based exposures	Weighting	\$'000	Weighting	\$'000
Consensus scenarios				
Central scenario	75%	(539)	75%	(1,232)
Upside scenario	10%	(344)	10%	(740)
Downside scenario	10%	(866)	10%	(2,147)
Downside 2 scenario	5%	(2,266)	5%	(4,988)

The ECL sensitivity above represents an estimate based on the underlying point-in-time distribution of economic scenarios. Changes to economic forecasts, underlying credit quality and relationships between macro-economic factors and credit risk will have a corresponding impact on ECL.

In the context of HKFRS 9, management judgemental adjustments are short-term increases or decreases to the ECL to account for late breaking events, model and data limitations and deficiencies and expert credit judgement applied following management review and challenge. There is no management judgement adjustment as at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023.

(b) Credit risk (continued)

For the purposes of the disclosure in notes 14(b)(v) and (vi), gross carrying value/gross exposure is defined as the amortised cost of a financial asset, before adjusting for any impairment allowance. As such the gross carrying value/gross exposure of debt securities measured at FVOCI as presented will not reconcile to the balance sheet as it excludes fair value gains and losses.

(v) Reconciliation of changes in gross carrying/nominal amount and impairment allowances for debt securities

	Non credit-impaired					
	Stage	e 1	Stage 2		Total	
	Gross exposure	Allowance for ECL	Gross exposure	Allowance for ECL	Gross exposure	Allowance for ECL
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At 1 January 2024	8,339,968	(1,461)	1,561	(1)	8,341,529	(1,462)
Transfers of financial assets:						
- transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
- transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	1,561	(1)	(1,561)	1		
	1,561	(1)	(1,561)	1	_	_
ECL (charge)/release for the year						
- New financial assets originated or purchased	38,899,699	(49)	-	-	38,899,699	(49)
- Assets derecognised (including final repayments)	(38,386,282)	471	-	-	(38,386,282)	471
- Changes to risk parameters (model inputs)		402	<u> </u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	402
	513,417	824	<u>-</u>		513,417	824
Foreign exchange and others	30,042	1		<u></u>	30,042	1
At 31 December 2024	8,884,988	(637)	<u>-</u>	<u> </u>	8,884,988	(637)

There are no debt securities that are deemed to be credit-impaired and are required to be transferred to stage 3.

(b) Credit risk (continued)

(v) Reconciliation of changes in gross carrying/nominal amount and impairment allowances for debt securities (continued)

	Stag	e 1	Stag	re 2	Total		
	Gross exposure	Allowance for ECL	Gross exposure	Allowance for ECL	Gross exposure	Allowance for ECL	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
At 1 January 2023	6,351,087	(939)	-	-	6,351,087	(939)	
Transfers of financial assets:							
- transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(1,557)	-	1,557	-	-	-	
- transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1			<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		
	(1,557)	-	1,557	-	-	-	
ECL (charge)/release for the year							
- New financial assets originated or purchased	8,364,716	(1,245)	-	-	8,364,716	(1,245)	
- Assets derecognised (including final repayments)	(6,386,647)	10	-	-	(6,386,647)	10	
- Changes to risk parameters (model inputs)	_	715	<u>-</u>	(1)		714	
	1,978,069	(520)		(1)	1,978,069	(521)	
Foreign exchange and others	12,369	(2)	4	<u></u>	12,373	(2)	
At 31 December 2023	8,339,968	(1,461)	1,561	(1)	8,341,529	(1,462)	

There are no debt securities that are deemed to be credit-impaired and are required to be transferred to stage 3.

(b) Credit risk (continued)

(vi) Credit quality

We assess the credit quality of all financial assets that are subject to credit risk. The credit quality of financial assets is a point in time assessment of the probability of default of financial assets, whereas HKFRS 9 stages 1 and 2 are determined based on relative deterioration of credit quality since initial recognition. Accordingly, for non-credit impaired financial assets, there is no direct relationship between the credit quality assessment and HKFRS 9 stages 1 and 2, though typically the lower credit quality bands exhibit a higher proportion in stage 2.

Five broad classifications describe the credit quality of the Company's financial assets. Each of these classifications encompasses a range of more granular external ratings attributed by external agencies, as shown in the table below. External ratings have been aligned to five credit quality classifications based on the mapping of related CRR to external credit ratings. The mapping is reviewed on a regular basis. The ratings of Standard and Poor's are cited, with those of other agencies being treated equivalently. If major rating agencies have different ratings for the same financial assets, a prudent rating selection is made in line with regulatory requirements.

Credit quality classification	Sovereign debt securities	Other financial assets
Strong	BBB and above	A- and above
Good	BBB- to BB	BBB+ to BBB-
Satisfactory	BB- to B, and unrated	BB+ to B, and unrated
Sub-standard	B- to C	B- to C
Credit-impaired	Default	Default

Quality classification definitions:

Strong : Exposures demonstrate a strong capacity to meet commitments, with

negligible or low probability of default and/or low levels of expected

loss.

Good : Exposures demonstrate a good capacity to meet financial commitments,

with low default risk.

Satisfactory : Exposures require closer monitoring, with low to moderate default risk.

Sub-standard : Exposures require varying degrees of special attention and default risk of

greater concern.

Credit-impaired : Have been assessed, individually or collectively, as impaired.

(b) Credit risk (continued)

(vi) Credit quality (continued)

Distribution of financial assets by credit quality

	Gross carrying value / notional amount							
	Strong \$'000	Good \$'000	Satisfactory \$'000		Credit- impaired \$'000	Total \$'000	Allowance for ECL \$'000	<i>Net</i> \$'000
In-scope for HKFRS 9 impairment								
Loan to a subsidiary	310,196	-	-	-	-	310,196	-	310,196
Debt securities measured at amortised cost	8,759,932	76,612	-	-	-	8,836,544	(629)	8,835,915
Debt securities measured at FVOCI	46,169	2,313	_	-	_	48,482	(8)	48,474
Other assets	1,318,242	245,183	172,034	-	-	1,735,459	-	1,735,459
Placings with and advances to banks and other financial institutions Cash and deposit balances	6,684,363 3,265,604	- -	- -		-	6,684,363 3,265,604	-	6,684,363 3,265,604
Out-of-scope for HKFRS 9 impairment Debt securities and accreting loans measured at FVPL Derivatives	88,652,197 161,046	21,375,868	4,093,718	- -	- -	114,121,783 161,046	- -	114,121,783 161,046
At 31 December 2024	109,197,749	21,699,976	4,265,752		_	135,163,477	(637)	135,162,840
Percentage of total credit quality	81%	16%	3%	0%	0%	100%		

(b) Credit risk (continued)

(vi) Credit quality (continued)

Distribution of financial assets by credit quality (continued)

	Gross carrying value / notional amount							
	Strong \$'000	Good \$'000	Satisfactory \$'000	Sub-standard \$'000	Credit- impaired \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Allowance for ECL \$'000	<i>Net</i> \$'000
In-scope for HKFRS 9 impairment								
Loan to a subsidiary	310,974	=	-	-	=	310,974	-	310,974
Debt securities measured at amortised cost	7,914,349	391,664	-	-	=	8,306,013	(1,456)	8,304,557
Debt securities measured at FVOCI	33,228	2,288	-	_	-	35,516	(6)	35,510
Other assets	1,657,055	1,861	452,206	_	-	2,111,122	-	2,111,122
Placings with and advances to banks								
and other financial institutions	3,766,487	_	-	_	-	3,766,487	-	3,766,487
Cash and deposit balances	1,223,023	-	-	-	-	1,223,023	-	1,223,023
Out-of-scope for HKFRS 9 impairment Debt securities and accreting loans measured at								
FVPL	90,255,475	20,996,081	8,355,485	-	-	119,607,041	-	119,607,041
Derivatives	48,855	<u>-</u>	-	. <u> </u>		48,855		48,855
At 31 December 2023	105,209,446	21,391,894	8,807,691			135,409,031	(1,462)	135,407,569
Percentage of total credit quality	78%	16%	6%	0%	0%	100%		

(b) Credit risk (continued)

(vi) Credit quality (continued)

Distribution of financial assets to which the impairment requirements in HKFRS 9 are applied, by credit quality and stage distribution

	Gross carrying value / notional amount							
	Strong \$'000	Good \$'000	Satisfactory \$'000	Sub-standard \$'000	Credit- impaired \$'000	Total \$'000	Allowance for ECL \$'000	<i>Net</i> \$'000
Loan to subsidiary								
- stage 1	310,196	-	-	-	-	310,196	-	310,196
Debt securities measured at amortised cost	8,759,932	76,612	<u>-</u>			8,836,544	(629)	8,835,915
- stage 1	8,759,932	76,612	-	-	-	8,836,544	(629)	8,835,915
- stage 2	_	_	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other assets								
- stage 1	1,318,242	245,183	172,034	-	-	1,735,459	-	1,735,459
Placing with and advances to banks and other financial institutions								
- stage 1	6,684,363	-	-	-	-	6,684,363	-	6,684,363
Cash and deposit balances								
- stage 1	3,265,604	_	_			3,265,604		3,265,604
At 31 December 2024	20,338,337	321,795	172,034		-	20,832,166	(629)	20,831,537
Debt securities measured at FVOCI								
- stage 1	46,169	2,313				48,482	(8)	48,474
At 31 December 2024	46,169	2,313	_			48,482	(8)	48,474

(b) Credit risk (continued)

(vi) Credit quality (continued)

Distribution of financial assets to which the impairment requirements in HKFRS 9 are applied, by credit quality and stage distribution (continued)

	Gross carrying value / notional amount							
	Strong \$'000	Good \$'000	Satisfactory \$'000	Sub-standard \$'000	Credit- impaired \$'000	Total \$'000	Allowance for ECL \$'000	<i>Net</i> \$'000
Loan to subsidiary								
- stage 1	310,974	-	-	-	-	310,974	-	310,974
Debt securities measured at amortised cost	7,914,349	391,664	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u> _	8,306,013	(1,456)	8,304,557
- stage 1	7,912,788	391,664	-	-	_	8,304,452	(1,455)	8,302,997
- stage 2	1,561	-	-	-	-	1,561	(1)	1,560
Other assets			_					_
- stage 1	1,657,055	1,861	452,206	-	-	2,111,122	_	2,111,122
Placing with and advances to banks and other financial institutions								
- stage 1	3,766,487	-	_	-	-	3,766,487	_	3,766,487
Cash and deposit balances								
- stage 1	1,223,023	_	_		_	1,223,023	<u> </u>	1,223,023
At 31 December 2023	14,871,888	393,525	452,206			15,717,619	(1,456)	15,716,163
Debt securities measured at FVOCI								
- stage 1	33,228	2,288	-	-	-	35,516	(6)	35,510
At 31 December 2023	33,228	2,288	-		-	35,516	(6)	35,510

(c) Interest rate risk

(i) Financial assets

For debt securities backing insurance contracts unfavourable interest rate movement may result in potential loss in market value of the assets. The majority of insurance contracts is measured under VFA, to the extent the change in fair value of the debt securities due to interest rate change which are attributable to policyholders, an offsetting amount will be recognised in insurance finance income or expenses and absorbed in CSM balance. Accordingly, impact on the profit after tax for the year and shareholders' equity as at year end would not be material. Sensitivity analysis regarding the interest rate risk should be read in conjunction with the sensitivity analysis regarding the market risk factors impacting insurance and reinsurance contracts held by the Company which was set out in Note 15(f)(i).

(ii) Liabilities under investment contracts

Certain investment contracts contain capital and minimum return guarantees. The existence of such guarantees limits the ability of liability valuations to be offset by changes in asset values. At 31 December 2024, of the total non-linked investment products, an aggregate fund value of HK\$169,833,800 (2023: HK\$204,954,000) was subject to contractual capital guarantees to be met by the Company. These guarantees are estimated to have a fair value of HK\$Nil (2023: HK\$Nil) which is reflected in the financial statements as part of the fair value of the liabilities under investment contracts. However, the determination of fair value is sensitive to future changes in interest rates.

A hypothetical 100 basis points reduction in interest rates is estimated to be no effect (2023: Nil) in the value of assets backing investment contract liabilities. No amount (2023: Nil) would accrue to policyholders' fund value. There is no change to the fair value of capital and minimum return guarantee liabilities under this scenario and subsequently no effect (2023: Nil) on profit after tax and shareholders' equity.

(d) Liquidity risk

(i) In respect of major financial assets and financial liabilities, the following table indicates the expected or contractual maturity profile at the balance sheet date:

			2024	!		
	<i>Total</i> \$'000	One year or less \$'000	1 - 2 years \$'000	2 - 5 years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000	No contractual maturity \$'000
Financial assets						
Loan to subsidiary Investment assets measured at amortised cost Investment assets measured at FVOCI Investment assets measured at FVPL Derivatives Other assets Placings with and advances to banks and other financial institutions Cash and deposit balances	310,196 8,835,915 48,444 164,224,525 161,046 1,735,459 6,684,363 3,265,604 185,265,552	5,097,463 20,408 10,904,698 161,046 1,732,801 6,684,363 3,265,604 27,866,383	579,254 3,103 8,250,614 - - - 8,832,971	310,196 685,180 14,303 19,785,728 - - - 20,795,407	2,474,018 10,630 75,180,744 - - - - 77,665,392	50,102,741 - 2,658 - 50,105,399
Financial liabilities						
Derivatives Subordinated loan Other liabilities	160,224 1,045,000 3,291,152	160,224 - 2,989,246 -	65,862	177,676	1,045,000 58,368	- - -
:	4,496,376	3,149,470	65,862	177,676	1,103,368	-

(d) Liquidity risk (continued)

(i) In respect of major financial assets and financial liabilities, the following table indicates the expected or contractual maturity profile at the balance sheet date (continued):

			202.	3		
	<i>Total</i> \$'000	One year or less \$'000	1 - 2 years \$'000	2 - 5 years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000	No contractual maturity \$'000
Financial assets						
Loan to subsidiary Investment assets measured at amortised cost Investment assets measured at FVOCI Investment assets measured at FVPL Derivatives Other assets Placings with and advances to banks and other financial institutions Cash and deposit balances	310,974 8,304,557 35,834 156,629,702 48,855 2,111,122 3,766,487 1,223,023 172,430,554	3,809,935 11,864 7,888,628 48,855 2,108,458 3,766,487 1,223,023 18,857,250	926,604 2,296 11,960,369 - - - - 12,889,269	310,974 916,559 17,661 24,543,337 - - - 25,788,531	2,651,459 4,013 102,530,539 - - - 105,186,011	9,706,829 - 2,664 - 9,709,493
Financial liabilities						
Derivatives Repurchase agreements Subordinated loan Other liabilities	155,139 2,088,913 1,443,413 2,055,770 5,743,235	155,139 2,088,913 10,391 2,045,974 4,300,417	64,790 4,220 69,010	193,831 5,576 199,407	1,174,401 - 1,174,401	- - - -

(d) Liquidity risk (continued)

(ii) Liabilities under investment contracts

The following table presents the estimated amounts (on an undiscounted basis) and timing of cash flows arising from liabilities under investment contracts. A maturity analysis prepared on the basis of the earliest possible contractual repayment date, assuming that all surrender and transfer options are exercised, would result in all investment contracts being presented as falling due within one year or less.

			2024		
	Total \$'000	One year or less \$'000	1 - 2 years \$'000	2 - 5 years \$'000	More than 5 vears \$'000
Investment contracts					
- Non-linked	196,983	(4,432)	_	-	201,415
- Linked	47,918	7,735	_	<u> </u>	40,183
	244,901	3,303			241,598
			2023		
	Total \$'000	One year or less \$'000	1 - 2 years \$'000	2 - 5 years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000
Investment contracts					
- Non-linked	210,346	71	-	-	210,275
- Linked	53,426	2,962	-	-	50,464
	263,772	3,033			260,739

(e) Equity price risk

The portfolio of marketable securities (including collective investment schemes) is mainly used to back insurance, which the Company carries in the balance sheet at fair value, has exposure to price risk. This risk is defined as the potential loss in market value resulting from an adverse change in prices.

At 31 December 2024, the marketable securities (including collective investment schemes) and derivatives backing insurance contracts were recorded at their fair value of HK\$50,103,564,000 (2023: HK\$36,916,377,000).

The majority of insurance contracts is measured under VFA, to the extent the change in fair value of the marketable securities (including collective investment schemes) due to price change which are attributable to policyholders, an offsetting amount will be recognised in insurance finance income or expenses and absorbed in CSM balance. Accordingly, impact on the profit after tax for the year and shareholders' equity as at year end would not be material. Sensitivity analysis regarding the equity price risk should be read in conjunction with the sensitivity analysis regarding the market risk factors impacting insurance and reinsurance contracts held by the Company which was set out in Note 15(f)(i).

(f) Foreign exchange risk

The liabilities (include insurance contract liabilities) of the Company are mainly denominated in United States dollar ("USD"), Hong Kong dollar ("HKD") and China Renminbi ("RMB"). While the Company adopts a policy of predominately matching the assets with liabilities (including insurance contract liabilities) in the same currency, assets in other foreign currencies such as Euro ("EUR"), are also used to back such liabilities, and the Company uses foreign exchange forward contracts to effectively reduce the Company's foreign currency exposure such that net foreign currency exposure is kept to an acceptable level under corresponding Limits. Most of the foreign exchange forward contracts have maturities of less than one year. Sensitivity analysis regarding the foreign currency risk is presented in Note 15(f)(i).

(f) Foreign exchange risk (continued)

The following table presents, in HKD equivalents, the Company's main currency exposures:

	2024						
In thousands of HKD equivalents	Exposure in HKD \$'000	Exposure in USD \$'000	Exposure in RMB \$'000	Exposure in EUR \$'000	Exposure in other currencies \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	
Financial assets							
Loan to subsidiary	310,196	-	-	-	-	310,196	
Insurance contract assets	2,829	-	-	-	-	2,829	
Reinsurance contract assets	9,484,615	1,422,112	1,960,369	-	-	12,867,096	
Investment assets measured at amortised cost Investment assets measured	7,682,968	1,152,947	-	-	-	8,835,915	
at FVOCI	8,013	40,431	-	-	-	48,444	
Investment assets measured at FVPL	59,585,808	88,165,344	7,367,375	3,024,911	6,081,087	164,224,525	
Derivatives	1,060,607	(956,997)	2,497	-	54,939	161,046	
Other assets	1,002,398	630,398	90,048	1,236	11,379	1,735,459	
Placings with and advances to banks and other financial institutions Cash and deposit balances	4,698,990 715,641	1,768,432 2,210,526	202,582 293,423	15 840	14,344 45,174	6,684,363 3,265,604	
Cash and deposit balances	84,552,065	94,433,193	9,916,294	3,027,002		198,135,477	
Financial liabilities	64,332,003	74,433,173	9,910,294	3,027,002	0,200,923	170,133,477	
Insurance contract liabilities	112,351,301	62,829,512	12,770,333	-	493,708	188,444,854	
Reinsurance contract liabilities Liabilities under investment	867,711	132,519	1,373	-	-	1,001,603	
contracts	244,901	-	-	-	-	244,901	
Derivatives	(2,266,629)	2,398,577	-	6,009	22,267	160,224	
Subordinated loan	1,045,000	-	-	-	-	1,045,000	
Other liabilities	1,245,739	1,379,757	294,286	647	69,299	2,989,728	
	113,488,023	66,740,365	13,065,992	6,656	585,274	193,886,310	
Net exposure - (short position) /long position	(28,935,958)	27,692,828	(3,149,698)	3,020,346	5,621,649	4,249,167	

(f) Foreign exchange risk (continued)

The following table presents, in HKD equivalents, the Company's main currency exposures (continued):

	2023					
In thousands of HKD equivalents	Exposure in HKD \$'000	Exposure in USD \$'000	Exposure in RMB \$'000	Exposure in EUR \$'000	Exposure in other currencies \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Financial assets						
Loan to subsidiary	310,974	-	-	-	-	310,974
Insurance contract assets	10,071	-	-	-	-	10,071
Reinsurance contract assets	3,373,173	301,739	1,702,738	-	-	5,377,650
Investment assets measured at amortised cost	7,156,098	1,148,459	-	-	-	8,304,557
Investment assets measured at FVOCI	2,001	33,833	-	-	-	35,834
Investment assets measured at FVPL	65,574,662	78,117,657	6,171,006	2,678,237	4,088,140	156,629,702
Derivatives	1,031,720	(987,756)	-	-	4,891	48,855
Other assets	1,405,284	609,184	89,926	7	6,721	2,111,122
Placings with and advances to banks and other financial institutions	1,805,743	1,430,584	500,320	12,956	16,884	3,766,487
Cash and deposit balances	677,000	277,230	268,359	197	237	1,223,023
Cubit und deposit cultures	81,346,726	80,930,930		2,691,397		177,818,275
Financial liabilities						
Insurance contract liabilities	113,610,819	43,638,043	9,959,943	-	-	167,208,805
Reinsurance contract liabilities Liabilities under investment	976,244	133,109	1,455	-	-	1,110,808
contracts	263,772	-	-	-	-	263,772
Derivatives	(2,546,098)	2,625,686	8,829	23,555	43,167	155,139
Repurchase agreements	975,244	1,103,490	-	-	-	2,078,734
Subordinated loan	1,045,000	-	-	-	-	1,045,000
Other liabilities	1,351,250	612,153	85,182	2,281	4,904	2,055,770
	115,676,231	48,112,481	10,055,409	25,836	48,071	173,918,028
Net exposure - (short position) /long position	(34,329,505)	32,818,449	(1,323,060)	2,665,561	4,068,802	3,900,247

(g) Fair value

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Financial instruments measured at fair value on an ongoing basis include debt securities measured at FVOCI and FVPL, accreting loans measured at FVPL, equity securities, collective investment schemes and derivatives.

(i) Determination of fair value of financial instruments carried at fair value

Fair value is based on to the following valuation hierarchy:

(a) Level 1 - Quoted market price

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

(b) Level 2 - Valuation technique using observable inputs

Financial instruments with quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets or quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in inactive markets and financial instruments valued using models where all significant inputs are observable, e.g. interest rate and credit spread.

(c) Level 3 - Valuation technique with significant unobservable inputs

Financial instruments valued using models where one or more significant inputs are not observable (e.g. market valuation for similar entities quoted in active market).

Details of management judgements are set out in Note 3(e).

The following summarises the major methods and assumptions used in estimating the fair values of financial instruments.

(i) Securities

The fair value of listed securities/collective investment schemes is based on quoted market prices at the end of the reporting period where available without any deduction for transaction costs.

The fair value of unlisted equity securities is estimated using the applicable price/earnings ratio of a similar listed company adjusted for the specific circumstances of the investee company.

(g) Fair value (continued)

(i) Determination of fair value of financial instruments carried at fair value (continued)

(i) Securities (continued)

The fair value of unquoted debt securities is estimated by comparing market interest rates when the loans were granted with current market rates offered for similar instruments or derived by using fund manager calculated discount margin/yield to maturity as an input into a discounted cash flow analysis reflecting the contractual terms of the instrument at the measurement date.

The fair value of unlisted collective investment schemes is made reference to the quoted market prices of underlying investments held, or net asset value or based upon valuation techniques developed by the manager of each collective investment scheme that use, where possible, current market based or independently sourced market parameters, such as interest rates, currency rates and option volatilities. The transaction price is used as the best estimate of fair value at inception.

(ii) Derivatives

Foreign exchange forward contracts and swap are marked to market either using market prices or by discounting the contractual forward price and deducting the current spot rate.

Equity options are valued using valuation models. Valuation models calculate the present value of expected future cash flows, together with the observable market data, including prices available from exchanges, dealers and brokers for the equity linked investments.

(iii) Other assets/liabilities and repurchase agreements

For assets/liabilities which are recoverable/payable within one year, the carrying amount is deemed to be the fair value.

(iv) Investment contracts

The fair value of investment contracts is the accrued policy fund balance, plus where applicable an allowance for the future cost of guarantee in the non-linked investment contracts. The fair value of the cost of guarantee is calculated as the best estimate liability plus an allowance for the cost of holding regulatory capital.

The best estimate liability is arrived at using a valuation model to project the actual balance and the guaranteed balance based on 1,000 scenarios of stochastically generated investment returns for 30 years. The guarantee cost is derived for each projection year under each scenario, being the present value of any shortfall of the actual balance to meet the guaranteed liability, net of fee income.

The valuation of the allowance for the cost of holding regulatory capital is sensitive to certain assumptions, in particular the cost of capital and the expected yield on assets backing the investment contract liabilities. The cost of capital is computed based on the internal reference rates used for insurance business. The expected yield on assets is based on the Company's long term investment return outlook.

(g) Fair value (continued)

(ii) Analysis of fair value determination

The following table provides an analysis of the basis for the valuation of financial assets and financial liabilities measured at fair value in the financial statements:

At 31 December 2024	F			
	Level 1	easurements cat Level 2	Level 3	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Recurring fair value measurements				
Financial assets				
Debt securities measured at FVOCI Debt securities and accreting loan	16,881	31,563	-	48,444
measured at FVPL	14,124,744	97,384,952	2,612,087	114,121,783
Other financial assets measured at FVPL	20,954,994	1,651,628	27,496,120	50,102,742
Derivatives		161,046		161,046
	35,096,619	99,229,189	30,108,207	164,434,015
Financial liabilities				
Liabilities under investment contracts	_	244,901	_	244,901
Derivatives	_	160,224	_	160,224
	_	405,125		405,125
At 31 December 2023	Fair value m	easurements cat	egorised into	
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Recurring fair value measurements				
Financial assets				
Debt securities measured at FVOCI Debt securities and accreting loan	8,379	27,455	-	35,834
measured at FVPL	10,727,079	106,203,357	2,676,605	119,607,041
Other financial assets measured at FVPL	11,961,026	349,801	24,711,834	37,022,661
Derivatives		48,855		48,855
	22,696,484	106,629,468	27,388,439	156,714,391
Financial liabilities				
Liabilities under investment contracts		263,772		263,772
Derivatives	-	155,139	-	155,139
			_	
		418,911		418,911

(g) Fair value (continued)

(iii) The following table shows a reconciliation from the beginning balances to the ending balances for fair value measurements in Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy:

		202	24			202	?3	
	Unlisted equity securities \$'000	Debt securities measured at FVPL \$'000	Collective investment schemes \$'000	Total \$'000	Unlisted equity securities \$'000	Debt securities measured at FVPL \$'000	Collective investment schemes \$'000	Total \$'000
At 1 January	31,753	2,676,605	24,680,081	27,388,439	38,185	-	20,180,039	20,218,224
Purchases	-	-	10,038,551	10,038,551	-	644,193	3,902,298	4,546,491
Disposals/maturities/settlements	(5,518)	(318,341)	(8,878,772)	(9,202,631)	-	(71,040)	(562,123)	(633,163)
Transfer in	-	-	-	-	-	2,130,749	-	2,130,749
Transfer out	-	-	(471,804)	(471,804)	-	-	-	-
Total gains or losses recognised in profit or loss - net gain/(loss) from financial assets								
measured at FVPL	17,394	253,825	2,084,434	2,355,653	(6,432)	(27,297)	1,159,867	1,126,138
At 31 December	43,629	2,612,089	27,452,490	30,108,208	31,753	2,676,605	24,680,081	27,388,439
Unrealised gains or losses recognised in profit or loss relating to those assets held at the end of the reporting period - net gain/(loss) from financial assets measured at FVPL	11,876	30,210	252,048	294,134	(6,432)	(27,297)	1,159,867	1,126,138

During 2023, there was transfer in to level 3 which are primarily attributable to re-assessment of the observability of valuation inputs and price transparency. The transfer out of level 3 during 2024 represents cash balances held under the collective investment schemes. Any transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy are deemed to occur at the end of the reporting period.

(g) Fair value (continued)

(iv) Effect of changes in significant unobservable assumptions to reasonably possible alternatives

The following table shows the sensitivity of these fair values to reasonably possible alternative assumptions:

			At 31 Decemb	per 2024	At 31 December 2023	
			Net (loss)/gain from financial assets measured at FVPL		Net (loss)/gain from financial assets measured at FVPL	
	Valuation techniques	Significant unobservable inputs	Favourable changes \$'000	Unfavourable changes \$'000	Favourable changes \$'000	Unfavourable changes \$'000
Financial assets measured at FVPL - Debt securities	Model - Discounted cash flow	Credit Spread	182,846	(182,846)	133,830	(133,830)
- Unlisted equity securities and Collective investment schemes	Price - Market comparable approach	Discount for lack of marketability	1,374,806	(1,374,806)	1,235,592	(1,235,592)

Favourable and unfavourable changes are determined on the basis of the value of the instrument as a result of varying the levels of the unobservable parameters using statistical techniques. When parameters are not amendable to statistical analysis, quantification of uncertainty is judgemental.

When the fair value of a financial asset is affected by more than one unobservable assumptions, the above table reflects the most favourable or most unfavourable change from varying the assumptions individually.

The valuations are assessed on an asset by asset basis using a valuation methodology appropriate to the specific investment, in line with industry practice. In many of the methodologies, the principal assumption is the valuation multiple to be applied to the main financial indicator including, for example, multiples for comparable listed companies and discounts for marketability.

The majority of insurance contracts is measured under VFA, to the extent the favourable and unfavourable change in the fair value of the assets due to varying the levels of the unobservable parameters, which are attributable to policyholders, an offsetting amount will be recognised in insurance finance income or expenses and absorbed in CSM balance. Accordingly, impact on the profit after tax for the year and shareholders' equity as at year end would not be material. For the sensitivity analysis regarding the market risk factors impacting insurance and reinsurance contracts held by the Company, please refer to Note 15(f)(i).

(g) Fair value (continued)

(v) Transfer between Level 1 and Level 2

	Debt securities and loans measured a	accreting t FVPL
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Transfer from Level 2 to Level 1	2,936,475	-
Transfer from Level 1 to Level 2	247,963	<u>-</u>
	Debt securities med FVOCI	isured at
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Transfer from Level 2 to Level 1	4,782	

Transfer between levels of the fair value hierarchy is deemed to occur at the end of each quarter. Transfer into and out of levels of the fair value hierarchy is primarily attributable to observability of valuation inputs and price transparency.

(vi) Fair value of financial instruments not measured at fair value

All financial instruments are measured at amounts not materially different from their fair values as at 31 December 2024 and 2023 except for the following financial instruments, for which their carrying amounts and fair value and the level of fair value hierarchy are disclosed below:

	Carrying amount	Fair value		Fair value measurements 31 December 2024 categori.				
	2024	2024	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3			
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000			
Debt securities measured								
at amortised cost	8,835,915	8,237,257	2,318,743	5,918,514				
	Carrying amount	Fair value	31 Decem	lue measurement ber 2023 categor	rised into			
	2023	2023	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3			
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000			
Debt securities measured								
at amortised cost	8,304,557	7,727,605	3,510,673	4,216,932				

Valuation techniques and inputs used in Level 1 and 2 fair value measurements are disclosed in Note 14(g)(i).

(h) Interests in collective investment schemes

Included in financial assets measured at FVPL on the Company's balance sheet are certain investments in collective investment schemes in which they have been designed so that voting or similar rights are not the dominant factor in deciding who controls these schemes. These collective investment schemes include investments in unit trusts, private equity funds, private credit funds and infrastructure funds established by the related companies or third parties. These schemes provide the Company with a variety of investment opportunities through managed investment strategies.

(h) Interests in collective investment schemes

Owing to the passive nature of these investments, the maximum exposure to loss from these interests is limited to the associated equity price risk and the capital commitments. The maximum exposure to loss, which represents the maximum loss that the Company could be required to report as a result of its involvement with these collective investment schemes regardless of the probability of the loss being incurred, is equivalent to the carrying amount of these investments and the outstanding capital commitments to invest in several private equity funds for funding future private equity investments in global companies under respective investment contracts (see Note 24).

(i) Derivative financial instruments

The following table shows the marked-to-market value of assets and liabilities by each class of derivatives.

	2024	
	Derivative	Derivative
	assets	liabilities
	\$'000	\$'000
Exchange rate contracts:		
- spot and forward foreign exchange	65,370	75,624
- currency swaps	4,443	3,692
	69,813	79,316
Equity and other contracts:		
- equity option purchased	91,233	80,908
	91,233	80,908
	161,046	160,224
	2023	
	<u>Derivative</u>	Derivative
	assets	liabilities
	\$'000	\$'000
Exchange rate contracts:		
- spot and forward foreign exchange	25,474	142,644
- currency swaps	2,217	12,495
	27,691	155,139
Equity and other contracts:	27,691	155,139
Equity and other contracts: - equity option purchased	<u>27,691</u> <u>21,164</u>	155,139
		155,139 - -
	21,164	155,139 - - - 155,139

(j) Offsetting of financial assets and financial liabilities

			2024					2023		
	Amounts sub	ject to enfo	rceable netting	arrangements		Amounts subject to enforceable netting arrangements				
	Gross amounts \$'000	Amounts offset \$'000	Amounts reported in the balance sheet \$'000	Amounts not set-off in the balance sheet \$'000	Net amounts \$'000	Gross amounts \$'000	Amounts offset \$'000	Amounts reported in the balance sheet \$'000	Amounts not set-off in the balance sheet \$'000	Net amounts \$'000
Investment assets										
Derivatives	161,046		161,046	160,224	822	48,855	_	48,855	155,139	(106,284)
At 31 December	161,046		161,046	160,224	822	48,855		48,855	155,139	(106,284)
Repurchase agreements	-	-	-	-	-	2,078,734	-	2,078,734	2,078,734	-
Investment liabilities										
Derivatives	160,224		160,224	160,224	<u>-</u>	155,139	<u>-</u>	155,139	155,139	<u>-</u>
At 31 December	160,224		160,224	160,224		2,233,873		2,233,873	2,233,873	

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the balance sheet when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously ("the offset criteria").

The "Amounts not set off in the balance sheet" for derivatives include transactions where the counterparty has an offsetting exposure with the Company and a master netting or similar arrangement is in place with a right of set off only in the event of default, insolvency or bankruptcy, or the offset criteria are otherwise not satisfied.

(k) Repurchase Agreements - Assets pledged and assets transferred

(i)	Assets pledged		
		2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000
	Financial assets pledged to secured liabilities		
	Asset pledged as at 31 Dec	-	2,078,734
	Amount of liabilities secured	_ _	2,078,734

The above shows assets where a charge has been granted to secure liabilities on a legal and contractual basis. These transactions are conducted under terms that are usual and customary to collateralised transactions including sale and purchase agreements.

(ii) Assets transferred

Transferred financial assets not qualifying for full derecognition and associated financial liabilities

	2024		2023	
	Carrying amount of transferred assets \$'000	Carrying amount of associated liabilities \$'000	Carrying amount of transferred assets \$'000	Carrying amount of associated liabilities \$'000
Repurchase agreements		<u> </u>	2,078,734	2,078,734

During 2024, the repurchase agreement has been fully repaid. In 2023, the financial assets shown above include amounts transferred to the immediate holding company that do not qualify for derecognition, notably debt securities held by counterparties as collateral under repurchase agreements. As the substance of these transactions is secured borrowings, the collateral assets continue to be recognised in full and the related liabilities, reflecting the Company's obligation to repurchase the transferred assets for a fixed price at a future date, are also recognised on the balance sheet. As a result of these transactions, the Company is unable to use, sell or pledge the transferred assets for the duration of the transactions to the extent the amounts of liabilities secured being outstanding. The Company remains exposed to interest rate risk, credit risk and market risk on these pledged instruments. The counterparty's recourse is not limited to the transferred assets.

(1) Underlying items of contracts with direct participation features

As at 31 December 2024, the fair value of the underlying items of the Company's participating contracts with direct participation features is approximately HK\$170,763,908,000 (2023: HK\$158,777,330,000), which include investment property, equities, debt securities, collective investment schemes, derivatives, accreting loans, cash and deposit balances and others.

15 Insurance and reinsurance contracts held

	202	24	20	23
	Assets \$'000	Liabilities \$'000	Assets \$'000	Liabilities \$'000
Insurance contracts - Life direct participating contracts - Life other contracts	2,829	178,474,978 9,969,876	10,071	158,595,342 8,613,463
	2,829	188,444,854	10,071	167,208,805
Reinsurance contracts held - Life direct participating contracts - Life other contracts	12,867,096	1,001,603	5,377,650	1,110,808
	12,867,096	1,001,603	5,377,650	1,110,808

The credit quality of the reinsurance contract assets is assessed as 'strong' (as defined in Note 14(b)(vi)), with Nil exposure being past due or impaired (2023: Nil). The maximum exposure to credit risk arising from the reinsurance contracts assets as at 31 December 2024 is HK\$7,425,137,000 (2023: HK\$5,377,650,000). The maximum exposure takes into account the collateral trust established in respect of the new reinsurance treaty signed during the year.

(a) Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by remaining coverage and incurred claims

(i) Insurance contracts – Life direct participating contracts

		2024	1		2023					
	Liabiliti remaining o				Liabiliti remaining o	· ·				
	Excluding loss component \$'000	Loss component \$'000	Liabilities for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Excluding loss component \$'000	Loss component \$'000	Liabilities for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000		
Opening assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Opening liabilities	158,120,027	721	474,594	158,595,342	143,306,327	76,632	453,298	143,836,257		
Net opening balance	158,120,027	721	474,594	158,595,342	143,306,327	76,632	453,298	143,836,257		
Changes in the Income statement and Statement of				_						
Comprehensive income										
Insurance revenue										
Contracts under the fair value approach	(1,298,467)	-	-	(1,298,467)	(489,918)	-	-	(489,918)		
Other contracts (Note)	(1,750,550)	_	_	(1,750,550)	(2,260,469)	_	_	(2,260,469)		
Total insurance revenue	(3,049,017)	_	_	(3,049,017)	(2,750,387)	-	-	(2,750,387)		
Insurance service expenses		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					· ·			
Incurred claims and other insurance service expenses	-	(339)	480,495	480,156	-	(667)	458,083	457,416		
Amortisation of insurance acquisition cash flows	387,365	-	-	387,365	266,474	-	-	266,474		
Losses and reversal of losses on onerous contracts	-	2,423	-	2,423	-	(44,277)	-	(44,277)		
Adjustments to liabilities for incurred claims	<u> </u>		14,422	14,422			8,559	8,559		
Total insurance expenses	387,365	2,084	494,917	884,366	266,474	(44,944)	466,642	688,172		
Investment components	(11,459,213)		11,459,213		(11,309,168)		11,309,168	-		
Insurance service result	(14,120,865)	2,084	11,954,130	(2,164,651)	(13,793,081)	(44,944)	11,775,810	(2,062,215)		

Note: Other contracts are those contracts measured by applying HKFRS 17 from inception of the contracts. These include contracts measured under the full retrospective approach at transition and contracts incepted after transition.

(a) Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by remaining coverage and incurred claims (continued)

(i) Insurance contracts – Life direct participating contracts (continued)

		202-	4		2023					
	Liabiliti remaining	5			Liabiliti remaining	3				
	Excluding loss component \$'000	Loss component \$'000	Liabilities for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Excluding loss component \$'000	Loss component \$'000	Liabilities for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000		
Net finance expenses from insurance contracts	5,292,514	-	-	5,292,514	10,348,146	-	-	10,348,146		
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(818,944)	(11)	696	(818,259)	(56,517)	(1,151)	(5,088)	(62,756)		
Total changes in the Income statement and Statement										
of Comprehensive income	(9,647,295)	2,073	11,954,826	2,309,604	(3,501,452)	(46,095)	11,770,722	8,223,175		
Cash flows										
Premiums received	31,020,959	-	-	31,020,959	19,055,728	-	-	19,055,728		
Claims and other insurance service expenses paid, including investment components	73,000	-	(11,951,518)	(11,878,518)	120,956	-	(11,749,426)	(11,628,470)		
Insurance acquisition cash flows	(1,572,409)	-	-	(1,572,409)	(891,348)	-	-	(891,348)		
Transfer	(812)	812	_		29,816	(29,816)				
Total cash flows	29,520,738	812	(11,951,518)	17,570,032	18,315,152	(29,816)	(11,749,426)	6,535,910		
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Net closing balance	177,993,470	3,606	477,902	178,474,978	158,120,027	721	474,594	158,595,342		
Closing assets	-	-	-		_	-	-			
Closing liabilities	177,993,470	3,606	477,902	178,474,978	158,120,027	721	474,594	158,595,342		
Net closing balance	177,993,470	3,606	477,902	178,474,978	158,120,027	721	474,594	158,595,342		

(a) Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by remaining coverage and incurred claims (continued)

(ii) Insurance contracts – Life Other contracts

		2024	4					
	Liabiliti remaining (J		_	Liabiliti remaining d			
	Excluding loss component \$'000	Loss component \$'000	Liabilities for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Excluding loss component \$'000	Loss component \$'000	Liabilities for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Opening assets	(20,063)	8	9,984	(10,071)	(8,335)	10	4,244	(4,081)
Opening liabilities	8,365,535	123,983	123,945	8,613,463	8,211,702	117,548	200,667	8,529,917
Net opening balance	8,345,472	123,991	133,929	8,603,392	8,203,367	117,558	204,911	8,525,836
Changes in the Income statement and Statement of								
Comprehensive income								
Insurance revenue								
Contracts under the fair value approach	(169,588)	-	-	(169,588)	(67,228)	-	-	(67,228)
Other contracts (Note)	(81,326)			(81,326)	(63,558)			(63,558)
Total insurance revenue	(250,914)			(250,914)	(130,786)		_	(130,786)
Insurance service expenses								
Incurred claims and other insurance service expenses	-	(18,396)	93,001	74,605	-	(35,335)	95,158	59,823
Amortisation of insurance acquisition cash flows	36,563	-	-	36,563	31,496	-	-	31,496
Losses and reversal of losses on onerous contracts	-	25,076	-	25,076	-	40,980	-	40,980
Adjustments to liabilities for incurred claims			169	169			1,465	1,465
Total insurance expenses	36,563	6,680	93,170	136,413	31,496	5,645	96,623	133,764
Investment components	stment components (1,077,211) -			-	(1,139,596)		1,139,596	
Insurance service result	(1,291,562)	6,680	1,170,381	(114,501)	(1,238,886)	5,645	1,236,219	2,978

Note: Other contracts are those contracts measured by applying HKFRS 17 from inception of the contracts. These include contracts measured under the full retrospective approach at transition and contracts incepted after transition.

(a) Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by remaining coverage and incurred claims (continued)

(ii) Insurance contracts – Life Other contracts (continued)

		2024	4					
	Liabiliti remaining	v			Liabiliti remaining o			
	Excluding loss component \$'000	Loss component \$'000	Liabilities for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Excluding loss component \$'000	Loss component \$'000	Liabilities for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Net finance expenses from insurance contracts	262,260	3,943	-	266,203	452,910	4,926	-	457,836
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(31,716)	(648)	(1,766)	(34,130)	(16,692)	(1,372)	(3,120)	(21,184)
Total changes in the Income statement and Statement of								
Comprehensive income	(1,061,018)	9,975	1,168,615	117,572	(802,668)	9,199	1,233,099	439,630
Cash flows								
Premiums received	2,468,935	-	-	2,468,935	996,655	-	-	996,655
Claims and other insurance service expenses paid, including investment components	(1,624)	_	(1,174,414)	(1,176,038)	(744)	-	(1,304,080)	(1,304,824)
Insurance acquisition cash flows	(46,814)	-	-	(46,814)	(53,905)	-	-	(53,905)
Transfer	864	(864)	_		2,767	(2,766)	(1)	_
Total cash flows	2,421,361	(864)	(1,174,414)	1,246,083	944,773	(2,766)	(1,304,081)	(362,074)
Other						_	_	_
Net closing balance	9,705,815	133,102	128,130	9,967,047	8,345,472	123,991	133,929	8,603,392
Closing assets	(10,602)	44	7,729	(2,829)	(20,063)	8	9,984	(10,071)
Closing liabilities	9,716,417	133,058	120,401	9,969,876	8,365,535	123,983	123,945	8,613,463
Net closing balance	9,705,815	133,102	128,130	9,967,047	8,345,472	123,991	133,929	8,603,392

(a) Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by remaining coverage and incurred claims (continued)

(iii) Reinsurance contracts held

		2024	4			2023	3	
	Assets remaining o	-			Assets remaining o			_
	Excluding loss-recovery component \$'000	Loss- recovery component \$'000	Assets for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Excluding loss-recovery component \$'000	Loss- recovery component \$'000	Assets for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Opening assets	5,119,497	15,377	242,776	5,377,650	5,631,161	4,610	27,332	5,663,103
Opening liabilities	(1,307,494)		196,686	(1,110,808)	(1,351,824)		240,010	(1,111,814)
Net opening balance	3,812,003	15,377	439,462	4,266,842	4,279,337	4,610	267,342	4,551,289
Changes in the Income statement and Statement of				_				
Comprehensive income								
Allocation of reinsurance premiums paid	(21,853)	-	_	(21,853)	(90,290)	-	_	(90,290)
Recoveries of incurred claims and other insurance service expenses	-	-	108,070	108,070	-	-	88,515	88,515
Recoveries or reversals of recoveries of losses on onerous underlying contracts	(4,319)	2,647	-	(1,672)	(10,235)	10,899	-	664
Adjustments to assets for incurred claims			19,599	19,599	<u> </u>		13,380	13,380
Total amounts recoverable from reinsurer	(4,319)	2,647	127,669	125,997	(10,235)	10,899	101,895	102,559

(a) Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by remaining coverage and incurred claims (continued)

(iii) Reinsurance contracts held (continued)

		2024	1					
	Assets remaining o				Assets remaining o			
	Excluding loss-recovery component \$'000	Loss- recovery component \$'000	Assets for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Excluding loss-recovery component \$'000	Loss- recovery component \$'000	Assets for incurred claims \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Net finance expenses from reinsurance contracts held, excluding effect of changes in non-performance risk of reinsurers	231,882	-	-	231,882	218,529	-	-	218,529
Investment components	(937,347)	-	937,347	-	(898,883)	-	898,883	-
Effect of changes in non-performance risk of reinsurers	160	-	-	160	795	-	-	795
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(68,718)	(493)	(5,370)	(74,581)	(43,316)	(132)	(311)	(43,759)
Total changes in the Income statement and Statement of Comprehensive income	(800,195)	2,154	1,059,646	261,605	(823,400)	10,767	1,000,467	187,834
Cash flows								
Premiums paid	8,323,814	-	-	8,323,814	356,066	-	-	356,066
Claims and other recoverables received, including investment components	_	-	(986,768)	(986,768)	_	_	(828,347)	(828,347)
Total cash flows	8,323,814	_	(986,768)	7,337,046	356,066	_	(828,347)	(472,281)
Net closing balance	11,335,622	17,531	512,340	11,865,493	3,812,003	15,377	439,462	4,266,842
Closing assets	12,520,599	17,531	328,966	12,867,096	5,119,497	15,377	242,776	5,377,650
Closing liabilities	(1,184,977)		183,374	(1,001,603)	(1,307,494)	- 	196,686	(1,110,808)
Net closing balance	11,335,622	17,531	512,340	11,865,493	3,812,003	15,377	439,462	4,266,842

(b) Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by measurement component – Contracts issued

(i) Insurance contracts – Life direct participating contracts

Contracts issued

			2024			2023					
			Contra					Contro	ıctual		
			service n	nargin		_		service i	service margin		
	Estimates of present value of future cash flows \$'000	Risk adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	Total \$'000	Estimates of present value of future cash flows \$'000	Risk adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	
Opening assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Opening liabilities	138,159,165	423,033	12,659,405	7,353,739	158,595,342	125,628,472	210,253	12,775,730	5,221,802	143,836,257	
Net opening balance	138,159,165	423,033	12,659,405	7,353,739	158,595,342	125,628,472	210,253	12,775,730	5,221,802	143,836,257	
Changes in the Income statement and Statement of Comprehensive income Changes that relate to current services											
CSM recognised for services provided Change in risk adjustment for non-financial risk	-	(27.402)	(963,059)	(972,404)	(1,935,463)	-	- (9.222)	(148,754)	(1,711,848)	(1,860,602)	
expired	(200 (21)	(37,402)	-	-	(/ /	(157,662)	(8,233)	-	-	(8,233)	
Experience adjustments Changes that relate to future services	(208,631)	-	-	-	(208,631)	(157,662)	-	-	-	(157,662)	
Contracts initially recognised in the year	(4,429,053)	76,156	-	4,353,010	113	(2,064,378)	43,168	-	2,021,210	-	
Changes in estimates that adjust the CSM Changes in estimates that result in losses and	(2,444,503)	10,742	984,787	1,448,974	-	(2,036,481)	177,373	37,001	1,822,107	-	
reversal of losses on onerous contracts	2,145	165	-	-	2,310	(44,996)	719	-	-	(44,277)	
Changes that relate to past services											
Adjustments to liabilities for incurred claims	14,422	<u> </u>		-	14,422	8,559	<u> </u>	_		8,559	
Insurance service result	(7,065,620)	49,661	21,728	4,829,580	(2,164,651)	(4,294,958)	213,027	(111,753)	2,131,469	(2,062,215)	

Note: Other contracts are those contracts measured by applying HKFRS 17 from inception of the contracts. This includes contracts measured under the full retrospective approach at Transition and contracts incepted after Transition.

(b) Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by measurement component – Contracts issued (continued)

- (i) Insurance contracts Life direct participating contracts
 - Contracts issued (continued)

			2024		2023					
			Contra					Contra	ctual	
		D. 1	service r	nargin			D. 1	service n	nargin	
	Estimates of present value of future cash flows \$'000	Risk adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Estimates of present value of future cash flows \$'000	Risk adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Net finance expenses from insurance contracts	5,292,514	-	-	-	5,292,514	10,348,146	-	-	-	10,348,146
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(734,467)	(2,564)	(10,007)	(71,221)	(818,259)	(58,405)	(247)	(4,572)	468	(62,756)
Total changes in the Income statement and										
Statement of Comprehensive income	(2,507,573)	47,097	11,721	4,758,359	2,309,604	5,994,783	212,780	(116,325)	2,131,937	8,223,175
Cash flows										
Premiums received	31,020,959	-	-	-	31,020,959	19,055,728	-	-	-	19,055,728
Claims and other insurance service expenses paid including investment components	, (11,878,518)	-	-	-	(11,878,518)	(11,628,470)	-	-	-	(11,628,470)
Insurance acquisition cash flows	(1,572,409)				(1,572,409)	(891,348)		<u> </u>		(891,348)
Total cash flows	17,570,032	_	_	_	17,570,032	6,535,910	_	_	_	6,535,910
Other			-	-			-			
Net closing balance	153,221,624	470,130	12,671,126	12,112,098	178,474,978	138,159,165	423,033	12,659,405	7,353,739	158,595,342
Closing assets		-	-	-	_		_	_	_	
Closing liabilities	153,221,624	470,130	12,671,126	12,112,098	178,474,978	138,159,165	423,033	12,659,405	7,353,739	158,595,342
Net closing balance	153,221,624	470,130	12,671,126	12,112,098	178,474,978	138,159,165	423,033	12,659,405	7,353,739	158,595,342

Note: Other contracts are those contracts measured by applying HKFRS 17 from inception of the contracts. This includes contracts measured under the full retrospective approach at Transition and contracts incepted after Transition.

Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by measurement component – Contracts issued (continued)

(ii) Insurance contracts – Life other contracts – Contracts issued

			2024			2023				
			Contra			Contractual				
	F	D: 1	service n	nargin		F 6	D. 1	service n	nargin	
	Estimates of present value of future cash flows \$'000	Risk adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Estimates of present value of future cash flows \$'000	Risk adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Opening assets	(57,972)	3,215	24,498	20,188	(10,071)	(33,255)	1,748	15,929	11,497	(4,081)
Opening liabilities	7,511,068	29,316	930,314	142,765	8,613,463	7,422,258	24,821	932,573	150,265	8,529,917
Net opening balance	7,453,096	32,531	954,812	162,953	8,603,392	7,389,003	26,569	948,502	161,762	8,525,836
Changes in the Income statement and Statement of Comprehensive income Changes that relate to current services										
CSM recognised for services provided Change in risk adjustment for non-financial risk expired	-	(2,386)	(121,741)	(32,683)	(154,424) (2,386)	-	(2,262)	(35,892)	(17,640)	(53,532) (2,262)
Experience adjustments Changes that relate to future services	17,064	-	-	-	17,064	16,327	-	-	-	16,327
Contracts initially recognised in the year	(64,474)	3,194	_	65,571	4,291	(56,591)	2,161	_	55,481	1,051
Changes in estimates that adjust the CSM	(106,235)	1,165	119,221	(14,151)	-,	13,450	4,751	22,611	(40,812)	-,
Changes in estimates that result in losses and reversal of losses on onerous contracts	21,076	(291)	-	-	20,785	38,609	1,320	-	-	39,929
Changes that relate to past services										
Adjustments to liabilities for incurred claims	169	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	169	1,465			<u>-</u>	1,465
Insurance service result	(132,400)	1,682	(2,520)	18,737	(114,501)	13,260	5,970	(13,281)	(2,971)	2,978

Note: Other contracts are those contracts measured by applying HKFRS 17 from inception of the contracts. This includes contracts measured under the full retrospective approach at Transition and contracts incepted after Transition.

Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by measurement component – Contracts issued (continued)

(ii) Insurance contracts – Life other contracts – Contracts issued (continued)

	2024				2023					
			Contra					Contra		
	Estimates of present value of future cash flows \$'000	Risk adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	Total \$'000	Estimates of present value of future cash flows \$'000	Risk adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	Total \$'000
Net finance expenses from insurance contracts	237,202	_	23,433	5,568	266,203	434,041	_	19,535	4,260	457,836
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(33,704)	(18)	(179)	(229)	(34,130)	(21,134)	(8)	56	(98)	(21,184)
Total changes in the Income statement and Statement of Comprehensive income	71,098	1,664	20,734	24,076	117,572	426,167	5,962	6,310	1,191	439,630
Cash flows							11			
Premiums received	2,468,935	_	_	_	2,468,935	996,655	_	_	-	996,655
Claims and other insurance service expenses paid, including investment components		-	-	-	(1,176,038)	(1,304,824)	-	-	-	(1,304,824)
Insurance acquisition cash flows	(46,814)			_	(46,814)	(53,905)	<u> </u>		_	(53,905)
Total cash flows	1,246,083		_	-	1,246,083	(362,074)		_		(362,074)
Other			_				_	-		_
Net closing balance	8,770,277	34,195	975,546	187,029	9,967,047	7,453,096	32,531	954,812	162,953	8,603,392
Closing assets	(24,909)	1,888	9,205	10,987	(2,829)	(57,972)	3,215	24,498	20,188	(10,071)
Closing liabilities	8,795,186	32,307	966,341	176,042	9,969,876	7,511,068	29,316	930,314	142,765	8,613,463
Net closing balance	8,770,277	34,195	975,546	187,029	9,967,047	7,453,096	32,531	954,812	162,953	8,603,392

Note: Other contracts are those contracts measured by applying HKFRS 17 from inception of the contracts. This includes contracts measured under the full retrospective approach at Transition and contracts incepted after Transition.

(b) Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by measurement component – Contracts issued (continued)

(iii) Reinsurance contracts held

	2024				2023					
			Contro					Contractual		
			service	margin				service n	nargin	
	Estimates of present value of future cash flows \$'000	Risk adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	Estimates of present value of future cash flows \$'000	Risk adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Opening assets	5,655,897	3,414	(278,390)	(3,271)	5,377,650	5,795,410	5,675	(139,939)	1,957	5,663,103
Opening liabilities	(1,256,309)	36,655	90,978	17,868	(1,110,808)	(1,106,069)	27,879	(45,007)	11,383	(1,111,814)
Net opening balance	4,399,588	40,069	(187,412)	14,597	4,266,842	4,689,341	33,554	(184,946)	13,340	4,551,289
Changes in the Income statement and Statement of Comprehensive income Changes that relate to current services										
CSM recognised for services provided			19,660	69,738	89,398			38,049	(4 695)	33,364
Change in risk adjustment for non-financial risk	-	-	19,000	09,/38	69,396	-	-	36,049	(4,685)	33,304
expired	-	28	-	_	28	-	(263)	-	-	(263)
Experience adjustments	(2,967)	-	-	-	(2,967)	(34,930)	-	-	-	(34,930)
Changes that relate to future services										
Contracts initially recognised in the year	1,245,055	(8,552)	-	(1,234,542)	1,961	(6,671)	848	-	6,687	864
Changes in recoveries of losses on onerous underlying contracts that adjust the CSM	-	-	-	(4,205)	(4,205)	-	-	-	-	-
Changes in estimates that adjust the CSM	(215,268)	38,968	258,557	(82,257)	-	33,558	5,715	(38,135)	(1,138)	-
Changes in estimates that do not adjust the CSM	184	146	-	-	330	(304)	158	-	-	(146)
Changes that relate to past services Adjustments to assets/liabilities for incurred claims	19,599	<u>-</u>	_		19,599	13,380	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	13,380
Net income/(expenses) from reinsurance contracts held	1,046,603	30,590	278,217	(1,251,266)	104,144	5,033	6,458	(86)	864	12,269

Note: Other contracts are those contracts measured by applying HKFRS 17 from inception of the contracts. This includes contracts measured under the full retrospective approach at Transition and contracts incepted after Transition.

(b) Movements in carrying amounts – analysis by measurement component – Contracts issued (continued)

(iii) Reinsurance contracts held (continued)

	2024				2023					
			Contro			Contractual .				
	Estimates of	Risk	service	margin		Estimates of	Risk	service n	nargin	
	present value of future cash flows \$`000	adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000	present value of future cash flows \$'000	adjustment for non- financial risk \$'000	Contracts under the fair value approach \$'000	Other contracts (Note) \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Net finance income/(expenses) from reinsurance contracts held	270,891	_	(1,315)	(37,694)	231,882	220,693	_	(2,495)	331	218,529
Effect of changes in non-performance risk of reinsurers	160	-	-	-	160	795	-	-	-	795
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(77,709)	(27)	3,303	(148)	(74,581)	(43,993)	57	115	62	(43,759)
Total changes in the Income statement and Statement of Comprehensive income	1,239,945	30,563	280,205	(1,289,108)	261,605	182,528	6,515	(2,466)	1,257	187,834
Cash flows										
Premiums paid Claims and other recoverables received,	8,323,814	-	-	-	8,323,814	356,066	-	-	-	356,066
including investment components	(986,768)	<u> </u>			(986,768)	(828,347)		<u>-</u>		(828,347)
Total cash flows	7,337,046	_	_		7,337,046	(472,281)	_	_	_	(472,281)
Other		-	-	_		-	-	-	-	
Net closing balance	12,976,579	70,632	92,793	(1,274,511)	11,865,493	4,399,588	40,069	(187,412)	14,597	4,266,842
Closing assets	14,386,340	30,202	(251,937)	(1,297,509)	12,867,096	5,655,897	3,414	(278,390)	(3,271)	5,377,650
Closing liabilities	(1,409,761)	40,430	344,730	22,998	(1,001,603)	(1,256,309)	36,655	90,978	17,868	(1,110,808)
Net closing balance	12,976,579	70,632	92,793	(1,274,511)	11,865,493	4,399,588	40,069	(187,412)	14,597	4,266,842

Note: Other contracts are those contracts measured by applying HKFRS 17 from inception of the contracts. This includes contracts measured under the full retrospective approach at Transition and contracts incepted after Transition.

(c) Effect of contracts initially recognised in the year

(i) Insurance contracts – Life direct participating contracts – Contracts issued

		2024	
	Profitable	Onerous	
		contracts issued	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Insurance contracts			
Estimates of present value of cash outflows			
Insurance acquisition cash flows	1,633,998	_	1,633,998
Claims and other insurance service	, ,		, ,
expenses payable	27,929,391	8,286	27,937,677
Estimates of present value of cash inflows	(33,992,534)	(8,194)	(34,000,728)
Risk adjustment for non-financial risk	76,135	21	76,156
CSM	4,353,010	-	4,353,010
Losses recognised on initial recognition		113	113
		2023	
	Profitable	Onerous	
		contracts issued	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Insurance contracts			
Estimates of present value of cash outflows			
Insurance acquisition cash flows	935,124	_	935,124
Claims and other insurance service	,		,
expenses payable	17,906,702	-	17,906,702
Estimates of present value of cash inflows	(20,906,204)	-	(20,906,204)
Risk adjustment for non-financial risk	43,168	-	43,168
CSM	2,021,210		2,021,210
Losses recognised on initial recognition	-	-	

(c) Effect of contracts initially recognised in the year (continued)

(ii) Insurance contracts – Life other contracts – Contracts issued

		2024	
	Profitable	Onerous	
		contracts issued	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Insurance contracts			
Estimates of present value of cash outflows			
Insurance acquisition cash flows	3,236	1,041	4,277
Claims and other insurance service expenses payable	1,409,891	862,055	2,271,946
Estimates of present value of cash inflows	(1,481,183)	(859,514)	(2,340,697)
Risk adjustment for non-financial risk	2,485	709	3,194
CSM	65,571	-	65,571
Losses recognised on initial recognition		4,291	4,291
		2023	
	Profitable	Onerous	
		contracts issued	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Insurance contracts			
Estimates of present value of cash outflows			
Insurance acquisition cash flows	3,163	109	3,272
Claims and other insurance service			
expenses payable	532,991	113,509	646,500
Estimates of present value of cash inflows	(593,298)	(113,065)	(706,363)
Risk adjustment for non-financial risk	1,663	498	2,161
CSM	55,481		55,481
Losses recognised on initial recognition		1,051	1,051
(iii) Reinsurance contracts held			
		2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000
Reinsurance contracts held			
Estimates of present value of cash inflows		(10,745,935)	(309,871)
Estimates of present value of cash outflows		9,500,880	316,542
Risk adjustment for non-financial risk		8,552	(848)
Income recognised on initial recognition		1,961	864
CSM		(1,234,542)	6,687

(d) Maturity analysis

The following tables illustrate when the company expects to recognise the remaining contractual service margin as insurance revenue for insurance contracts and allocation of reinsurance premiums for reinsurance contracts held.

	Present value of expected future cash flows								
31 December 2024	Within 1 year \$'000	1-2 years \$'000	2-3 years \$'000	3-4 years \$'000	4-5 years \$'000	5-10 years \$'000	10-20 years \$'000	Over 20 years \$'000	Total \$'000
Insurance liability future cash flows									
Life direct participating contracts	(1,672,050)	4,276,884	4,202,461	5,986,503	5,118,737	18,580,688	33,660,829	83,067,572	153,221,624
Life other contracts	2,122,693	170,428	144,263	709,731	780,825	1,630,007	1,313,303	1,923,936	8,795,186
Reinsurance contracts held	(176,520)	10,114	10,255	10,524	9,771	50,730	169,140	1,325,747	1,409,761
Insurance liability future cash flows at 31 December 2024	274,123	4,457,426	4,356,979	6,706,758	5,909,333	20,261,425	35,143,272	86,317,255	163,426,571
Remaining CSM									
Life direct participating contracts	1,968,718	1,822,470	1,686,564	1,563,119	1,448,820	5,739,011	6,215,217	4,339,305	24,783,224
Life other contracts	131,581	116,894	104,729	91,957	79,349	270,389	224,667	143,009	1,162,575
Reinsurance contracts held	116,881	110,806	102,493	96,379	86,847	299,554	236,469	132,289	1,181,718
Remaining CSM at 31 December 2024	2,217,180	2,050,170	1,893,786	1,751,455	1,615,016	6,308,954	6,676,353	4,614,603	27,127,517
	Within					5-10 years	10-20 vears	Over 20	Total
31 December 2023	<i>1 year</i> \$'000	1-2 years \$'000	2-3 years \$'000	<i>3-4 years</i> \$'000	4-5 years \$'000	\$'000	\$'000	<i>years</i> \$'000	\$'000
31 December 2023 Insurance liability future cash flows	-	-	~	-	,	-	-	•	
Insurance liability future cash flows Life direct participating contracts	\$'000 (6,442,429)	\$'000 (193,586)	\$'000 6,034,523	\$'000 4,975,480	\$'000 7,838,154	\$'000 19,412,289	\$'000 32,269,627	\$'000 74,265,107	\$'000 138,159,165
Insurance liability future cash flows Life direct participating contracts Life other contracts	\$'000 (6,442,429) 440,209	\$'000 (193,586) 597,132	\$'000 6,034,523 228,128	\$'000 4,975,480 203,080	\$'000 7,838,154 809,961	\$'000 19,412,289 1,489,974	\$'000 32,269,627 1,411,668	\$'000 74,265,107 2,330,916	\$'000 138,159,165 7,511,068
Insurance liability future cash flows Life direct participating contracts Life other contracts Reinsurance contracts held	\$'000 (6,442,429) 440,209 (201,256)	\$'000 (193,586) 597,132 7,752	\$'000 6,034,523 228,128 11,580	\$'000 4,975,480 203,080 10,433	\$'000 7,838,154 809,961 9,100	\$'000 19,412,289 1,489,974 42,003	\$'000 32,269,627 1,411,668 158,099	\$'000 74,265,107 2,330,916 1,218,598	\$'000 138,159,165 7,511,068 1,256,309
Insurance liability future cash flows Life direct participating contracts Life other contracts	\$'000 (6,442,429) 440,209 (201,256)	\$'000 (193,586) 597,132	\$'000 6,034,523 228,128	\$'000 4,975,480 203,080	\$'000 7,838,154 809,961	\$'000 19,412,289 1,489,974	\$'000 32,269,627 1,411,668	\$'000 74,265,107 2,330,916	\$'000 138,159,165 7,511,068
Insurance liability future cash flows Life direct participating contracts Life other contracts Reinsurance contracts held	\$'000 (6,442,429) 440,209 (201,256)	\$'000 (193,586) 597,132 7,752	\$'000 6,034,523 228,128 11,580	\$'000 4,975,480 203,080 10,433	\$'000 7,838,154 809,961 9,100	\$'000 19,412,289 1,489,974 42,003	\$'000 32,269,627 1,411,668 158,099	\$'000 74,265,107 2,330,916 1,218,598	\$'000 138,159,165 7,511,068 1,256,309
Insurance liability future cash flows Life direct participating contracts Life other contracts Reinsurance contracts held Insurance liability future cash flows at 31 December 2023	\$'000 (6,442,429) 440,209 (201,256)	\$'000 (193,586) 597,132 7,752	\$'000 6,034,523 228,128 11,580	\$'000 4,975,480 203,080 10,433	\$'000 7,838,154 809,961 9,100	\$'000 19,412,289 1,489,974 42,003	\$'000 32,269,627 1,411,668 158,099	\$'000 74,265,107 2,330,916 1,218,598	\$'000 138,159,165 7,511,068 1,256,309
Insurance liability future cash flows Life direct participating contracts Life other contracts Reinsurance contracts held Insurance liability future cash flows at 31 December 2023 Remaining CSM	\$'000 (6,442,429) 440,209 (201,256) (6,203,476)	\$'000 (193,586) 597,132 7,752 411,298	\$'000 6,034,523 228,128 11,580 6,274,231	\$'000 4,975,480 203,080 10,433 5,188,993	\$'000 7,838,154 809,961 9,100 8,657,215	\$'000 19,412,289 1,489,974 42,003 20,944,266	\$'000 32,269,627 1,411,668 158,099 33,839,394	\$'000 74,265,107 2,330,916 1,218,598 77,814,621	\$'000 138,159,165 7,511,068 1,256,309 146,926,542
Insurance liability future cash flows Life direct participating contracts Life other contracts Reinsurance contracts held Insurance liability future cash flows at 31 December 2023 Remaining CSM Life direct participating contracts	\$'000 (6,442,429) 440,209 (201,256) (6,203,476) 1,652,607	\$'000 (193,586) 597,132 7,752 411,298	\$'000 6,034,523 228,128 11,580 6,274,231 1,390,887	\$'000 4,975,480 203,080 10,433 5,188,993	\$'000 7,838,154 809,961 9,100 8,657,215 1,185,393	\$'000 19,412,289 1,489,974 42,003 20,944,266 4,627,234	\$'000 32,269,627 1,411,668 158,099 33,839,394 4,877,449	\$'000 74,265,107 2,330,916 1,218,598 77,814,621 3,474,687	\$'000 138,159,165 7,511,068 1,256,309 146,926,542 20,013,144
Insurance liability future cash flows Life direct participating contracts Life other contracts Reinsurance contracts held Insurance liability future cash flows at 31 December 2023 Remaining CSM Life direct participating contracts Life other contracts	\$'000 (6,442,429) 440,209 (201,256) (6,203,476) 1,652,607 121,922	\$'000 (193,586) 597,132 7,752 411,298 1,515,856 112,023	\$'000 6,034,523 228,128 11,580 6,274,231 1,390,887 102,119	\$'000 4,975,480 203,080 10,433 5,188,993 1,289,031 92,133	\$'000 7,838,154 809,961 9,100 8,657,215 1,185,393 80,501	\$'000 19,412,289 1,489,974 42,003 20,944,266 4,627,234 266,338	\$'000 32,269,627 1,411,668 158,099 33,839,394 4,877,449 211,198	\$'000 74,265,107 2,330,916 1,218,598 77,814,621 3,474,687 131,531	\$'000 138,159,165 7,511,068 1,256,309 146,926,542 20,013,144 1,117,765

The amounts included in the table include projections of the CSM recognition for the services that will be provided or received in the future for the contracts in force as at the reporting date, but do not take account of future interest accretion under the GMM and future adjustments of the CSM reflecting changes in the variable fee for contracts under the VFA.

(e) Liquidity risk - Amount payable on demand

The amounts of insurance contract liabilities that are payable on demand are set out by the product grouping below:

	2024	1	2023	3
	Amount payable	Carrying	Amount payable	Carrying
	on demand	amount	on demand	amount
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Life direct participating contracts Life other contracts	168,930,290	178,474,978	147,592,588	158,595,342
	7,887,130	9,969,876	6,383,577	8,613,463

(f) Sensitivities

(i) Sensitivity to market risk factors

The following table provides the impacts on the CSM, profit after tax and equity of the Company from reasonably possible effects of changes in selected interest rate, growth assets and foreign exchange rate scenarios for the year. These sensitivities are prepared in accordance with current HKFRSs and are based on changing one assumption at a time with other variables being held constant which in practice could be correlated.

Due in part to the impact of the cost of guarantees and hedging strategies, which may be in place, the relationship between the profit and total equity and the risk factors is non-linear, for example, to the potential impact of guarantees. Therefore, the results disclosed should not be extrapolated to measure sensitivities to different levels of stress. For the same reason, the impact of the stress is not necessarily symmetrical on the upside and downside. The sensitivities are stated before allowance for management actions, which may mitigate the effect of changes in the market environment. The sensitivities presented allow for adverse changes in policyholder behaviour that may arise in response to changes in market rates.

The method used for deriving sensitivity information and significant variables did not change from the previous period.

(f) Sensitivities (continued)

(i) Sensitivity to market risk factors (continued)

		2023				
At 31 December	Effect on profit after tax \$'000	Effect on CSM \$'000	Effect on total equity \$'000	Effect on profit after tax \$'000	Effect on CSM \$'000	Effect on total equity \$'000
+100 basis point parallel shift in yield curves	38,600	135,741	38,600	(3,166)	112,463	(3,166)
-100 basis point parallel shift in yield curves	(73,543)	(637,056)	(73,543)	(10,243)	(696,801)	(10,243)
+100 basis point shift in credit spreads	(235,509)	(1,153,035)	(235,509)	(284,902)	(1,284,288)	(284,902)
-100 basis point shift in credit spreads	315,930	1,186,604	315,930	365,213	1,230,804	365,213
10% increase in growth assets	94,177	712,814	94,177	93,014	602,634	93,014
10% decrease in growth assets	(101,021)	(784,848)	(101,021)	(95,822)	(632,150)	(95,822)
10% increase in USD exchange rate against local functional currency	(1,025)	32,532	(1,025)	(113)	17,547	(113)
10% decrease in USD exchange rate against local functional currency	1,025	(32,532)	1,025	113	(17,547)	113

The analysis above has been prepared for a change in variable with all other assumptions remaining constant.

For the sensitivity to parallel shift in yield curves and shift in credit spreads, an absolute +/- 100 basis points of the discount rate is used. For the sensitivity to growth assets, a relative +/- 10% (i.e. multiply the assumption by 110% or 90%) is used. For the sensitivity to USD exchange rate, the extent of change is limited by the impact of the HKD to USD peg.

Note: Growth assets primarily comprise equities securities, collective investment schemes, derivatives (other than exchange rate contracts) and investment properties. Variability in growth asset fair value constitutes a market risk to the Company. The method used for deriving sensitivity information and significant market risk factors remain unchanged except for updates made to the FX risk methodology which now limits the impacts to within more recent historical ranges. 2023 comparative sensitivities have been updated to reflect this change.

(f) Sensitivities (continued)

(ii) Sensitivity to insurance underwriting risk factors

The following table shows the sensitivity of profit and total equity to reasonably possible changes in non-economic assumptions for the Company. These sensitivities are prepared in accordance with current HKFRSs.

Mortality and morbidity risk is typically associated with life insurance contracts. The effect on profit of an increase in mortality or morbidity depends on the type of business being written.

Sensitivity to lapse rates depends on the type of contracts being written. An increase in lapse rates typically has a negative effect on CSM (and therefore expected future profits) due to the loss of future income on the lapsed policies. However, some contract lapses have a positive effect on profit due to the existence of policy surrender charges.

Expense rate risk is the exposure to a change in the allocated cost of administering insurance contracts. To the extent that increased expenses cannot be passed on to policyholders, an increase in expense rates will have a negative effect on our profits.

At 31 December 2024	Effect on CSM (net) (Note i) \$'000	Effect on profit after tax (gross) (Note i) \$'000	Effect on profit after tax (net) (Note ii) \$'000	Effect on total equity (gross) (Note i) \$'000	Effect on total equity (net) (Note ii) \$'000
5% increase in mortality and/or morbidity rates 5% decrease in mortality and/or morbidity rates 10% increase in lapse rates 10% decrease in lapse rates 10% increase in expense rates 10% decrease in expense rates	(76,707)	(8,942)	(15,600)	(8,942)	(15,600)
	75,649	8,952	15,694	8,952	15,694
	(269,793)	(27,026)	(33,727)	(27,026)	(33,727)
	291,701	27,709	34,733	27,709	34,733
	(20,473)	(588)	(573)	(588)	(573)
	23,604	842	762	842	762
At 31 December 2023					
5% increase in mortality and/or morbidity rates 5% decrease in mortality and/or morbidity rates 10% increase in lapse rates 10% decrease in lapse rates 10% increase in expense rates 10% decrease in expense rates	(71,648)	(12,877)	(22,709)	(12,877)	(22,709)
	76,640	13,291	23,458	13,291	23,458
	(195,450)	(30,153)	(39,641)	(30,153)	(39,641)
	206,472	31,053	41,032	31,053	41,032
	(20,939)	(404)	(464)	(404)	(464)
	22,233	924	927	924	927

During 2024, we have revised the sensitivity to mortality and morbidity rates from 10% to 5% to align with reasonable foreseeable changes, and the comparatives have been restated accordingly.

Note: (i) The 'gross' sensitivity impacts are provided before considering the impacts of reinsurance contracts held as risk mitigation.

(ii) The 'net' sensitivity impacts are provided after considering the impacts of reinsurance contracts held as risk mitigation.

16 Other assets

17

(a)

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
No more than twelve months after the reporting period More than twelve months after the reporting period	1,732,801 2,658	2,108,458 2,664
	1,735,459	2,111,122
Current and deferred tax in the balance sheet		
Current tax payable in the balance sheet represents:		
	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
At 1 January	367,282	37,825
Provision for Hong Kong profits tax for the year	1,150,215	371,740
Provision for transitional tax adjustment	361,453	337,163
Under/(over)-provision in respect of the prior year	18,565	(5,236)
Tax paid	(650,694)	(374,210)
At 31 December	1,246,821	367,282

17 Current and deferred tax in the balance sheet (continued)

(b) Deferred tax assets and liabilities recognised:

The components of deferred tax (assets)/liabilities recognised in the balance sheet and the movements during the year are as follows:

	Difference between tax and accounting basis \$'000	Depreciation allowances in excess of related depreciation \$'000	Revaluation of debt securities \$'000	Surplus on property revaluation \$'000	<i>Total</i> \$'000
Deferred tax arising from:					
At 1 January 2023 (Credited)/charged to	(1,319,746)	34,462	-	57,060	(1,228,224)
income statement for the year	(428,510)	3,448	-	(2,422)	(427,484)
Other movement Charged to other comprehensive	48,146	-	-	-	48,146
income for the year	<u>-</u>		54		54
At 31 December 2023	(1,700,110)	37,910	54	54,638	(1,607,508)
At 1 January 2024 (Credited)/charged to	(1,700,110)	37,910	54	54,638	(1,607,508)
income statement for the year	(1,059,038)	3,448	-	(33,107)	(1,088,697)
Under-provision for prior year Credited to other comprehensive	(24,290)	-	-	-	(24,290)
income for the year	<u>-</u>		(58)	<u> </u>	(58)
At 31 December 2024	(2,783,438)	41,358	(4)	21,531	(2,720,553)

18 Placings with and advances to banks and other financial institutions

		2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
	Placings with and advances to banks and other		
	financial institutions maturing within one month	6,684,363	3,766,487
19	Cash and cash equivalents and other cash flow information		
		2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
	With the intermediate holding company		
	- Other bank balances	130,037	84,006
	With the immediate helding company		
	With the immediate holding company - Other bank balances	3,135,462	1,138,901
	W/ALALIA and a		
	With third parties - Other bank balances	91	98
	Cash in hand	14	
	Cash and deposit balances	3,265,604	1,223,023
(a)	Cash and cash equivalents comprise:		
		2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
	Cash and deposit balances	3,265,604	1,223,023
	Treasury bills with less than three months' maturity from the date of acquisition	5,080,324	4,807,698
	Placings with and advances to banks and other financial institutions	6,684,363	3,766,487
	Cash and cash equivalents in the cash flow		
	statement	15,030,291	9,797,208

19 Cash and cash equivalents and other cash flow information (continued)

(b) Reconciliation of profit before taxation to cash generated from operations:

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Profit before tax	2,829,000	2,108,115
Adjustments for:		
Foreign exchange gains and losses, net	2,121	51,063
Net investment income	(6,126,175)	(10,963,986)
Changes in:		
Increase in insurance and reinsurance contract assets/liabilities	13,644,640	15,121,087
(Increase)/decrease in investment assets backing insurance contracts	(9,067,494)	1,347,387
Decrease in other assets	460,769	1,335,019
Decrease in liabilities under investment contracts	(28,225)	(66,795)
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	926,122	(1,249,323)
Interest received	4,958,760	4,790,255
Dividend received	1,535,500	1,150,903
Hong Kong profits tax paid	(650,694)	(374,210)
Net cash generated from operations	8,484,324	13,249,515

19 Cash and cash equivalents and other cash flow information (continued)

(c) Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities:

	Subordinated loan \$'000 (Note 21)	Repurchase agreements \$'000 (Note 14(k))	<i>Total</i> \$'000
At 1 January 2024	1,095,863	2,078,734	3,174,597
Cash items: Proceeds from new issue Repayments Interest paid	(61,242)	3,701,787 (5,735,346) (101,556)	3,701,787 (5,735,346) (162,798)
Total changes from financing cash flows	(61,242)	(2,135,115)	(2,196,357)
Other changes: Exchange adjustment Finance costs	61,891	2,121 54,260	2,121 116,151
Total other changes	61,891	56,381	118,272
At 31 December 2024	1,096,512	- -	1,096,512
	Subordinated loan \$'000 (Note 21)	Repurchase agreements \$'000 (Note 14(k))	<i>Total</i> \$'000
At 1 January 2023	1,071,240	9,747,848	10,819,088
Cash items: Proceeds from new issue Repayments		5,016,915 (12,642,727)	5,016,915 (12,642,727)
Interest paid	(33,787)	(246,912)	(280,699)
Total changes from financing cash flows	(33,787)	(7,872,724)	(7,906,511)
Other changes: Exchange adjustment Finance costs	(33,787)	(7,872,724) 51,062 152,548	(7,906,511) 51,062 210,958
Other changes: Exchange adjustment	-	51,062	51,062

20 Liabilities under investment contracts

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Total liabilities under investment contracts - fair value		
Non-linked Linked	196,983 47,918	210,346 53,426
	244,901	263,772
Expected to be recovered or settled:		
- no more than twelve months after the reporting period	3,304	3,033
- more than twelve months after the reporting period	241,597	260,739
	244,901	263,772

Analysis of movement in liabilities under investment contracts

	Non-linked		Li	nked	Total		
	2024	2023	2024 2023		2024	2023	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
At 1 January	210,346	238,513	53,426	94,150	263,772	332,663	
Benefits paid	(22,530)	(44,481)	(15,105)	(32,485)	(37,635)	(76,966)	
Benefits incurred	10,332	17,128	10,539	(7,593)	20,871	9,535	
Fees charged	(793)	(850)	(643)	(885)	(1,436)	(1,735)	
Foreign exchange and							
other movements	(372)	36	(299)	239	(671)	275	
At 31 December	196,983	210,346	47,918	53,426	244,901	263,772	

21 Subordinated loan

Amount owed to	an immediate	holding company:
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Amount over to the	immediate notating company.	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Principal Interest payable		-	1,045,000 51,512	1,045,000 50,863
		19(c)	1,096,512	1,095,863
Nominal value	Description		2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
HK\$1,045 million	Floating rate subordinated loan due February 2030 (Note i)		1,045,000	1,045,000
		=	1,045,000	1,045,000
Representing: - measured at amort	ised cost	- -	1,045,000	1,045,000

Note: (i) Interest rate at six-month HK dollar HIBOR plus 126bps per annum, payable annually, to the due date.

Interest on the subordinated loan is expensed in the income statement in the period in which it is incurred.

The interest payable on subordinated loan is dealt with under other liabilities (Note 22).

22 Other liabilities

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
No more than twelve months after the reporting period More than twelve months after the reporting period	2,979,823 9,905	2,045,974 9,796
	2,989,728	2,055,770

23 Capital, reserves and dividend

(a) Share capital

Issued share capital

2024		2023	
No. of		No. of	
shares	\$'000	shares	\$'000

Ordinary shares, issued and fully paid:

At 1 January and 31 December 642,618,457 6,426,185 642,618,457 6,426,185

The ordinary shares of the company do not have a par value.

The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at meetings of the Company. All ordinary shares rank equally with regard to the Company's residual assets.

(b) Nature and purpose of reserves

(i) General reserve

General reserve represents sums set aside for general purposes, the application of which requires approval by the Board of Directors.

(ii) Fair value reserve

Fair value reserve comprises the cumulative net change in the fair value of debt securities measured at FVOCI held at the balance sheet date and is dealt with in accordance with the accounting policies in Notes 1(j) and (q).

(c) Capital management

The Company's primary objectives when managing capital are to maintain a strong capital base to support the risks inherent in its business, to invest in accordance with the Company's strategy and to meet regulatory capital requirements at all times. The Company recognises the impact on shareholder returns of the level of equity capital employed and seeks to maintain a prudent balance.

23 Capital, reserves and dividend (continued)

(c) Capital management (continued)

The Company's capital management adopts a risk-based approach. Assets and liabilities are measured on a market value basis and a capital requirement is defined to ensure that there is a less than 1-in-200 chance of insolvency over a one-year time horizon, given the risks that the business is exposed to. The risk-based capital approach is largely aligned to the HSBC Group's economic capital basis as well as the recent HKRBC being developed. The HKRBC coverage ratio (economic net asset value divided by the HKRBC requirement) is a key risk appetite measure. Management has set out the risk appetite and tolerance level so as to ensure there are buffers for the Company to remain solvent, allowing for business-as-usual volatility and extreme but plausible stress events and as triggers in which management actions are required.

The Company has early adopted HKRBC in July 2023 and prior to this, the regulation solvency requirement set out in the current Hong Kong Insurance Ordinance was also a metric used to manage risk appetite of the Company.

In addition, through the annual ORSA, the Company assesses the quality and adequacy of capital resources to meet regulatory capital requirements and any additional capital needs.

The Company manages its own capital within the context of its annual capital plan approved by the Board, which determines an appropriate amount and mix of capital required to support planned business growth. As part of this capital management policy, capital generated in excess of planned requirements will be considered to return to shareholder, normally by way of dividends.

The Company defines "capital" as including all components of equity and subordinated loan from immediate holding company.

23 Capital, reserves and dividend (continued)

(d) Dividend

Dividend paid to equity shareholders of the Company attributable to the financial year:

	2024 \$	2023 \$
First interim dividend declared and paid of \$1.37 (2023: \$2.91) per share Second interim dividend declared and paid of	880,002	1,870,020
\$1.79 (2023: Nil) per share	1,150,030	
	2,030,032	1,870,020

24 Capital commitments

The outstanding capital commitments not provided for in the financial statements at 31 December 2024 amounting to HK\$12,945,675,000 (2023: HK\$15,012,382,000).

The capital commitments include the commitments to invest in debt securities, alternative investments and several private equity funds for funding future private equity investments in global companies under respective investment contracts.

25 Material related party transactions

During 2024 and 2023, the Company entered into transactions with group companies in the ordinary course of its insurance business and investing activities.

(a) Investments and cash placed through group companies

(i) Balances at year end

		2024	1			2023	3	
	Intermediate	Immediate	Fellow		Intermediate	Immediate	Fellow	
	holding	holding	subsidiary		holding	holding	subsidiary	
	companies	company	companies	Subsidiary	companies	company	companies	Subsidiary
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Derivatives	(5,427)	6,249	-	<u>-</u>	(54,324)	(51,960)	-	-
Collective investment schemes Placings with and advances to banks	-	-	7,374,673	-	-	-	3,828,372	-
and other financial institutions	6,459,731	-	-	-	3,488,810	-	-	-
Cash and deposit balances	130,037	3,135,462	-	-	84,006	1,138,901	-	-
Loan to a subsidiary	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	310,196	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		310,974
_	6,584,341	3,141,711	7,374,673	310,196	3,518,492	1,086,941	3,828,372	310,974

25 Material related party transactions (continued)

(a) Investments and cash placed through group companies (continued)

(ii) Investment income generated from group companies for the year

	2024				202	3		
	Intermediate holding companies	Immediate holding company	Fellow subsidiary companies	Subsidiary	Intermediate holding companies	Immediate holding company	Fellow subsidiary companies	Subsidiary
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$,000
Interest on bank deposits	102,780	175	-	-	67,187	195	-	-
Interest on loan to a subsidiary	-	-	-	18,409	-	-	-	17,997
Other investment income/(loss)	226,025	(129,176)	317,908	-	(104,754)	(796,306)	340,714	-
Dividend income		<u> </u>	367,225	81,142			86,362	85,339
	328,805	(129,001)	685,133	99,551	(37,567)	(796,111)	427,076	103,336

25 Material related party transactions (continued)

(b) Other balances with group companies

	2024			2023		
	Immediate holding company \$'000	Fellow subsidiary companies \$'000	Subsidiary \$'000	Immediate holding company \$'000	Fellow subsidiary companies \$'000	Subsidiary \$'000
Assets						
Other assets	521	226	21	27	1,300	95
	521	226	21	27	1,300	95
Liabilities						
Repurchase agreements	-	-	-	2,078,734	-	-
Subordinated loan	1,045,000	-	-	1,045,000	-	-
Other liabilities	773,899	77,193		946,863	58,897	
	1,818,899	77,193		4,070,597	58,897	

The subordinated loan is unsecured, interest-bearing and have fixed terms of repayment.

25 Material related party transactions (continued)

(c) Other transactions with group companies during the year

(i) Finance costs

	2024		202.	3
	Intermediate	Immediate	Intermediate	Immediate
	holding	holding	holding	holding
	companies	company	companies	company
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Interest on subordinated loan	-	61,891	-	58,410
Interest on repurchase agreements	<u> </u>	54,260	10,940	141,608
		116,151	10,940	200,018

(ii) Purchase of services

	2024		20.	23
	Immediate	Fellow	Immediate	Fellow
	holding	subsidiary	holding	subsidiary
	company	companies	company	companies
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Acquisition costs	854,261	-	752,791	-
Investment				
management fees	-	164,494	-	132,874
Custodian fee	-	30,121	-	25,485
Other administration				
and support services	660,082	90,533	541,371	131,906
	1,514,343	285,148	1,294,162	290,265

Part of the above expenses are classified as expenses directly attributable to acquiring ("DAAC") or maintaining ("DAMC") the insurance contracts. DAAC is dealt with in insurance service results through amortisation over the period of the contracts and DAMC is directly dealt with insurance service results.

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25 Material related party transactions (continued)

(c) Other transactions with group companies during the year (continued)

(iii) A guarantee was given by the immediate holding company on the investment return of one of the Company's investment portfolios backing non-linked investment contracts whereby the immediate holding company will reimburse the Company with the amount of shortfall should the return of the said portfolio fall below the agreed percentage while the Company will pay the excess return to the immediate holding company should the return exceed the agreed percentage. The shortfall receivable from the immediate holding company incurred during the year was HK\$521,000 (2023: HK\$27,000) and the amount receivable at the year end was HK\$521,000 (2023: HK\$27,000).

(d) Key management personnel remuneration

Key management includes all directors of the Company.

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Fees	1,071	1,030
Short-term employee benefits	2,416	2,242
Retirement scheme contributions	203	227
	3,690	3,499

(e) Transactions with key management personnel

During the years ended 31 December 2024 and 2023, no material transaction was conducted with the key management personnel of the Company and parties related to them as well as the group companies.

26 Immediate and ultimate controlling party

At 31 December 2024 and 2023, the directors consider the immediate parent of the Company to be Hang Seng Bank Limited, a company incorporated in Hong Kong, and the ultimate controlling party of the Company to be HSBC Holdings plc, a company incorporated in England. Both entities produce financial statements that are available for public use.

Possible impact of new and amended standards and interpretations issued that are not yet effective for the year ended 31 December 2024

Up to the date of issue of the financial statements, the HKICPA has issued a number of new and amended standards and interpretations issued which are not yet effective for the year ended 31 December 2024 and which have not been adopted in the financial statements. These include the following which may be relevant to the Company.

Effective for accounting periods beginning on or after

Amendments to HKFRS 9 and HKFRS 7,

Financial Instruments and Financial Instruments: Disclosures:
Amendments to the Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments

1 January 2026

Annual Improvements to HKFRS Accounting Standards — Volume 11

1 January 2026

HKFRS 18,

Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements

1 January 2027

The Company is in the process of making an assessment of what the impact of these developments is expected to be in the period of initial application. As the Company has not completed its assessment on the expected impacts of the new and amended standards, further impacts may be identified in due course.

28 Approval of financial statements

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 17 February 2025.