

EXHIBIT 14
[Filed Under Seal]

From: Whittington, Sarah [sarah.whittington@linklaters.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2008 11:52:24 AM
To: kathryn.mcleland@barcap.com; yenal.ghori@barcap.com; tanja.gihr@barcap.com;
simon.croxford@barcap.com; richard.d.johnson@barcap.com; belinda.vickery@barcap.com;
bret.ganis@barcap.com; richard.smith3@barcap.com; peter.o.aherne@citi.com;
leohendrik.greve@citi.com; peter.james.mason@citi.com; laura.drumm@citi.com;
christopher.k.white@citi.com; derrick.deese@citi.com; stanley.louie@citi.com;
deborah.keat@citi.com; anastasia.letina@citi.com; laura.stephenson@citi.com;
david.walker@citi.com; james.reid@citi.com; jack.d.mcspadden@citi.com;
chandru.harjani@citi.com; alastair.rosesmith@citi.com; peter.siekel@citi.com;
bogdan.ciobanu@citi.com; Prasad, Siddharth (IBK EMEA); Pass, Matthew (IBK EMEA);
Roman, Julien (IBK EMEA); Palmer, Robin (IBK EMEA); Wilson, Eric (FIG-CM&F-Americas);
MacDonald, Christine (FIG-CM&F-Americas); Camara, Alvaro (IBK EMEA); Davidson, AJ (IBK
EMEA); Davis, Sarah (IBK EMEA); Doyle, Richard N (IBK EMEA); Dicapua, Joseph (OGC);
gary.abrahams@ubs.com; ron.yanagi@ubs.com; sophia.vonta@ubs.com;
andrew.templeton@ubs.com; glenn.goggins@ubs.com; Jason.Norton@ubs.com;
monica.meo@ubs.com; michael.altschuler@ubs.com; bryant.h.owens@wachovia.com;
stuart.aylward@wachovia.com; faye.thorogood@wachovia.com; ken.greer@wachovia.com;
edward.boulderstone@wachovia.com; john.papadopoulos@wachovia.com;
kristina.clark@wachovia.com; fleur.twohig@wachovia.com; kiley.knepp@wachovia.com;
carolyn.coan@wachovia.com; laurie.watts@wachovia.com;
mike.borut@morganstanley.com; Victoria.Ortiz@morganstanley.com;
Alex.MacMahon@morganstanley.com; Dominic.Trusted@morganstanley.com;
Yurij.Slyz@morganstanley.com; Jennifer.Moreland@morganstanley.com;
andrew.r.karp@bankofamerica.com; ken.harris@rbccm.com; shannon.dahl@rbccm.com;
richard.bansa@rbccm.com; keith.deleon@db.com; steven.burwell@db.com;
Bethany.bowman@suntrust.com; chris.grumboski@suntrust.com;
donna_thacker@rhco.com; Michael.l.smith@wellsfargo.com;
Autumn.m.roth@wellsfargo.com; edwin.j.sondgroth@wellsfargo.com;
james.m.probert@bankofamerica.com; ellen_lee@rhco.com
CC: Ludwick, David; van Amelsfort, Joost
Subject: Project Rimu - Executed US comfort letter
Attachments: Project Rimu Executed US Comfort Letter Final.pdf; Appendix A - Prospectus.pdf; Revised
Appendix B - 20-F.pdf

Dear managers -

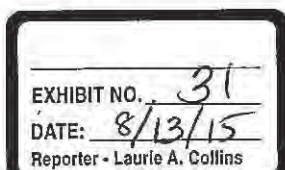
Please find attached for your records the executed US comfort letter with relevant appendices.

Kind regards,
Sarah

Sarah Whittington
U.S. Associate
Linklaters LLP, London

Tel: (+44) 20 7456 5580

CONFIDENTIAL



UW_Barclays_000017071

Fax: (+44) 20 7456 2222
One Silk Street, London
EC2Y 8HQ United Kingdom

sarah.whittington@linklaters.com
<http://www.linklaters.com>

This communication, sent by or on behalf of Linklaters LLP or one of its affiliated firms or other entities (together "Linklaters"), is confidential and may be privileged or otherwise protected. If you receive it in error please inform us and then delete it from your system. You should not copy it or disclose its contents to anyone. Messages sent to and from Linklaters may be monitored to ensure compliance with internal policies and to protect our business. Emails are not secure and cannot be guaranteed to be error free. Anyone who communicates with us by email is taken to accept these risks.

Linklaters LLP (www.linklaters.com) is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales with registered number OC326345. It is a law firm regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (www.sra.org.uk). The term partner in relation to Linklaters LLP is used to refer to a member of Linklaters LLP or an employee or consultant of Linklaters LLP or any of its affiliated firms or entities with equivalent standing and qualifications.

A list of Linklaters LLP members together with a list of those non-members who are designated as partners and their professional qualifications, may be inspected at our registered office, One Silk Street, London EC2Y 8HQ and such persons are either solicitors, registered foreign lawyers or European lawyers.

CAPITALIZATION AND INDEBTEDNESS

The following table sets out the authorised and issued share capital of Barclays Bank PLC and the Barclays Bank PLC Group's total shareholders' equity, indebtedness and contingent liabilities as of December 31, 2007, and as adjusted to reflect the issuance of the preference shares (without giving effect to any exercise of the over-allotment option). The figures set out in the following table were extracted from our audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2007, which were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. The adjustments to reflect the issuance of the preference shares have been converted to pounds sterling at an exchange rate of £1=\$.

| | As of December 31, 2007 | Adjusted for the issuance of the preference shares |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| | '000 | '000 |
| Share capital of Barclays Bank PLC | | |
| Authorized ordinary share capital — shares of £1 each | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 |
| Authorized preference share capital — shares of £100 each | 400 | 400 |
| Authorized preference share capital — shares of £1 each | 1 | 1 |
| Authorized preference share capital — shares of U.S.\$100 each | 400 | 400 |
| Authorized preference share capital — shares of U.S.\$0.25 each | 150,000 | 150,000 |
| Authorized preference share capital — shares of €100 each | 400 | 400 |
| Ordinary shares — issued and fully paid shares of £1 each | 2,337,161 | 2,337,161 |
| Preference shares — issued and fully paid shares of £100 each | 75 | 75 |
| Preference shares — issued and fully paid shares of £1 each | 1 | 1 |
| Preference shares — issued and fully paid shares of U.S.\$100 each | 100 | 100 |
| Preference shares — issued and fully paid shares of U.S.\$0.25 each | 131,000 | |
| Preference shares — issued and fully paid shares of €100 each | 240 | 240 |
| | £ million | £ million |
| Group shareholders' equity | | |
| Called up share capital | 2,382 | |
| Share premium account | 10,751 | |
| Other reserves | (170) | (170) |
| Other shareholders' funds | 2,687 | 2,687 |
| Retained earnings | 14,222 | 14,222 |
| Shareholders' equity excluding minority interests | 29,872 | |
| Minority interests | 1,949 | 1,949 |
| Total shareholders' equity | 31,821 | |
| Group indebtedness⁽¹⁾ | | |
| Subordinated liabilities ⁽²⁾ | 18,150 | 18,150 |
| Debt securities in issue ⁽³⁾ | 120,228 | 120,228 |
| Total indebtedness | 138,378 | 138,378 |
| Total capitalization and indebtedness | 170,199 | |
| Group contingent liabilities | | |
| Acceptances and endorsements | 365 | 365 |
| Guarantees and assets pledged as collateral security | 35,692 | 35,692 |
| Other contingent liabilities | 9,717 | 9,717 |
| Total contingent liabilities | 45,774 | 45,774 |

Notes:

[(1) "Group indebtedness" includes interest accrued as at [June 30], 2007, in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.]

- (2) On January 23, 2008, Barclays Bank PLC issued €1,750,000,000 6.00% Fixed Rate Subordinated Notes due 2018. On January 25, 2008, Barclays Bank PLC issued €100,000,000 CMS-Linked Subordinated Notes due 2018. On February 29, 2008, Barclays Bank PLC issued £1,000,000,000 8.25% Undated Subordinated Notes. On March 12, 2008, Barclays Bank PLC redeemed €255,645,941 (formerly DEM 500,000,000) 5.50% Subordinated Notes due 2013. On March 20, 2008, Barclays Bank PLC issued €135,000,000 CMS-Linked Subordinated Notes due 2018.
- (3) In addition, there were £52,320 million of debt securities in issue accounted on a fair value basis as at December 31, 2007.

A

08 April 2008

Barclays PLC,
1 Churchill Place,
London
E14 5HP

and

Barclays Bank PLC,
1 Churchill Place,
London
E14 5HP

and

Barclays Capital Securities Limited
5 The North Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4BB

and

Citigroup Global Markets Inc.
388 Greenwich Street, 34th Floor
New York, NY 10013
United States

and

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated
4 World Financial Center
New York, NY 10080
United States

and

UBS Securities LLC
677 Washington Boulevard
Stamford, CT 06901
United States

and

Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC
301 South College Street
Charlotte, NC 28202
United States



And the other Underwriters named in the Prospectus Supplement referred to below (together, the "Underwriters")

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have audited:

1. the consolidated financial statements of Barclays PLC (together with its subsidiaries hereinafter referred to as the "Group") and Barclays Bank PLC (together with its subsidiaries hereinafter referred to as the "Issuer") as of 31 December 2007 and 2006 and for each of the three years in the period ended 31 December 2007, included in the annual report of the Group and the Issuer on Form 20-F for the year ended 31 December 2007 filed with the US Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") on 26 March 2008 (the "2007 Form 20-F"), and
2. the effectiveness of the Group internal controls over financial reporting as of 31 December 2007.

The consolidated financial statements referred to above are all incorporated by reference in the registration statement (No. 333-145845) on Form F-3 filed by the Company under the Securities Act of 1933 as amended (the "Act") on 31 August 2007. Our report with respect thereto is also incorporated by reference in such registration statement. Such registration statement on Form F-3 dated 31 August 2007, including the Prospectus dated 31 August 2007, the Preliminary Prospectus Supplement dated 7 April 2008 and the final Prospectus Supplement dated 8 April 2008 are together herein referred to as the "Registration Statement".

In connection with the Registration Statement:

1. We are an independent registered public accounting firm with respect to the Group and the Issuer within the meaning of the Act and the applicable rules and regulations thereunder adopted by the SEC and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB").
2. In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements audited by us and incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement comply as to form in all material respects with the applicable accounting requirements of the Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the related rules and regulations adopted by the SEC.
3. We have not audited any financial statements of the Group or the Issuer as of any date or for any period subsequent to 31 December 2007. Also, we have not audited the Group's internal control over financial reporting as of any date subsequent to 31 December 2007. Therefore, we do not express any opinion on the Group's internal control over financial reporting as of any date subsequent to 31 December 2007.
4. For purposes of this letter, we have read the minutes of the 2008 meetings of the shareholders, the Board of Directors and the Board Audit Committee of the Group and the Issuer as set forth in minute books as of 3 April 2008, officials of the Group and the Issuer having advised us that the minutes of all such meetings through that date were set forth therein, and have carried out other procedures to 3 April 2008 (our work did not extend to the period from 4 April 2008 to 9 April 2008, inclusive) as follows:

With respect to the Group for the period from 1 January 2008 to 29 February 2008, we have:

- (i) read the unaudited consolidated financial data of the Group for January and February of both 2008 and 2007 furnished us by the Group. Officials of the Group have advised us

that no such financial data as of any date or for any period subsequent to 29 February 2008 were available. The financial information for January and February of both 2008 and 2007 is incomplete in that it omits the statement of cash flows and other disclosures.

- (ii) inquired of certain officials of the Group who have responsibility for financial and accounting matters as to whether the unaudited consolidated financial data referred to in 4(i) above are stated on a basis substantially consistent with that of the audited consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

The foregoing procedures do not constitute an audit made in accordance with standards of the PCAOB. Also, they would not necessarily reveal matters of significance with respect to the comments in the following paragraph. Accordingly, we make no representations as to the sufficiency of the foregoing procedures for your purposes.

5. Nothing came to our attention as a result of the foregoing procedures, however, that caused us to believe that: (i) At 29 February 2008 there was any change in share capital and decrease in shareholders' equity and minority interests and total assets, or increase in subordinated liabilities and total liabilities of the Group as compared with amounts shown on the 31 December 2007 audited consolidated balance sheet incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, or (ii) for the period from 1 January 2008 to 29 February 2008, there were any decreases, as compared with the corresponding period in the preceding year, in net interest income and profit on ordinary activities before taxation, except in all instances for changes, increases or decreases which the Registration Statement discloses have occurred or may occur and except that the unaudited consolidated balance sheet as of 29 February 2008, which we were furnished by the Group showed that share capital decreased by 0.48% and total subordinated liabilities increased by 15.94% and total liabilities increased by 29.74% when compared with balances as at 31 December 2007. Profit before tax for the period from 1 January 2008 to 29 February 2008 decreased by 9.48% compared with the corresponding period in the previous year.
6. As mentioned in paragraph 4, Group officials have advised us that no consolidated financial data as of any date or for any period subsequent to 29 February 2008 are available; accordingly, the procedures carried out by us with respect to changes in financial statement items after 29 February 2008 have, of necessity, been even more limited than those with respect to the periods referred to in 4. We have inquired of certain officials of the Group who have responsibility for financial and accounting matters as to whether (a) at 3 April 2008 there was any change in share capital or decrease in shareholders' equity and minority interests, or increase in subordinated liabilities of the Group as compared with amounts shown on the 31 December 2007 audited consolidated balance sheet incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement; or (b) for the period from 1 January 2008 to 3 April 2008, there were any decreases, as compared with the corresponding period in the preceding year, in profit on ordinary activities before taxation. On the basis of these inquiries and our reading of the minutes as described in 4, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that there was any such change, increase or decrease, except in all instances for changes, increases or decreases which the Registration Statement discloses have occurred or may occur and except that share capital decreased by 0.48% and total subordinated liabilities increased by 17.12% when compared with balances as at 31 December 2007. Profit before tax for the period from 1 January 2008 to 4 April 2008 decreased compared with the corresponding period in the previous year.
7. With respect to the Issuer we have also carried out limited procedures from 1 January 2008 to 3 April 2008 (our work did not extend to the period from 4 April 2008 to 9 April 2008, inclusive), as follows:

- a. With respect to Issuer for the period from 1 January 2008 to 29 February 2008, we have, at your request:
 - (i) read the unaudited consolidated financial data of the Issuer as of and for the two months ended 29 February 2008 and 28 February 2007 furnished us by the Issuer, and agreed the amounts contained therein with the Issuer's accounting records as of 29 February 2008 and 28 February 2007. Officials of the Issuer have advised us that no financial data as of any date or for any period subsequent to 29 February 2008 were available. The financial information as of and for the two months ended 29 February 2008 and 28 February 2007 is incomplete in that it omits the statement of cash flows and other disclosures.
 - (ii) inquired of certain officials of the Issuer who have responsibility for financial and accounting matters whether the unaudited consolidated financial data referred to in 7a(i) are stated on a basis substantially consistent with that of the audited consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

The foregoing procedures do not constitute an audit conducted in accordance with standards of the PCAOB. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The foregoing procedures would not necessarily reveal matters of significance, accordingly, we make no representation about the sufficiency of such procedures for your purposes.

8. Nothing came to our attention as a result of the foregoing procedures, however, that caused us to believe that: (i) At 29 February 2008, there was any change in share capital and decrease in shareholders' equity and minority interests and total assets, or increase in subordinated liabilities and total liabilities of the Issuer as compared with amounts shown in the 31 December 2007 audited consolidated balance sheet incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement; or (ii) for the period from 1 January 2008 to 29 February 2008, there were any decrease, as compared with the corresponding period in the preceding year, in profit before taxation and net interest income, except in all instances for changes, increases or decreases which the Registration Statement discloses have occurred or may occur and except that the unaudited consolidated balance sheet as of 29 February 2008, which we were furnished by the Issuer showed that share capital increased by 0.04% and total subordinated liabilities increased by 15.94% and total liabilities increased by 29.74% when compared with balances as at 31 December 2007. Profit before tax for the period from 1 January 2008 to 29 February 2008 decreased by 9.93% compared with the corresponding period in the previous year.
9. As mentioned in 7a, Issuer officials have advised us that no consolidated financial data as of any date or for any period subsequent to 29 February 2008 are available; accordingly, the procedures carried out by us with respect to changes in financial statement items after 29 February 2008 have, of necessity, been even more limited than those with respect to the periods referred to in 7. We have inquired of certain officials of the Issuer who have responsibility for financial and accounting matters as to whether (a) at 3 April 2008 there was any change in share capital or decrease in shareholders' equity and minority interests, or increase in subordinated liabilities of the Issuer as compared with amounts shown in the 31 December 2007 audited consolidated balance sheet incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement; or (b) for the period from 1 January 2008 to 3 April 2008, there were any decreases, as compared with the corresponding period in the preceding year, in profit before taxation. On the basis of these inquiries and our reading of the minutes as described in 4, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that there was any such change, increase or decrease, except in all instances for changes, increases or decreases which the Registration Statement discloses have occurred or may occur and except that share capital increased by 0.08% and total subordinated liabilities increased by 17.12% when compared with balances as at 31 December 2007. Profit before tax for the period from 1 January 2008 to 4 April 2008 decreased compared with the corresponding period in the previous year.

10. For purposes of this letter, we have also read the items identified by you on the attached document:

(i) a copy of the Preliminary Prospectus Supplement dated 7 April 2008 (referenced and attached as Appendix A); and

(ii) a copy of the 2007 Form 20-F (referenced and attached as Appendix B);

We have performed the following procedures, which were applied as indicated with respect to the letters explained below. We make no comment as to whether the SEC would view any non-GAAP financial information included or incorporated by reference in this document as being compliant with the requirements of Regulation G or Item 10 of Regulation S-K.

- A We compared the amount to or recomputed from a corresponding amount in the Group's and the Issuer's audited financial statements incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement and found such amounts to be in agreement.
- B We proved the mathematical accuracy of the amounts and percentages as applicable, based on the data contained in the consolidated financial statements as referred to in A above.
- C We compared the amount to the schedule prepared by the Group and the Issuer, as appropriate, from their accounting records and found them to be in agreement. We (i) compared the amounts on the schedule to corresponding amounts appearing in the accounting records and found such amounts to be in agreement, and (ii) determined that the schedule was mathematically correct.
- D We proved the mathematical accuracy of the amounts and percentage as applicable, based upon the data contained in the records or schedules referred to in C above.
- E We compared the amount to the corresponding amount in schedules or reports prepared by the Group and the Issuer, as appropriate, from their records and found them to be in agreement. We (i) compared the amounts on the schedules or reports to corresponding amounts appearing in the records and found such amounts to be in agreement, and (ii) determined that the schedules or reports were mathematically correct.

The schedules and supporting spreadsheets and statutory records cover capital requirements, capital ratios, risk weighted assets, off balance sheet arrangements, share capital information, Directors' Remunerations and other management information as required. We did not confirm the extraction and manipulation of the data underlying the various spreadsheets.

We make no comment as to the appropriateness of the Group's or the Issuer's, as appropriate, computation of, or determination of what constitutes capital requirements, capital ratios, weighted risk assets, off balance sheet arrangements, directors' remunerations, share capital, assets under management and other information.

We make no comment as to the appropriateness of the Group's or the Issuer's, as appropriate, computation of, or determination of what constitutes



liquidity and capital resources, including off-balance sheet arrangements; certain trading activities involving non-exchange traded contracts accounted for at fair value; and relationships and transactions with persons or entities that derive benefits from their non-independent relationship with the registrant or the registrant's related parties as mandated by FR61 "Commission Statement about Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" issued by the SEC.

11. Our audit of the consolidated financial statements for the periods referred to in the introductory paragraph of this letter comprised audit tests and procedures deemed necessary for the purpose of expressing an opinion on such financial statements taken as a whole. For none of the periods referred to therein, or any other period, did we perform audit tests for the purpose of expressing an opinion on individual balances of accounts or summaries of selected transactions such as those enumerated above, and, accordingly, we express no opinion thereon.
12. It should be understood that we make no representations regarding questions of legal interpretation or regarding the sufficiency for your purposes of the procedures enumerated in the second preceding paragraph; also, such procedures would not necessarily reveal any material misstatement of the amounts or percentages listed above. Further, we have addressed ourselves solely to the foregoing data as set forth in the Registration Statement and make no representations regarding the adequacy of disclosure or regarding whether any material facts have been omitted.
13. This letter is solely for the information of the addressees and to assist the underwriters in conducting and documenting their investigation of the affairs of the Group and the Issuer in connection with the offering of the securities covered by the Registration Statement, and is not to be used, circulated, quoted, or otherwise referred to within or without the underwriting group for any other purpose, including but not limited to the registration, purchase, or sale of securities, nor is it to be filed with or referred to in whole or in part in the Registration Statement or any other document, except that reference may be made to it in the underwriting agreement or in any list of closing documents pertaining to the offering of the securities covered by the Registration Statement.

This letter is intended for use in connection with the offering or sale of securities within the United States. It is not to be used in any other jurisdiction whatsoever.

Yours faithfully,

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
FORM 20-F

(Mark One)

☐ REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) or (g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

☒ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

OR

☐ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

☐ SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file numbers:

Barclays PLC

1-09246

Barclays Bank PLC

1-10257

BARCLAYS PLC
BARCLAYS BANK PLC

(Exact names of registrants as specified in their charters)

ENGLAND

(Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

1 CHURCHILL PLACE, LONDON, E14 5HP, ENGLAND

(Address of principal executive offices)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

| | <u>Title of each class</u> | <u>Name of each exchange on which registered</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Barclays PLC | 25p ordinary shares | New York Stock Exchange* |
| | American Depositary Shares, each representing four 25p ordinary shares | New York Stock Exchange |
| Barclays Bank PLC | 7.4% Subordinated Notes 2009 | New York Stock Exchange |
| | Callable Floating Rate Notes 2035 | New York Stock Exchange |
| | Non-Cumulative Callable Dollar Preference Shares, Series 2 | New York Stock Exchange* |
| | American Depositary Shares, Series 2, each representing one Non-Cumulative Callable Dollar Preference Share, Series 2 | New York Stock Exchange |
| | Non-Cumulative Callable Dollar Preference Shares, Series 3 | New York Stock Exchange* |
| | American Depositary Shares, Series 2, each representing one Non-Cumulative Callable Dollar Preference Share, Series 3 | New York Stock Exchange |

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Non-Cumulative Callable Dollar Preference Shares, Series 4 | New York Stock Exchange* |
| American Depositary Shares, Series 2, each representing one Non-Cumulative Callable Dollar Preference Share, Series 4 | New York Stock Exchange |
| iPath SM CBOE S&P 500 BuyWrite Index SM | American Stock Exchange |
| iPath [®] Dow Jones – AIG Grains Total Return Sub-Index SM ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] Dow Jones – AIG Livestock Total Return Sub-Index SM ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] Dow Jones – AIG Nickel Total Return Sub-Index SM ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] Dow Jones – AIG Copper Total Return Sub-Index SM ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] Dow Jones – AIG Energy Total Return Sub-Index SM ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] Dow Jones – AIG Agriculture Total Return Sub-Index SM ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] Dow Jones – AIG Natural Gas Total Return Sub-Index SM ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] Dow Jones – AIG Industrial Metals Total Return Sub-Index SM ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] GBP/USD Exchange Rate ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] Dow Jones – AIG Commodity Index Total Return SM ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] EUR/USD Exchange Rate ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] S&P GSCI TM Total Return Index ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] MSCI India Index SM ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] S&P GSCI TM Crude Oil Total Return Index ETN | NYSE Arca |
| iPath [®] JPY/USD Exchange Rate ETN | NYSE Arca |

* Not for trading, but only in connection with the registration of American Depositary Shares, pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act: None

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuers' classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Barclays PLC | 25p ordinary shares | 6,534,698,021 |
| | £1 staff shares | 875,000 |
| Barclays Bank PLC | £1 ordinary shares | 2,337,161,000 |
| | £1 preference shares | 1,000 |
| | £100 preference shares | 75,000 |
| | £100 preference shares | 240,000 |
| | \$0.25 preference shares | 131,000,000 |
| | \$100 preference shares | 100,000 |

Indicate by check mark if each registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

Yes ☒ No ☐

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if each registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes ☐ No ☒

Note — Checking the box above will not relieve any registrant required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 from their obligations under those Sections.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrants (1) have filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrants were required to file such reports) and (2) have been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether each registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Barclays PLC:

Large accelerated filer ☒ Accelerated filer ☐ Non-accelerated filer ☐

Barclays Bank PLC:

Large accelerated filer ☐ Accelerated filer ☐ Non-accelerated filer ☒

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing:

U.S. GAAP ☐ International Financial Reporting Standards as Issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ☒ Other ☐

If "Other" has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow.

Item 17 ☐ Item 18 ☐

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes ☐ No ☒

(APPLICABLE ONLY TO ISSUERS INVOLVED IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrants have filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Section 12, 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 subsequent to the distribution of securities under a plan confirmed by a court.

Yes ☐ No ☐

Financial review

Group Performance

Barclays delivered profit before tax of £2,076m. Earnings per share were 45.5p and we increased the full year dividend payout to 44p, a rise of 10p.

Income grew 3% to £23,000m. Growth was well spread by business, with strong contributions from International Retail and Commercial Banking, Barclays Global Investors and Barclays Wealth. Net income, after impairment charges, grew 4% and included net losses of £1,655m relating to credit market turbulence, net of £658m of gains arising from the fair valuation of notes issued by Barclays Capital and settlements on overdrift fees in relation to prior years of £118m in UK Retail Banking.

Impairment charges and other credit provisions rose 6% to £2,793m. Impairment charges relating to US sub-prime mortgages and other credit market exposures were £782m. Excluding these sub-prime related charges, impairment charges improved 7% to £2,013m. In UK Retail Banking and Barclaycard, impairment charges improved significantly, as a consequence of reductions in flows into delinquency and arrears balances in UK cards and unsecured loans. UK mortgage impairment charges remained negligible, with low levels of defaults, and the wholesale and corporate sector remained stable. The significant increase in impairment charges in International Retail and Commercial Banking was driven by very strong book growth.

Operating expenses increased 1% to £13,185m. We invested in growing the branch network and distribution channels in International Retail and Commercial Banking and in infrastructure development in Barclays Global Investors. Costs were lower in UK Banking and broadly flat in Barclays Capital. Gains from property disposals were £267m (2006: £32m). The Group cost/income ratio improved 60 percentage points to 57%.

Business Performance – Global Retail and Commercial Banking

In UK Banking we improved the cost/income ratio a further 60 percentage points to 57% excluding settlements on overdrift fees in relation to prior years of £118m. On this basis we have delivered a cumulative 60 percentage point improvement in the past three years, well ahead of our target of six percentage points.

UK Retail Banking profit before tax grew 8% to £1,202m. Income grew 1% excluding settlements on overdrift fees in relation to prior years of £118m, reflecting a very strong performance in Personal Customer Retail Savings and good performances in Current Accounts, Local Business and Home Finance, partially offset by lower income from loan protection insurance. Enhancements in product offering and continued improvements in processing capacity enabled a strong performance in mortgage origination, with a share of net new lending of 8%. Operating expenses were well controlled and improved 6%. Impairment charges improved 12% reflecting lower charges in unsecured consumer lending and Local Business. This was driven by improvements in the collection process which led to reduced flows into delinquency, lower levels of arrears and stable charge-offs. Mortgage impairment charges remained negligible.

Barclays Commercial Bank delivered profit before tax of £1,371m. Profit before business disposals improved 5% to £1,371m, driven by very strong growth in fees and commissions and steady growth in net interest income. Non-interest income increased to £220m of total income reflecting continuing focus on cross sales and efficient balance sheet utilisation. Operating expenses rose 6%, reflecting increased investment in product development and support, sales force capability and operational efficiency. Impairment charges increased £30m as a result of asset growth and higher charges in Larger Business.

Barclaycard profit before tax increased to £300m, 18% ahead of the prior year. Steady income relative to 2006 reflected strong growth in Barclaycard International offset by a reduction in UK card extended credit balances as we re-positioned the UK business and reduced lower credit quality exposures including the sale of the Monument card portfolio. As a result, impairment charges improved £13m, reflecting more selective customer recruitment, client management and improved collections. Operating expenses increased £2m driven by continued investment in Barclaycard International and the non-recurrence of a property gain included in the 2006 results. Barclaycard US continued to make good progress, and for the first time made a profit for the year.

International Retail and Commercial Banking profits declined 23% to £350m. Results in 2006 included a £247m profit on disposals and £110m post tax profit share from FirstCaribbean International Bank. 2007 results reflected a 12% decline in the average value of the Rand.

International Retail and Commercial Banking – excluding Absa delivered a profit before tax of £260m. Income rose 23% as we significantly increased the pace of organic growth across the business, with especially strong growth in Emerging Markets and Spain. Operating expenses grew 12% as we expanded the distribution footprint, opening 324 new branches and 157 new sales centres and also invested in rolling out a common technology platform and processes across the business. Impairment increased to £75m including very strong balance sheet growth and lower releases.

International Retail and Commercial Banking – Absa Sterling profit fell £9m to £68m after absorbing the 12% decline in the average value of the Rand. Retail loans and advances grew 22% and retail deposits grew 42%.

Business Performance – Investment Banking and Investment Management

Barclays Capital delivered a 65% increase in profit before tax to £339m. Net income was ahead of last year, reflecting very strong performances in most asset classes including interest rates, currencies, equity products and commodities. Results also included net losses arising from credit market turbulence of £1,635m net of gains from the fair valuation of issued notes of £1,635m. All geographies outside the US enjoyed significant growth in income and profits. Strong cost control led to operating expenses declining slightly year on year.

Barclays Global Investors (BGI) profit before tax increased 38% to £734m. Income grew 65% driven by very strong growth in management fees and in securities lending revenues. Profit and income growth were both affected by the 8% depreciation in the average value of the US Dollar. BGI costs increased £3m as we continued to build our infrastructure across multiple products and platforms to support future growth.

The cost-income ratio rose to 62%. Assets under management grew US\$285m to US\$2.1 trillion, including net new assets of US\$98m.

Barclays Wealth profit before tax rose 25% to £407m. Income growth of 47% was driven by increased client funds and greater transaction volumes. Costs were well controlled as business volumes rose and the cost-income ratio improved five percentage points to 58%. We continued to invest in client facing staff and infrastructure. Redress costs declined. Total client assets increased 14% to £133bn.

Head office functions and other operations

Head Office functions and other operations loss before tax increased £65m to £228m reflecting higher inter-segment adjustments and lower gains from hedging activities.

Capital management

At 31st December 2007, our Basel I Tier 1 Capital ratio was 7.8% (2006: 7.7%). We started managing capital ratios under Basel II from 1st January 2008. Our Basel II Tier 1 Capital ratio was 7.6%. Our Equity Tier 1 ratio was 5.0% under Basel I (2006: 4.3%) and 6.1% under Basel II.

We have increased the proposed dividend payable to shareholders in respect of 2007 by 10%. We maintain our progressive approach to dividends, expecting dividend growth broadly to match earnings growth over time.

Financial data

Consolidated income statement summary
For the year ended 31st December

| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| | £m | £m | £m | £m ^a |
| Net interest income | 9,070 | 9,143 | 8,075 | 6,803 |
| Net fee and commission income | 7,708 | 7,177 | 5,705 | 4,847 |
| Principal transactions | 4,975 | 4,578 | 3,179 | 2,514 |
| Net premiums from insurance contracts | 1,011 | 1,060 | 872 | 1,042 |
| Other income | 188 | 214 | 147 | 131 |
| Total income | 23,492 | 22,170 | 17,978 | 15,367 |
| Net claims and benefits incurred on insurance contracts | (492) | (675) | (645) | (1,259) |
| Total income net of insurance claims | 23,000 | 21,595 | 17,333 | 14,108 |
| Impairment charges and other credit provisions | (2,795) | (2,154) | (1,671) | (1,093) |
| Net income | 20,205 | 19,441 | 15,762 | 13,015 |
| Operating expenses | (13,199) | (12,674) | (10,527) | (8,536) |
| Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures | 12 | 46 | 45 | 56 |
| Profit before business disposals | 7,048 | 6,813 | 5,280 | 4,535 |
| Profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures | 28 | 323 | — | 45 |
| Profit before tax | 7,076 | 7,138 | 5,280 | 4,580 |
| Tax | (1,981) | (1,941) | (1,436) | (1,279) |
| Profit after tax | 5,095 | 5,196 | 3,844 | 3,301 |
| Profit attributable to minority interests | 679 | 624 | 394 | 47 |
| Profit attributable to equity holders of the parent | 4,417 | 4,571 | 3,447 | 3,254 |
| | 5,095 | 5,196 | 3,844 | 3,301 |

Selected financial statistics

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Basic earnings per share | 68.9p | 71.9p | 54.4p | 51.0p |
| Diluted earnings per share | 66.7p | 69.8p | 52.6p | 49.8p |
| Dividends per ordinary share | 34.0p | 31.0p | 26.8p | 24.0p |
| Dividend payout ratio | 49.3% | 43.1% | 48.8% | 47.1% |
| Profit attributable to the equity holders of the parent as a percentage of: | | | | |
| average shareholders' equity | 20.3% | 24.7% | 21.1% | 21.7% |
| average total assets | 4.3% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.5% |

Selected statistical measures

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Cost-income ratio ^b | 57% | 58% | 61% | 61% |
| Average United States Dollar exchange rate used in preparing the accounts | 2.00 | 1.84 | 1.82 | 1.83 |
| Average Euro exchange rate used in preparing the accounts | 1.46 | 1.47 | 1.46 | 1.47 |
| Average Rand exchange rate used in preparing the accounts | 16.11 | 12.47 | 11.57 | 11.83 |

The financial information above is extracted from the published accounts for the last three years. This information should be read together with, and is qualified by reference to, the accounts and notes included in this report.

Note

- a Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.
b Defined on page 2.

Financial data

Consolidated balance sheet summary
As at 31st December

| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | £m | £m | £m | £m ^a |
| Assets | | | | |
| Cash and other short-term funds | 7,637 | 9,753 | 5,807 | 3,525 |
| Treasury bills and other eligible bills | n/a | n/a | n/a | 5,658 |
| Trading portfolio and financial assets designated at fair value | 341,171 | 292,464 | 251,820 | n/a |
| Derivative financial instruments | 248,088 | 138,353 | 138,823 | n/a |
| Debt securities and equity shares | n/a | n/a | n/a | 141,710 |
| Loans and advances to banks | 40,120 | 30,926 | 31,105 | 80,632 |
| Loans and advances to customers | 345,398 | 282,300 | 268,886 | 262,409 |
| Available for sale financial investments | 43,672 | 51,703 | 53,407 | n/a |
| Reverse repurchase agreements and cash collateral on securities borrowed | 183,075 | 174,030 | 160,308 | n/a |
| Other assets | 18,800 | 17,198 | 16,011 | 43,247 |
| Total assets | 1,227,351 | 996,787 | 924,357 | 538,181 |
| Liabilities | | | | |
| Deposits and items in the course of collection due to banks | 72,338 | 81,733 | 77,468 | 112,229 |
| Customer accounts | 284,987 | 256,754 | 238,094 | 217,492 |
| Trading portfolio and financial liabilities designated at fair value | 139,821 | 125,881 | 104,939 | n/a |
| Liabilities to customers under investment contracts | 92,839 | 84,637 | 85,201 | n/a |
| Derivative financial instruments | 248,288 | 140,687 | 137,871 | n/a |
| Debt securities in issue | 120,228 | 111,137 | 103,328 | 83,642 |
| Repurchase agreements and cash collateral on securities lent | 169,429 | 136,350 | 121,178 | n/a |
| Insurance contract liabilities, including unit-linked liabilities | 3,903 | 3,878 | 3,767 | 8,377 |
| Subordinated liabilities | 18,150 | 13,786 | 12,463 | 12,277 |
| Other liabilities | 15,032 | 13,908 | 14,918 | 87,200 |
| Total liabilities | 1,194,885 | 969,397 | 899,927 | 521,417 |
| Shareholders' equity | | | | |
| Shareholders' equity excluding minority interests | 23,291 | 19,799 | 17,426 | 15,870 |
| Minority interests | 9,155 | 7,551 | 7,004 | 894 |
| Total shareholders' equity | 32,476 | 27,350 | 24,430 | 16,764 |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | 1,227,361 | 996,747 | 924,357 | 538,181 |
| Risk weighted assets and capital ratios^b | | | | |
| Risk weighted assets | 353,478 | 287,833 | 259,148 | |
| Tier 1 ratio | 7.8% | 7.7% | 7.0% | |
| Risk asset ratio | 12.1% | 11.7% | 11.3% | |
| Selected financial statistics | | | | |
| Net asset value per ordinary share | 453p | 303p | 269p | 246p |
| Year-end United States Dollar exchange rate used in preparing the accounts | 2.00 | 1.95 | 1.72 | 1.92 |
| Year-end Euro exchange rate used in preparing the accounts | 1.36 | 1.49 | 1.46 | 1.41 |
| Year-end Rand exchange rate used in preparing the accounts | 13.64 | 13.71 | 10.87 | 10.66 |

The financial information above is extracted from the published accounts for the last three years. This information should be read together with, and is qualified by reference to, the accounts and Notes included in this report.

Notes

- a Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.
- b Risk weighted assets and capital ratios are calculated on a Basel I basis. Capital ratios for 2004 based on IFRS are not available. As at 1st January 2005 the tier 1 ratio was 7.1% and the risk asset ratio was 11.8%, reflecting the impact of IFRS including the adoption of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4.

Financial review Analysis of results by business

Analysis of results by business
For the year ended 31st December 2007

| | UK Banking £m | Barclaycard £m | International Retail and Commercial Banking £m | Barclays Capital £m | Barclays Global Investors £m | Barclays Wealth £m | Head office functions and other operations £m | Group £m |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Net interest income | 4,596 | 1,394 | 1,890 | 1,179 | (8) | 431 | 128 | 9,610 |
| Net fee and commission income | 1,932 | 1,080 | 1,210 | 1,235 | 1,938 | 739 | (424) | 7,708 |
| Principal transactions ^a | 56 | 11 | 248 | 4,892 | (4) | 55 | (83) | 4,975 |
| Net premiums from insurance contracts | 252 | 30 | 372 | — | — | 195 | 152 | 1,011 |
| Other income | 58 | (26) | 87 | 13 | 2 | 19 | 35 | 198 |
| Total income | 6,884 | 2,499 | 3,307 | 7,119 | 1,925 | 1,439 | (192) | 23,492 |
| Net claims and benefits incurred on insurance contracts | (43) | (13) | (284) | — | — | (152) | — | (492) |
| Total income, net of insurance claims | 6,841 | 2,486 | 3,023 | 7,119 | 1,925 | 1,287 | (192) | 23,000 |
| Impairment charges | (845) | (838) | (252) | (846) | — | (7) | (3) | (2,799) |
| Net income | 6,002 | 1,648 | 3,271 | 6,273 | 1,925 | 1,280 | (195) | 20,205 |
| Operating expenses | (3,370) | (1,101) | (2,356) | (3,973) | (1,192) | (973) | (234) | (13,199) |
| Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures | 7 | (7) | 7 | 35 | — | — | — | 42 |
| Profit before business disposals | 2,639 | 540 | 922 | 2,335 | 734 | 307 | (429) | 7,048 |
| Profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures | 14 | — | 13 | — | — | — | 1 | 28 |
| Profit before tax | 2,653 | 540 | 935 | 2,335 | 734 | 307 | (428) | 7,076 |
| As at 31st December 2007 | | | | | | | | |
| Total assets | 161,777 | 22,164 | 99,457 | 839,652 | 89,224 | 13,024 | 7,053 | 1,227,361 |
| Total liabilities | 186,988 | 1,550 | 48,069 | 811,516 | 87,101 | 43,088 | 34,924 | 1,164,885 |

Note
^a Principal transactions comprise net trading income and net investment income.

Financial review
Analysis of results by business

Global Retail and Commercial
Banking
UK Banking

Who we are

UK Banking comprises UK Retail Banking and Barclays Commercial Bank (formerly UK Business Banking).

What we do

UK Banking delivers banking solutions to Barclays retail and business banking customers in the United Kingdom. We offer a range of integrated products and services and access to the expertise of other Group businesses. Customers are served through a variety of channels comprising the branch network, automated teller machines, telephone banking, online banking and relationship managers.

Highlights

£6,851^m

£2,653^m

Performance

2007/06

UK Banking profit before tax increased 4% (107m) to £2,653m (2006: £2,546m) driven principally by solid income growth. Results included gains from the sale and leaseback of properties and property sales of £232m (2006: £213m).

The cost-income ratio improved 10 percentage points to 49%. Excluding the impact of settlements on overdraft fees in relation to prior years (£16m) the cost-income ratio improved 10 percentage points to 49% making 10 percentage points of improvement from 2004 to 2007 compared to the target of six percentage points.

2006/05

UK Banking profit before tax increased 4% (£310m) to £2,546m (2005: £2,236m) driven principally by good income growth. Profit before business disposals grew 10% (£234m) to £2,470m (2005: £2,236m).

Barclays
Annual Report 2007

11

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Income statement information | | | |
| Net interest income | 4,596 | 4,467 | 4,213 |
| Net fee and commission income | 1,932 | 1,874 | 1,728 |
| Net trading income | 9 | 2 | - |
| Net investment income | 47 | 28 | 26 |
| Principal transactions | 56 | 30 | 26 |
| Net premiums from insurance contracts | 352 | 342 | 258 |
| Other income | 50 | 63 | 32 |
| Total income | 6,994 | 6,776 | 6,297 |
| Net claims and benefits incurred on insurance contracts | (43) | (35) | (61) |
| Total income, net of insurance claims | 6,851 | 6,741 | 6,236 |
| Impairment charges | (849) | (887) | (571) |
| Net income | 6,002 | 5,854 | 5,665 |
| Operating expenses excluding amortisation of intangible assets | (3,358) | (3,387) | (3,323) |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | (12) | (2) | (3) |
| Operating expenses | (3,370) | (3,389) | (3,326) |
| Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures | 7 | 5 | (3) |
| Profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures | 14 | 76 | - |
| Profit before tax | 2,653 | 2,546 | 2,236 |
| Balance sheet information | | | |
| Loans and advances to customers | £145.3bn | £131.6bn | £125.5bn |
| Customer accounts | £147.8bn | £139.7bn | £127.2bn |
| Total assets | £161.8bn | £147.6bn | £138.0bn |
| Selected statistical measures | | | |
| Cost-income ratio ^a | 49% | 50% | 53% |
| Risk Tendency ^a | £ 775m | £ 790m | £ 865m |
| Risk weighted assets | £ 99.8bn | £ 93.0bn | £ 87.9bn |

^a Defined on page 2.

Financial review Analysis of results by business

Global Retail and Commercial Banking UK Retail Banking

Who we are

UK Retail Banking comprises Personal Customers, Home Finance, Local Business, Consumer Lending and Barclays Financial Planning. We have one of the largest branch networks in the UK with around 1,700 branches and an extensive network of cash machines.

What we do

Our cluster of businesses aims to build broader and deeper relationships with customers. Personal Customers and Home Finance provide a wide range of products and services to retail customers, including current accounts, savings and investment products, mortgages branded Woodwich and general insurance. Barclays Financial Planning provides banking, investment products and advice to affluent customers.

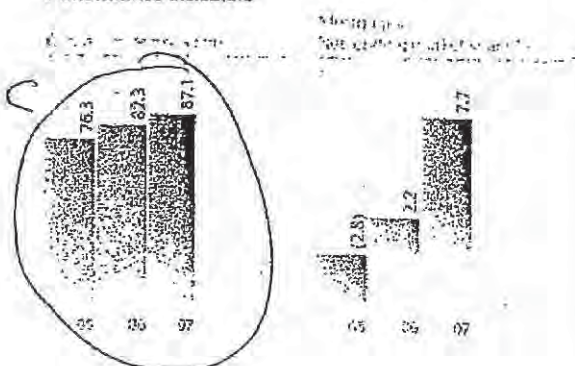
Local Business provides banking services to small businesses. UK Retail Banking is also a gateway to more specialised services from other parts of Barclays such as Barclays Stockbrokers.

Our business serves 16 million UK customers.

Highlights



Performance indicators



Performance 2007/06

UK Retail Banking profit excluding tax increased $\pounds 101m$ to $\pounds 1,282m$ (2006: $\pounds 1,181m$) due to reduced costs and a strong improvement in impairment.

Including the impact of settlements on overdraft fees from prior years $\pounds 116m$, income decreased $\pounds 1,749m$ to $\pounds 2,297m$ (2006: $\pounds 2,345m$). Income grew 2% ($\pounds 57m$) excluding the impact of settlements on overdraft fees in relation to prior years ($\pounds 116m$). This was driven by very strong growth in Personal Customer retail savings and good growth in Personal Customer current accounts, Home Finance and Local Business.

Net interest income increased $\pounds 24.53m$ to $\pounds 2,659m$ (2006: $\pounds 2,785m$). Growth was driven by a higher contribution from deposits, through a combination of good balance sheet growth and an increased liability margin. Total average customer deposit balances increased 7% to $\pounds 1,919m$ (2006: $\pounds 1,785m$), supported by the launch of new products.

Mortgage volumes increased significantly, driven by an improved mix of longer term value products for customers, higher levels of retention and continuing improvements in processing capability. Mortgage balances were $\pounds 8.8m$ at the end of the period (2006: $\pounds 61.7m$), an approximate market share of 6% (2006: 6%). Gross advances were $\pounds 2.1m$ higher at $\pounds 21.0m$ (2006: $\pounds 18.4m$). Net lending was $\pounds 20.0m$ (2006: $\pounds 22.4m$), representing market share of 8% (2006: 2%). The average loan to value ratio of the residential mortgage book on a current valuing basis was 33% . The average loan to value ratio of new residential mortgage lending in 2007 was 54% . Consumer Lending balances decreased $\pounds 2.9m$ to $\pounds 2.9m$ (2006: $\pounds 5.2m$), reflecting the impact of tighter lending criteria.

Overall asset margins decreased as a result of the increased proportion of mortgages and contraction in unsecured loans.

Net fee and commission income reduced $\pounds 0.43m$ to $\pounds 1,183m$ (2006: $\pounds 1,232m$). There was strong Current Account income growth in Personal Customers and good growth within Local Business. This was more than offset by settlements on overdraft fees.

Net premiums from insurance underwriting activities reduced $\pounds 0.50m$ to $\pounds 2.52m$ (2006: $\pounds 2.42m$), as there continued to be lower customer take-up of loan protection insurance. Net claims and benefits on insurance contracts increased to $\pounds 4.3m$ (2006: $\pounds 3.8m$).

Impairment charges decreased $\pounds 2.3m$ ($\pounds 7.6m$) to $\pounds 5.3m$ (2006: $\pounds 5.5m$), reflecting lower charges in unsecured Consumer Lending and Local Business. This was driven by improvements in the collection process which led to reduced flows into delinquency, lower levels of arrears and stable charge-offs. Mortgage impairment charges remained negligible.

Operating expenses reduced $\pounds 0.46m$ to $\pounds 2,463m$ (2006: $\pounds 2,532m$), reflecting strong and active management of all expense lines, targeted processing improvements and back office consolidation. Gains from the sale of property were $\pounds 1.9m$ (2006: $\pounds 2.5m$). Increased investment was focused on improving the overall customer experience through converging and improving the branch network, revitalising the product offering, increasing operational and process efficiency, and meeting regulatory requirements.

The cost/income ratio improved 0.6 percentage point to 57% . Excluding the impact of settlements on overdraft fees from prior years ($\pounds 116m$), the cost/income ratio improved 0.6 percentage points to 55% .

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Income statement information | | | |
| Net interest income | 2,358 | 2,765 | 2,677 |
| Net fee and commission income | 1,183 | 1,232 | 1,065 |
| Net premiums from insurance contracts | 252 | 342 | 372 |
| Other income | 17 | 12 | 24 |
| Total income | 4,340 | 4,391 | 4,138 |
| Net claims and benefits on insurance contracts | (43) | (35) | (61) |
| Total income net of insurance claims | 4,297 | 4,346 | 4,077 |
| Impairment charges | (559) | (635) | (494) |
| Net income | 3,738 | 3,711 | 3,583 |
| Operating expenses excluding amortisation of intangible assets | (2,455) | (2,531) | (2,501) |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | (8) | (1) | (1) |
| Operating expenses | (2,463) | (2,532) | (2,501) |
| Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures | 7 | 2 | (6) |
| Profit before tax | 1,282 | 1,181 | 1,076 |
| Balance sheet information | | | |
| Loans and advances to customers | £82.0bn | £74.7bn | £72.1bn |
| Customer accounts | £87.1bn | £82.3bn | £76.3bn |
| Total assets | £97.8bn | £81.7bn | £78.1bn |
| Selected statistical measures | | | |
| Cost/income ratio ^a | 57% | 58% | 61% |
| Risk Tendency ^a | £ 470m | £ 500m | £ 415m |
| Risk weighted assets | £46.0bn | £43.0bn | £40.8bn |

a Defined on page 2.

2006/05

UK Retail Banking profit before tax increased 10% (£105m) to £118m (2005: £107m), driven by good income growth and well controlled costs. There has been substantial additional investment to transform the business.

Income increased 2% (£265m) to £5,346m (2005: £5,077m). Income growth was broadly based. There was strong income growth in Personal Customers retail savings, Local Business and UK Premier and good growth in Personal Customers current account income. Sales volumes increased, with a particularly strong performance from direct channels.

Net interest income increased 3% (£260m) to £2,765m (2005: £2,677m). Growth was driven by a higher contribution from deposits, through a combination of good balance sheet growth and a stable interest margin. Total average customer deposit balances increased 8% to £76.5m (2005: £71.0m), supported by new products. Growth of personal savings was above that of the market.

Mortgage volumes improved significantly, driven by a focus on improving capacity, customer service, value and premium. UK residential mortgage balances ended the year at £81.7bn (2005: £83.0bn). Gross advances were 2% higher at £18.3bn (2005: £17.5bn), with a market share of 5% (2005: 4%). Net lending was £2.4bn with performance improving during the year, leading to a market share of 4% in the second half of the year. The mortgage margin was reduced by changed assumptions used in the calculation of effective interest rates, a higher proportion of new mortgages and base rate changes. The new business spread was in line with the industry. The loan to value ratio within the residential mortgage book on a current valuation basis was 34% (2005: 35%).

There was good balance growth in non-mortgage loans, where Local Business average balances increased 9% and UK Premier average balances increased 25%.

Net fee and commission income increased 16% (£157m) to £1,232m (2005: £1,065m). There was strong current account income growth in Personal Customers and Local Business. UK Premier delivered strong growth reflecting higher income from banking services, mortgage sales and investment advice.

Net premiums from insurance underwriting activities decreased 8% (£30m) to £242m (2005: £272m). There continued to be lower customer take-up of loan protection insurance. Net claims and benefits on insurance contracts improved to £43m (2005: £61m).

Impairment charges increased 23% (£141m) to £635m (2005: £494m). The increase principally reflected balance growth and some deterioration in delinquency rates in the Local Business loan book. Losses from the mortgage portfolio remained negligible, with arrears at low levels.

Operating expenses were steady at £2,532m (2005: £2,501m). Gains from the sale and leaseback of property amounted to £253m (2005: £1m). Investment in the business to improve customer service and deliver sustainable performance improvements was directed at upgrading distribution capabilities, including restructuring and improving the branch network. Further investment was focused on upgrading the contact centres, transforming the performance of the mortgage business, revitalising the retail product range to meet customers' needs, improving core operations and processes and rationalising the number of operating sites. The level of investment reflected in operating expenses in 2006 was approximately double the level of 2005.

The cost/income ratio improved 16 percentage points to 57% (2005: 61%).

Financial review Analysis of results by business

Global Retail and Commercial Banking Barclays Commercial Bank

Who we are

Barclays Commercial Bank comprises 8,400 colleagues who serve 81,000 customers.

Earlier this year, we launched our new brand – Barclays Commercial Bank – to replace UK Business Banking. This new identity is much more than just a name change. Instead, it more accurately reflects our current capabilities and future aspirations, and it is scalable across markets. To complement the new identity, we also launched a clear customer proposition. It comprises three elements:

- relationship
- specialisation
- innovation

These encapsulate our capability to deliver distinctive service and solutions that meet our customers' needs.

What we do

Barclays Commercial Bank provides banking services to organisations with an annual turnover of more than £1m. Customers are served via a network of relationship and industry sector specialists, which provides solutions constructed from a comprehensive suite of banking products, support, expertise and services, including specialist asset financing and leasing facilities.

We are a key component of the Barclays universal banking model, delivering income in partnership with all the constituent business units of the Barclays Group.

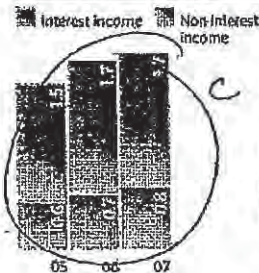
Highlights

Income
£2,554m

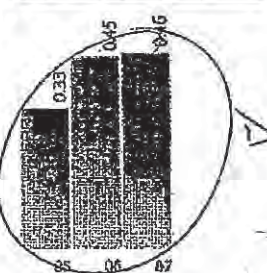
Profit before tax
£1,371m

Performance indicators

Interest income:
non interest income £bn



Impairment as %
of loans and advances
to customers



Performance

2007/06

Barclays Commercial Bank profit before tax increased **£8m** to **£1,371m** (2006: **£1,383m**) due to continued good income growth partially offset by lower gains from business disposals. Profit excluding profit on business disposals of **£14m** (2006: **£75m**) increased **6%** to **£1,95m** (2006: **£1,289m**).

Income increased **73%** (**£153m**) to **£2,554m** (2006: **£2,335m**). Non-interest income increased to **32%** of total income (2006: **29%**), reflecting continuing focus on cross sales and efficient balance sheet utilisation. There was very strong growth in fee and commission income, which increased **17%** (**£107m**) to **£745m** (2006: **£642m**) due to very strong performance in lending fees. There was also good growth in transaction related income, foreign exchange and derivatives transactions undertaken on behalf of clients.

Net interest income improved **2%** (**£236m**) to **£1,798m** (2006: **£1,702m**). Average customer lendings increased **3%** to **£53.6bn** (2006: **£52.0bn**). Average customer accounts grew **2%** to **£46.4bn** (2006: **£44.6bn**).

Income from principal transactions primarily collecting venture capital and other equity realisations increased **87%** (**£25m**) to **£25m** (2006: **£13m**).

Impairment charges increased **15%** (**£39m**) to **£39m** (2006: **£25m**), mainly due to a higher level of impairment losses on larger businesses as impairment trended towards risk tendency. There was a reduction in impairment levels in Medium Business due to a tightening of the lending criteria.

Operating expenses increased **6%** (**£60m**) to **£807m** (2006: **£857m**). Operating expenses are net of gains of **£9m** (2006: **£60m**) on the sale of property. Growth in operating expenses was focused on continuing investment in operations, infrastructure, and new initiatives in product development and sales capability.

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Income statement information | | | |
| Net interest income | 1,738 | 1,702 | 1,536 |
| Net fee and commission income | 749 | 842 | 589 |
| Net trading income | 9 | 2 | - |
| Net investment income | 47 | 28 | 17 |
| Principal transactions | 56 | 30 | 17 |
| Other income | 11 | 21 | 17 |
| Total income | 2,554 | 2,395 | 2,169 |
| Impairment charges | (290) | (252) | (177) |
| Net income | 2,264 | 2,143 | 1,992 |
| Operating expenses excluding amortisation of intangible assets | (903) | (856) | (822) |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | (3) | (1) | (1) |
| Operating expenses | (907) | (857) | (823) |
| Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures | - | 3 | 3 |
| Profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures | 14 | 76 | - |
| Profit before tax | 1,371 | 1,365 | 1,160 |
| Balance sheet information | | | |
| Loans and advances to customers | £63.3bn | £56.3bn | £53.4bn |
| Customer accounts | £60.6bn | £57.4bn | £50.9bn |
| Total assets | £73.9bn | £65.9bn | £59.5bn |
| Selected statistical measures | | | |
| Cost:income ratio ^a | 36% | 36% | 35% |
| Risk Tendency ^d | £ 305m | £ 290m | £ 260m |
| Risk weighted assets | £53.8bn | £50.0bn | £47.1bn |

a Defined on page 2.

2006/05

Barclays Commercial Bank profit before tax increased (2005: £205m) to £1,365m (2005: £1,160m), driven by continued strong income growth. Barclays Commercial Bank maintained its market share of primary customer relationships. The 2006 result included a £23m (2005: £13m) contribution from the full year consolidation of Ivesco Finance, in which a 51% stake was acquired on 1st June 2005. Profit before business disposals increased (2005: £1,289m) to £1,365m (2005: £1,160m).

Income increased (2005: £223m) to £2,264m (2005: £2,159m), driven by strong balance sheet growth. The uplift in income was broadly based across income categories.

Net interest income increased (2005: £1,536m) to £1,738m (2005: £1,536m) driven by strong balance sheet growth. There was strong growth in all business areas and in particular Larger Business. The lending margin improved slightly. Average customer accounts increased (11.3%) to £64.8bn (2005: £49.5bn) with good growth across product categories. The deposit margin was stable.

Net fee and commission income increased (2005: £589m) to £749m (2005: £589m). There was a strong rise in income from foreign exchange and derivatives business transacted through Barclays Capital on behalf of Barclays Commercial Bank customers.

Income from principal transactions was £10m (2005: £17m), primarily reflecting the profit realised on a number of equity investments.

As expected, impairment rates trended upwards during the year towards a more normalised level. Impairment increased (2005: £177m) to £290m (2005: £177m), with the increase mainly reflecting higher charges from Medium Business and balance growth. Impairment charges in Larger Business were stable.

Operating expenses increased (2005: £823m) to £907m (2005: £823m). Cost growth reflected higher volumes, increased expenditure on front line staff and the costs of Ivesco Finance for a full year. Operating expenses included a credit of £6m on the sale and leaseback of property. Increased investment was focused on the acceleration of the rationalisation of operating sites and technology infrastructure.

The cost:income ratio improved (no percentage points) to 36% (2005: 35%).

Profit on disposals of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures of £76m (2005: £m) arose from the sales of interests in vehicle leasing and European vendor finance businesses.

Financial review Analysis of results by business

Global Retail and Commercial Banking Barclaycard

Who we are

We are a multi-brand international credit card and consumer lending business. Our credit card was the first to be launched in the UK in 1966 and is now one of the leading credit card businesses in Europe, with a fast growing business in the US.

What we do UK

Our activities include all Barclaycard branded credit cards, the FirstPlus secured lending business and the retail finance business Barclays Partner Finance. In addition to these activities, Barclaycard also operates partnership cards with leading brands including SkyCard and the Thomas Cook Credit Card. We continue to lead the UK market with the launch in 2007 of Barclaycard OnePulse, the UK's first contactless card, and Barclaycard Breeze, the first card to donate a percentage of its profits to carbon reduction projects around the world.

International

Barclaycard's international presence is extensive. In 2007, 3 out of every 4 cards issued by Barclaycard were in markets outside the UK and we have 8.8m international cards in issue. We currently operate across Europe and the United States where we are the fastest growing credit card business. In Scandinavia we operate through Entercard, a joint venture with Swedbank.

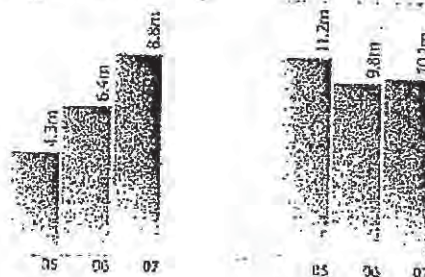
Barclaycard Business

Barclaycard Business processes card payments for 93,000 retailers and merchants and issues credit and charge cards to corporate customers and the UK Government. It is Europe's number one issuer of Visa Commercial Cards with over 137,000 corporate customers.

Highlights

£2,486m
£540m

Performance indicators



Performance 2007/06

Barclaycard profit before tax increased (19%) (£82m) to £540m (2006: £458m), driven by strong international growth coupled with a significant improvement in UK impairment charges. Other income included a £27m loss on disposal of part of the Monument card portfolio. 2008 results reflected a property gain of £38m.

Income decreased (1%) (£28m) to £2,486m (2006: £2,514m), reflecting strong growth in Barclaycard International, offset by a decline in UK Cards revenue resulting from a more cautious approach to lending in the UK and a £27m loss on disposal of part of the Monument card portfolio.

Net interest income increased (1%) (£11m) to £1,394m (2006: £1,383m) due to strong organic growth in international average extended credit card balances, up 32% to £3,352m and average secured consumer lending balances up 28% to £4,350m, partially offset by lower UK average extended credit card balances which fell 14% to £6,350m. Margins fell to 6.59% (2006: 7.13%) due to higher average base rates across core operating markets and a change in the product mix with an increased weighting to secured lending.

Net fee and commission income fell (23%) (£26m) to £1,080m (2006: £1,106m) with growth in Barclaycard International offset by our actions in response to the Office of Fair Trading's findings on late and overlimit fees in the UK which were implemented in August 2006.

Impairment charges improved (21%) (£229m) to £888m (2006: £1,087m) reflecting reduced flows into delinquency, lower levels of arrears and lower charge-offs in UK Cards. We made changes to our impairment methodologies to standardise our approach and in anticipation of Basel II. The net positive impact of these changes in methodology was offset by an increase in impairment charges in Barclaycard International and secured consumer lending.

Operating expenses increased (2%) (£120m) to £1,101m (2006: £981m). Excluding a property gain of £38m in 2006, operating expenses increased (8%) (£82m) reflecting continued investment in expanding our businesses in Europe and the US. Costs in the UK businesses were broadly flat, with investment in new UK product innovations such as Barclaycard OnePulse being funded out of operating efficiencies.

Barclaycard International continued to gain momentum, delivering a profit before tax of £17m against a loss before tax of £38m in 2006. We concluded seven new credit card partnership deals across Western Europe. The Entercard joint venture continued to perform ahead of plan and entered the Danish market, extending its reach across the Scandinavian region. Barclaycard US was profitable, with very strong average balance growth and a number of new card partnerships including Lufthansa Airlines and Princess Cruise Lines.

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Income statement information | | | |
| Net interest income | 1,394 | 1,383 | 1,231 |
| Net fee and commission income | 1,080 | 1,106 | 1,065 |
| Net investment income | 11 | 15 | — |
| Net premiums from insurance contracts | 40 | 18 | 6 |
| Other income | (26) | — | — |
| Total income | 2,499 | 2,522 | 2,302 |
| Net claims and benefits incurred on insurance contracts | (13) | (8) | (3) |
| Total income net of insurance claims | 2,486 | 2,514 | 2,299 |
| Impairment charges | (838) | (1,067) | (753) |
| Net income | 1,648 | 1,447 | 1,546 |
| Operating expenses excluding amortisation of intangible assets | (1,073) | (854) | (891) |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | (28) | (17) | (17) |
| Operating expenses | (1,101) | (871) | (908) |
| Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures | (7) | (8) | 1 |
| Profit before tax | 540 | 458 | 639 |
| Balance sheet information | | | |
| Loans and advances to customers | £20.1bn | £ 18.2bn | £16.5bn |
| Total assets | £22.2bn | £ 20.1bn | £18.2bn |
| Selected statistical measures | | | |
| Cost-income ratio ^a | 44% | 39% | 39% |
| Risk Tendency ^a | £ 946m | £ 1,135m | £ 835m |
| Risk weighted assets | £ 119.9bn | £ 17.0bn | £18.6bn |

a Defined on page 2.

2006/05

Barclaycard profit before tax decreased 28% (£181m) to £458m (2005: £639m) as good income growth was more than offset by higher impairment charges and increased costs from the continued development of international businesses.

Income increased 8% (£215m) to £2,514m (2005: £2,299m) reflecting very strong momentum in Barclaycard US and strong performances in Barclaycard Business, FirstPlus, SkyCard and continental European markets.

Net interest income increased 12% (£152m) to £1,394m (2005: £1,231m) due to strong growth in international average extended credit card balances up 35% to £2,501m (2005: £1,800m) and average secured consumer lending balances up 53% to £3,800m (2005: £2,250m), partly offset by UK average extended credit card balances down 7% to £8.0bn (2005: £8.6bn), reflecting the impact of tighter lending criteria.

Net fee and commission income increased 4% (£41m) to £1,080m (2005: £1,065m) as a result of increased contributions from Barclaycard International, SkyCard, FirstPlus and Barclaycard Business. Barclaycard reduced its late and overlimit fee charges in the UK on 1st August 2006 in response to the Office of Fair Trading's findings.

Investment income of £15m (2005: £2m) represents the gain arising from the sale of part of the stake in MasterCard Inc, following its flotation.

Impairment charges increased 42% (£314m) to £1,067m (2005: £753m). The increase was driven by a rise in delinquent balances and increased numbers of bankruptcies and Individual Voluntary Arrangements. As a result of management action in 2005 and 2006 to tighten lending criteria and improve collection processes, the flows of new delinquencies reduced, and levels of arrears balances declined in the second half of 2006 in UK cards.

Operating expenses increased 8% (£273m) to £981m (2005: £908m). This included a £38m gain from the sale and leaseback of property. Excluding this item, underlying operating expenses increased 12% (£111m) to £1,019m. This was largely as a result of continued investment in Barclaycard International, particularly Barclaycard US, and the development of UK partnerships.

Barclaycard International continued its growth strategy in the continental European business delivering solid results. The EnterCard joint venture, which is based in Scandinavia, performed ahead of plan. Barclaycard International loss before tax reduced to £36m (2005: loss £44m) including the loss before tax for Barclaycard US of £57m (2005: loss £60m). Barclaycard US continued to perform ahead of expectations, delivering very strong growth in balances and customer numbers and creating a number of new partnerships including US Airways, Barnes & Noble, Travelocity and Jo-Ann Stores.

Barclaycard UK customer numbers declined 1.4 million to 9.8 million (2005: 11.2 million). This reflected the closure of 1.5 million accounts that had been inactive.

Financial review
Analysis of results by business
**Global Retail and
Commercial Banking
International Retail and
Commercial Banking**

Who we are

Our business comprises: International Retail and Commercial Banking – excluding Absa and International Retail and Commercial Banking – Absa.

What we do

International Retail and Commercial Banking provides banking services to Barclays personal and corporate customers outside the UK. The products and services offered to customers are tailored to meet customer needs and the regulatory and commercial environments within each country.

Highlights

£3,523^m £935^m

Performance 2007/06

International Retail and Commercial Banking profit before tax decreased ~~£281m to £35m~~ (2006: ~~£215m~~). International Retail and Commercial Banking – excluding Absa profit before tax in 2006 included a ~~£247m~~ gain on the sale of associate FirstCaribbean International Bank and a ~~£41m~~ share of its post-tax results. Profit before tax in 2007 included gains from the sale and leaseback of property of ~~£23m~~ (2006: ~~£55m~~). Very strong profit growth in Rand terms in International Retail and Commercial Banking – Absa was offset by a 12% decline in the average value of the Rand.

A significant investment was made in infrastructure and distribution, including the opening of 644 new branches and sales centres across Western Europe, Emerging Markets and Absa.

2006/05

International Retail and Commercial Banking profit before tax increased ~~£23m to £215m~~ (2005: ~~£593m~~). The increase reflected the inclusion of a full year's profit before tax from International Retail and Commercial Banking – Absa of ~~£69m~~ (2005: ~~£296m~~) and a profit of ~~£247m~~ on the disposal of Barclays interest in FirstCaribbean International Bank.

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Income statement information | | | |
| Net interest income | 1,090 | 1,553 | 1,045 |
| Net fee and commission income | 1,210 | 1,221 | 644 |
| Net trading income | 69 | 6 | 3 |
| Net investment income | 179 | 188 | 143 |
| Principal transactions | 248 | 194 | 148 |
| Net premiums from insurance contracts | 372 | 351 | 227 |
| Other income | 87 | 74 | 60 |
| Total income | 3,907 | 3,493 | 2,122 |
| Net claims and benefits incurred under insurance contracts | (284) | (244) | (206) |
| Total income net of insurance claims | 3,623 | 3,249 | 1,916 |
| Impairment charges | (252) | (107) | (93) |
| Net income | 3,371 | 3,082 | 1,883 |
| Operating expenses excluding amortisation of intangible assets | (2,279) | (2,077) | (1,289) |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | (77) | (85) | (47) |
| Operating expenses | (2,356) | (2,162) | (1,336) |
| Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures | 7 | 49 | 46 |
| Profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures | 13 | 247 | - |
| Profit before tax | 935 | 1,216 | 593 |
| Balance sheet information | | | |
| Loans and advances to customers | £70.1bn | £53.2bn | £49.2bn |
| Customer accounts | £28.0bn | £22.1bn | £22.4bn |
| Total assets | £89.5bn | £68.6bn | £63.4bn |
| Selected statistical measures | | | |
| Cost-income ratio ^a | 67% | 67% | 70% |
| Risk Tendency ^a | £ 175m | £ 220m | £ 175m |
| Risk weighted assets | £53.3bn | £40.8bn | £41.0bn |

a Defined on page 2.

Financial review
Analysis of results by business

Global Retail and Commercial Banking International Retail and Commercial Banking – excluding Absa

Who we are Western Europe

This business area includes our retail and commercial banking operations in Spain, Portugal, France and Italy. Barclays has operated in Spain for over 30 years, and is the leading foreign bank and the sixth largest banking group overall. We have tripled the branch network in Portugal over the last two years, becoming the largest non-Iberian bank. Barclays is a leading affluent banking brand and a recognised product innovator in France. We are one of the leading mortgage providers in Italy and in 2007 established full retail and commercial banking operations.

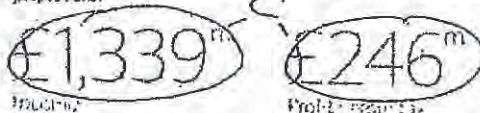
Emerging Markets

The Emerging Markets team is responsible for Barclays businesses in the growing markets of Africa, India and the Middle East. Barclays has long-standing commercial banking operations in the UAE and in 2007 launched retail banking operations in India and the UAE. In Africa, Barclays operates in Botswana, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Seychelles, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe offering a range of retail and commercial banking products.

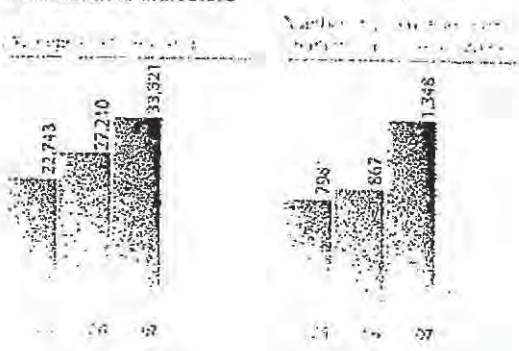
What we do

We provide a full range of banking services, including current accounts, savings, investments, mortgages and loans to our international personal and corporate customers.

International Retail and Commercial Banking works closely with all other parts of the group to leverage synergies from product and service propositions.



Performance indicators



Performance 2007/08

International Retail and Commercial Banking, excluding Absa profit before tax decreased ~~£32m~~ (£272m) to ~~£246m~~ (£246m) (2006: £518m). Profit before tax in 2006 included a £247m gain on the sale of associate First Caribbean International Bank and a £47m share of its post-tax results. Profit before tax in 2007 included gains from the sale and leaseback of property in 2007 of £23m (2006: £55m). The performance reflected very strong income growth driven by a rapid growth in distribution points to 1,948 (2006: 867) as well as the launch of new businesses in India and UAE and a full retail and commercial banking offering in Italy.

Income increased ~~£95m~~ (£293m) to ~~£1,339m~~ (£1,339m) (2006: £1,046m) driven by excellent performances in Western Europe and Emerging Markets.

Net interest income increased ~~£31m~~ (£149m) to ~~£1,170m~~ (£1,170m) (2006: £1,044m).

Total average customer loans increased ~~£22m~~ (£1,170m) to ~~£1,170m~~ (£1,170m) (2006: £1,170m) with lending margins broadly stable. Mortgage balance growth in Western Europe was very strong, with average Euro balances up ~~16%~~ (£4,230m to £30,100m) (2006: £25,9m). Average customer deposits increased ~~£10m~~ (£2,100m) to ~~£12,800m~~ (£12,800m) (2006: £11,400m) driven by growth in Western Europe and Emerging Markets.

Net fee and commission income grew ~~£50m~~ (£59m) to ~~£125m~~ (£125m) (2006: £65m), reflecting strong performances in Western Europe driven by the expansion of the customer base.

Principal transactions increased ~~£94m~~ (£177m) to ~~£189m~~ (£189m) (2006: £189m), reflecting gains on equity investments and higher foreign exchange income across Emerging Markets.

Impairment charges rose ~~£32m~~ (£38m) to ~~£79m~~ (£79m) (2006: £41m). The increase reflected very strong balance sheet growth in 2005 and 2007 and the impact of lower releases in 2007.

Operating expenses grew ~~£24m~~ (£249m) to ~~£1,023m~~ (£1,023m) (2006: £774m) driven by the rapid expansion of the distribution network across all regions and investment in people and infrastructure to support future growth across the franchise. Operating expenses included property sales in Spain of ~~£23m~~ (£23m) (2006: £65m).

Western Europe continued to perform strongly. Profit before tax increased ~~£10m~~ (£256m) to ~~£245m~~ (£245m) (2006: £189m). Barclays Spain profit before tax increased ~~£32m~~ (£72m) to ~~£207m~~ (£207m) (2006: £135m) driven by increased customer lending, higher service commissions and equity investment realisations. France also performed well driven by good growth in the balance sheet, higher fees and commissions and good cost control. Income grew very strongly in Italy as a result of the opening of new branches and the roll-out of a complete retail and commercial banking offering but this was more than offset by higher investment costs. Profit before tax decreased in Portugal, with very strong income growth offset by increased investment in the expansion of the business.

Emerging Markets profit before tax increased ~~£25m~~ (£25m) to ~~£142m~~ (£142m) (2006: £114m) reflecting a very strong rise in income across a broad range of markets, with particularly strong growth in Egypt, UAE, Kenya, Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda and India. The income growth benefited from increased investment in the business across all geographies, including branch openings and the launch of retail banking services in India and the UAE.

| | 2007 €m | 2006 €m | 2005 €m |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Income statement information | | | |
| Net interest income | 753 | 604 | 557 |
| Net fee and commission income | 125 | 358 | 318 |
| Net trading income | 58 | 17 | 31 |
| Net investment income | 109 | 85 | 93 |
| Principal transactions | 177 | 83 | 119 |
| Net premiums from insurance contracts | 145 | 111 | 129 |
| Other income | 9 | 20 | 23 |
| Total income | 1,509 | 1,184 | 1,144 |
| Net claims and benefits incurred under insurance contracts | (170) | (138) | (162) |
| Total income net of insurance claims | 1,339 | 1,046 | 982 |
| Impairment charges | (73) | (41) | (14) |
| Net income | 1,266 | 1,005 | 968 |
| Operating expenses excluding amortisation of intangible assets | (1,007) | (765) | (706) |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | (16) | (9) | (6) |
| Operating expenses | (1,023) | (774) | (712) |
| Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures | 1 | 40 | 59 |
| Profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures | 6 | 247 | - |
| Profit before tax | 246 | 518 | 295 |
| Balance sheet information | | | |
| Loans and advances to customers | €39.3bn | €29.0bn | €25.3bn |
| Customer accounts | €15.7bn | €11.0bn | €10.2bn |
| Total assets | €57.2bn | €38.2bn | €34.0bn |
| Selected statistical measures | | | |
| Cost/income ratio ^a | 76% | 74% | 73% |
| Risk Tendency ^a | €220m | €75m | €75m |
| Risk weighted assets | €29.7bn | €20.1bn | €20.2bn |

^a Defined on page 2.

2006/05

International Retail and Commercial Banking – excluding Absa profit before tax increased 78% (€223m) to €518m (2005: €295m), including a gain on the disposal of the interest in First Caribbean International Bank of €247m. This reflected good growth in continental Europe offset by a decline in profits in Africa caused by higher impairment, and increased costs reflecting a step change in the rate of organic investment in the business.

Income increased 1% (€64m) to €1,046m (2005: €982m).

Net interest income increased 25% (€147m) to €604m (2005: €557m), reflecting strong balance sheet growth in continental Europe, Africa and the Middle East, and the development of the corporate business in Spain.

Total average customer loans increased 20% to €27.2bn (2005: €22.7bn). Mortgage balance growth in continental Europe was particularly strong, with average Euro balances up 22%. There was a modest decline in lending margins partly driven by a greater share of mortgage assets as a proportion of the total book in continental Europe. Average customer deposits increased 16% to €10.4bn (2005: €9.0bn), with deposit margins stable.

Net fee and commission income increased 8% (€58m) to €360m (2005: €318m). This reflected a strong performance from the Spanish funds business, where average assets under management increased 11% together with very strong growth in France, including the first full year contribution of the ING Forti business which was acquired on 1st July 2005. Net fee and commission income showed solid growth in Africa and the Middle East.

Principal transactions decreased €35m to €37m (2005: €119m). 2005 included €25m from the redemption of preference shares in First Caribbean International Bank.

Impairment charges increased €27m to €73m (2005: €14m). This reflected the absence of one-off recoveries of €12m which arose in 2005 in Africa and the Middle East, and strong balance sheet growth across the businesses.

Operating expenses increased €247m to €1,023m (2005: €712m). This included gains from the sale and leaseback of property in Spain of €55m. Operating expenses also included incremental investment expenditure of €23m to expand the distribution network and enhance IT and operational capabilities.

Barclays Spain continued to perform strongly. Profit before tax increased 21% (€30m) to €171m (2005: €141m), excluding net one-off gains on asset sales of €32m (2005: €8m) and integration costs of €43m (2005: €57m). This was driven by the continued realisation of benefits from Banco Zaragozano, together with strong growth in assets under management and solid growth in mortgages.

Africa and the Middle East profit before tax decreased €53m (€12m) to €128m (2005: €181m) driven by higher impairment charges reflecting one-off recoveries of €12m that arose in 2005 and an increase in investment expenditure.

Profit before tax increased strongly in Portugal reflecting good flows of new customers and increased business volumes. France also performed well as a result of good organic growth and the acquisition of ING Forti.

The profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associate and joint ventures of €247m (2005: €m) comprised the gain on the sale of Barclays interest in First Caribbean International Bank. The share of post-tax results of First Caribbean International Bank included in 2006 was €7m (2005: €37m).

Financial review
Analysis of results by business

Global Retail and Commercial Banking
International Retail and Commercial Banking – Absa

Who we are

This business represents Barclays consolidation of Absa, excluding Absa Capital which is included in Barclays Capital.

International Retail and Commercial Banking – Absa comprises four operating divisions: Retail Banking, Commercial Banking, African operations and a Bancassurance division. (Barclays Bank PLC owns 59% of Absa Group Limited).

What we do

International Retail and Commercial Banking – Absa serves retail customers through a variety of distribution channels and offers a full range of banking services, including current and deposit accounts, mortgages, instalment finance, credit cards, bancassurance products and wealth management services. It also offers customised business solutions for commercial and large corporate customers.

Highlights

£2,184^m
 Revenue

£689^m
 Profit before tax

Performance indicators

Number of distribution points
 (branches and sub-branches)



Median annual productivity



Performance
2007/06

International Retail and Commercial Banking - Absa profit before tax (decreased to **£660m** (2006: **£688m**)).

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Income statement information | | | |
| Net interest income | 1,137 | 1,049 | 489 |
| Net fee and commission income | 765 | 855 | 328 |
| Net trading income/(expense) | 1 | (11) | (28) |
| Net investment income | 70 | 122 | 55 |
| Principal transactions | 71 | 111 | 27 |
| Net premiums from insurance contracts | 227 | 240 | 98 |
| Other income | 78 | 64 | 37 |
| Total income | 2,298 | 2,309 | 978 |
| Net claims and benefits incurred under insurance contracts | (114) | (106) | (44) |
| Total income net of insurance claims | 2,184 | 2,203 | 934 |
| Impairment charges | (173) | (128) | (19) |
| Net income | 2,011 | 2,077 | 915 |
| Operating expenses excluding amortisation of intangible assets | (1,272) | (1,312) | (583) |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | (61) | (78) | (41) |
| Operating expenses | (1,333) | (1,388) | (624) |
| Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures | 6 | 9 | 7 |
| Profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures | 5 | - | - |
| Profit before tax | 699 | 698 | 298 |
| Balance sheet information | | | |
| Loans and advances to customers | £30.8bn | £24.2bn | £23.9bn |
| Customer accounts | £13.1bn | £11.1bn | £12.2bn |
| Total assets | £37.3bn | £30.4bn | £29.4bn |
| Selected statistical measures | | | |
| Cost/income ratio ^a | 61% | 63% | 67% |
| Risk Tendency ^a | £255m | £145m | £100m |
| Risk weighted assets | £23.6bn | £20.7bn | £20.8bn |

a Defined on page 2.

2006/05

International Retail and Commercial Banking - Absa profit before tax increased 134% to £699m (2005: £255m) reflecting the full year to 31st December 2006 compared with the five months ended 31st December 2005. Barclays acquired a controlling stake in Absa Group Limited on 27th July 2006.

Financial review
Analysis of results by business

Investment Banking and Investment Management Barclays Capital

Who we are

Barclays Capital is a leading global investment bank providing large corporate, institutional and government clients with solutions to their financing and risk management requirements.

What we do

Barclays Capital service a wide variety of client needs, from capital raising and managing foreign exchange, interest rate, equity and commodity risks, through to providing technical advice and expertise.

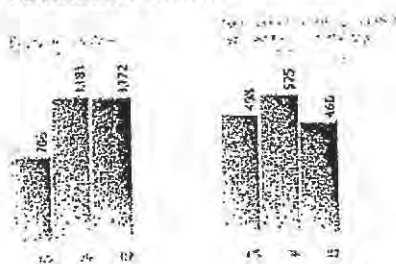
Activities are organised into three principal areas: Rates, which includes fixed income, foreign exchange, commodities, emerging markets, money markets, prime services and equity products; Credit, which includes primary and secondary activities for loans and bonds for investment grade, high yield and emerging market credit, as well as hybrid capital products, asset based finance, mortgage backed securities, credit derivatives, structured capital markets and large asset leasing; and Private Equity. Barclays Capital includes Absa Capital, the investment banking business of Absa.

Barclays Capital works closely with all other parts of the Group to leverage synergies from client relationships and product capabilities.

Highlights



Performance indicators



Performance

2007/06

Barclays Capital delivered profits ahead of the record results achieved in 2006 despite challenging trading conditions in the second half of the year. Profit before tax increased 5% to £7,119m (2006: £6,718m). There was strong income growth across the Rates businesses and excellent results in Continental Europe, Asia and Africa demonstrating the breadth of the client franchise. Net income was slightly ahead at £2,335m (2006: £2,250m) and costs were tightly managed, declining slightly year on year. Absa Capital delivered very strong growth in profit before tax to £155m (2006: £71m).

The US sub-prime driven market dislocation affected performance in the second half of 2007. Exposures relating to US sub-prime were actively managed and declined over the period. Barclays Capital's 2007 results reflected net losses related to the credit market turbulence of £1,635m, of which £735m was included in income, net of £900m gains arising from the fair valuation of notes issued by Barclays Capital. Impairment charges included £440m against ABS CDO Super Senior exposures, other credit market exposures and drawn leveraged finance underwriting positions.

Income increased 12% to £7,119m (2006: £6,267m) as a result of very strong growth in interest rate, currency, equity, commodity and emerging market asset classes. There was excellent income growth in continental Europe, Asia, and Africa. Average DVAR increased 13% to £42m (2006: £37.1m) in line with income.

Secondary income, comprising principal transactions (not trading income and net investment income), is mainly generated from providing client financing and risk management solutions. Secondary income increased 11% to £5,871m (2006: £5,250m).

Net trading income increased 5% to £1,771m (2006: £1,682m) with strong contributions from fixed income, commodities, equities, foreign exchange and prime services businesses. These were largely offset by net losses in the business affected by sub-prime mortgage related write downs. The general widening of credit spreads that occurred over the course of the second half of 2007 also reduced the carrying value of the £570m of issued notes held at fair value on the balance sheet, resulting in gains of £659m. Net investment income increased 6% to £358m (2006: £337m) as a result of a number of private equity realisations, investment disposals in Asia and structured capital markets transactions. Net interest income increased 2% to £1,173m (2006: £1,156m), driven by higher contributions from money markets. The corporate lending portfolio increased 20% to £52.3bn (2006: £43.6bn), largely due to an increase in drawn leveraged finance positions and a rise in drawn corporate loan balances.

Primary income, which comprises net fee and commission income from advisory and origination activities, grew 10% to £1,235m (2006: £1,122m) with good contributions from bonds and loans.

Impairment charges and other credit provisions of £846m included £722m against ABS CDO Super Senior exposures, £60m from other credit market exposures and £64m relating to drawn leveraged finance underwriting positions. Other impairment charges on loans and advances amounted to a release of £7m (2006: £44m release) before impairment charges on available for sale assets of £13m (2006: £16m).

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Income statement information | | | |
| Net interest income | 1,179 | 1,158 | 1,065 |
| Net fee and commission income | 1,235 | 952 | 776 |
| Net trading income | 3,739 | 3,562 | 2,231 |
| Net investment income | 953 | 573 | 413 |
| Principal transactions | 4,692 | 4,135 | 2,644 |
| Other income | 13 | 22 | 20 |
| Total income | 7,119 | 6,267 | 4,505 |
| Impairment charges and other credit provisions | (846) | (42) | (111) |
| Net income | 6,273 | 6,225 | 4,394 |
| Operating expenses excluding amortisation of intangible assets | (3,919) | (3,996) | (2,051) |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | (54) | (13) | (2) |
| Operating expenses | (3,973) | (4,009) | (2,053) |
| Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures | 35 | — | — |
| Profit before tax | 2,335 | 2,216 | 1,431 |
| Balance sheet information | | | |
| Total assets | £639.7bn | £657.9bn | £601.2bn |
| Selected statistical measures | | | |
| Cost-income ratio ^a | 50% | 64% | 65% |
| Risk Tendency ^a | £ 140m | £ 95m | £ 110m |
| Risk weighted assets | £169.1bn | £137.0bn | £116.7bn |
| Average DVaR | £ 42.0m | £ 37.1m | £ 32.0m |
| Corporate lending portfolio | £ 52.3bn | £ 40.6bn | £ 40.1bn |

a Defined on page 2.

Operating expenses decreased (1,762m) to 3,973m (2006: 4,009m). Performance related pay, discretionary investment spend and short term contractor resources represented 42% (2006: 60%) of the cost base. Amortisation of intangible assets of 15m (2006: 13m) principally related to mortgage service rights.

Total headcount increased 3,000 during 2007 to 16,200 (2006: 13,200) including 800 from the acquisition of EquiFirst. The majority of organic growth was in Asia Pacific.

2006/05

Profit before tax increased 55% (1,755m) to 2,335m (2005: 1,431m). This was the result of a very strong income performance, driven by higher business volumes, continued growth in client activity and favourable market conditions. Net income increased 43% (2,231m) to 6,273m (2005: 4,394m). Profit before tax for Absa Capital was 271m (2005: 69m).

Income increased 63% (1,762m) to 6,267m (2005: 4,395m) as a result of very strong growth across the Rates, Credit and Private Equity businesses. Income increased in all geographic regions. Average DVaR increased 16% to 42.0m (2005: 32.0m) significantly below the rate of income growth.

Secondary income increased 33% (41.5m) to 55.4m (2005: 37.0m).

Net trading income increased 61% (1,331m) to 3,739m (2005: 2,231m), with very strong contributions across the Rates and Credit businesses, in particular, commodities, fixed income, equities, credit derivatives and emerging markets.

The performance was driven by higher volumes of client led activity and favourable market conditions. Net investment income increased 63% (216m) to 573m (2005: 413m) driven by investment realisations, primarily in Private Equity, offset by reduced contributions from credit products. Net interest income increased 6% (93m) to 1,179m (2005: 1,065m) driven by a full year contribution from Absa Capital.

Primary income grew 63% (217m) to 520m (2005: 376m). This reflected higher volumes and continued market share gains in a number of key markets, with strong contributions from issuances in bonds, European leveraged loans and convertibles.

Impairment charges of 846m (2005: 111m), including impairment on available for sale assets of 265m (2005: 20m), were 62% lower than prior year reflecting recoveries and the continued benign wholesale credit environment.

Operating expenses increased 15% (1,016m) to 4,009m (2005: 2,053m), reflecting higher performance related costs, increased levels of activity and continued investment across the business. Performance related pay, discretionary investment spend and short-term contractor resource costs represented 60% of operating expenses (2005: 65%). Amortisation of intangible assets principally relates to mortgage service rights obtained as part of the purchase of HomeEq.

Total headcount increased 3,000 during 2006 to 13,200 (2005: 9,900) and included 1,300 from the acquisition of HomeEq. Organic growth was broadly based across all regions and reflected further investments in the front office, systems development and control functions to support continued business expansion.

Financial review

Analysis of results by business

Investment Banking and Investment Management Barclays Global Investors

Who we are

Barclays Global Investors (BGI) is one of the world's largest asset managers and a leading global provider of investment management products and services. We are the global leader in assets and products in the exchange traded funds business, with over 320 funds for institutions and individuals trading globally. BGI's investment philosophy is founded on managing all dimensions of performance; a consistent focus on controlling risk, return and cost.

With a 3,000-plus strong workforce, we currently have over £11m in assets under management, for 3,000 clients around the world.

What we do

BGI offers structured investment strategies such as indexing, global asset allocation and risk controlled active products including hedge funds and provides related investment services such as securities lending, cash management and portfolio transition services.

BGI collaborates with the other Barclays businesses, particularly Barclays Capital and Barclays Wealth, to develop and market products and leverage capabilities to better serve the client base.

Highlights

£1,926^m

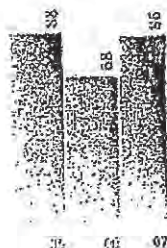
Income

£734^m

Profit before tax

Performance Indicators

Operating income



Average net income



Performance

2007/06

Barclays Global Investors delivered solid growth in profit before tax, which increased 3% (2006: £734m) (2006: £714m). Very strong US Dollar income and strong profit growth was partially offset by the 8% depreciation in the average value of the US Dollar against Sterling.

Income grew 6% (2006: £1,926m) (2006: £1,865m).

Net fee and commission income grew 7% (2006: £1,951m) (2006: £1,861m). This was primarily attributable to increased management fees and securities lending. Incentive fees increased 6% (2006: £1,987m) (2006: £1,861m). Higher asset values, driven by higher market levels and good net new inflows, contributed to the growth in income.

Operating expenses increased 2% (2006: £1,192m) (2006: £1,151m) as a result of significant investment in key product and channel growth initiatives and in infrastructure as well as growth in the underlying business. Operating expenses included charges of £80m (2006: £110m) related to selective support of liquidity products managed in the US. The cost-income ratio rose 10 percentage points to 62% (2006: 57%).

Headcount increased 700 to 3,400 (2006: 2,700). Headcount increased in all geographical regions and across product groups and the support functions, reflecting continued investment to support further growth.

Total assets under management increased 13% (2006: £1,043m) (2006: £927m) comprising £726m of net new assets attributable to the acquisition of Indexchange Investment AG (Indexchange), £666m of favourable market movements and £30m of adverse exchange movements. In US\$ terms assets under management increased 15% (2006: US\$1,043m) (2006: US\$927m) comprising US\$866m of net new assets, US\$230m attributable to acquisition of Indexchange, US\$127m of favourable market movements and US\$29m of positive exchange rate movements.

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Income statement information | | | |
| Net interest (expense)/income | (8) | 10 | 15 |
| Net fee and commission income | 1,936 | 1,651 | 1,297 |
| Net trading income | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| Net investment (expense)/income | (9) | 2 | 4 |
| Principal transactions | (4) | 4 | 6 |
| Other income | 2 | - | - |
| Total income | 1,826 | 1,665 | 1,318 |
| Operating expenses excluding amortisation of intangible assets | (1,184) | (945) | (775) |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | (8) | (5) | (4) |
| Operating expenses | (1,192) | (951) | (779) |
| Profit before tax | 734 | 714 | 540 |
| Balance sheet information | | | |
| Total assets | £89.2bn | £80.5bn | £80.9bn |
| Selected statistical measures | | | |
| Cost:income ratio ^a | 62% | 57% | 59% |
| Risk weighted assets | £ 2.6bn | £ 1.4bn | £ 1.5bn |

a Defined on page 2.

2006/05

Barclays Global Investors delivered another year of outstanding results. Profit before tax increased 27% to £714m (2005: £540m), reflecting very strong income growth and higher operating margins. The performance was broadly based across products, distribution channels and geographies.

Net fee and commission income increased 27% to £1,651m (2005: £1,297m). This growth was attributable to increased management fees, particularly in the iShares and active businesses, and securities lending, offset by lower incentive fees. Incentive fees decreased 32% to £155m (2005: £204m). Higher asset values, driven by higher market levels and good net new inflows, contributed to the growth in income.

Operating expenses increased 22% to £951m (2005: £779m) as a result of significant investment in key growth initiatives, ongoing investment in product development and infrastructure and higher performance-based expenses. The cost:income ratio improved two percentage points to 57% (2005: 59%).

Total headcount rose 400 to 2,700 (2005: 2,300). Headcount increased in all regions, across product groups and the support functions, reflecting continued investment to support strategic initiatives.

Total assets under management increased 6% to £89.2bn (2005: £80.5bn) primarily due to net new inflows of £2.7bn. The positive market move impact of £6.8bn was largely offset by £3.9bn of adverse exchange rate movements. In US\$ terms assets under management increased by US\$30.1bn to US\$1.81tn (2005: US\$1.51tn), comprising US\$6.8bn of net new assets, US\$7.7bn of favourable market movements and US\$5.6bn of positive exchange rate movements.

Financial review Analysis of results by business

Investment Banking and Investment Management Barclays Wealth

Who we are

Barclays Wealth focuses on high net worth, affluent and intermediary clients worldwide. We have over 6,500 staff in 20 countries and have total client assets of £133bn. Barclays Wealth includes the closed life assurance activities of Barclays and Woolwich, and Walbrook, an independent fiduciary services company acquired in 2007.

What we do

Barclays Wealth provides private banking, asset and investment management, stockbroking, offshore banking, wealth structuring and financial planning services.

We work closely with all other parts of the Group to leverage synergies from client relationships and product capabilities, for example, offering world-class investment solutions with institutional quality products and services from Barclays Capital and Barclays Global Investors.

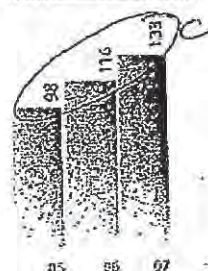
Highlights

Income
£1,287m

Profit before tax
£307m

Performance indicators

Investment assets
£bn



Average return on investment
percentage of total assets



Performance 2007/06

Barclays Wealth profit before tax showed very strong growth of 25% (£307m) to £307m (2006: £245m). Performance was driven by broadly based income growth, reduced redress costs and tight cost control, partially offset by additional volume related costs and increased investment in people and infrastructure to support future growth.

Income increased £1287m (£1274m) to £1287m (2006: £1160m).

Net interest income increased £109m (£39m) to £148m (2006: £392m) reflecting strong growth in both customer deposits and lending. Average deposits grew £133m to £31.2bn (2006: £27.7bn). Average lending grew to £7.4bn (2006: £5.5bn) driven by increased lending to high net worth, affluent and intermediary clients.

Net fee and commission income grew £674m (£65m) to £739m (2006: £674m). This reflected growth in client assets and higher transactional income from increased sales of investment products and solutions.

Principal transactions decreased £101m (£35m) (2006: £159m) as a result of lower growth in the value of unit linked insurance contracts. Net premiums from insurance contracts reduced £18m (£195m) (2006: £210m). These reductions were offset by a lower charge for net claims and benefits incurred under insurance contracts of £152m (2006: £288m).

Operating expenses increased £520m (£973m) (2006: £813m) with greater volume related costs and a significant increase in investment partially offset by efficiency gains and lower customer redress costs of £19m (2006: £67m). Ongoing investment programmes included increased hiring of client facing staff and improvements to infrastructure with the upgrade of technology and operations platforms. The cost income ratio improved 10 percentage points to 68% (2006: 78%).

Total client assets, comprising customer deposits and client investments, increased 14% (£16.4bn) to £133.2bn (2006: £116.1bn) reflecting strong net new asset inflows and the acquisition of Walbrook, an independent fiduciary services company, which completed on 18th May 2007.

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Income statement information | | | |
| Net interest income | 131 | 392 | 346 |
| Net fee and commission income | 739 | 674 | 593 |
| Net trading income | 3 | 2 | - |
| Net investment income | 52 | 154 | 264 |
| Principal transactions | 55 | 156 | 284 |
| Net premiums from insurance contracts | 195 | 210 | 155 |
| Other income | 19 | 16 | 11 |
| Total income | 1,439 | 1,448 | 1,409 |
| Net claims and benefits incurred on insurance contracts | (152) | (288) | (375) |
| Total income net of insurance claims | 1,287 | 1,160 | 1,034 |
| Impairment charges | (7) | (2) | (2) |
| Net income | 1,280 | 1,158 | 1,032 |
| Operating expenses excluding amortisation of intangible assets | (987) | (909) | (888) |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | (6) | (4) | (2) |
| Operating expenses | (973) | (913) | (890) |
| Profit before tax | 307 | 245 | 164 |
| Balance sheet information | | | |
| Loans and advances to customers | £ 9.0bn | £ 6.3bn | £ 5.0bn |
| Customer accounts | £34.4bn | £28.3bn | £26.8bn |
| Total assets | £118.0bn | £15.0bn | £13.4bn |
| Selected statistical measures | | | |
| Cost:income ratio ^a | 75% | 79% | 84% |
| Risk Tendency ^a | £ 10m | £ 10m | £ 5m |
| Risk weighted assets | £ 7.7bn | £ 6.1bn | £ 4.3bn |

a Defined on page 2.

2006/05

Barclays Wealth profit before tax showed very strong growth of 48% (2005: 24%). Performance was driven by broadly based income growth and favourable market conditions. This was partially offset by additional volume related costs and a significant increase in investment in people and infrastructure to support future growth.

Income increased £22 (2005: £1.1bn) to £1.15bn (2005: £1.03bn).

Net interest income increased 13% (2005: 13%) to £131m (2005: £131m) reflecting growth in both customer deposits and customer lending. Average deposits grew 8% (2005: 16%) to £27.7bn (2005: £26.1bn). Average lending grew 13% (2005: 24.7bn) driven by increased lending to offshore and private banking clients. Asset and liability margins were higher relative to 2005.

Net fee and commission income increased 10% (2005: 13%) to £739m (2005: £674m). This reflected growth in client assets and higher transactional income, including increased sales of investment products to high net worth and affluent clients, and higher stockbroking volumes.

Operating expenses increased 8% (2005: 13%) to £973m (2005: £890m) with greater volume related and investment costs more than offsetting efficiency gains. Investment costs included increased hiring of client-facing staff and improvements to infrastructure with the upgrade of technology and operations platforms. The cost:income ratio improved 10 percentage points to 75% (2005: 84%).

Total client assets, comprising customer deposits and client investments, increased 19% (2005: 16%) to £118.0bn (2005: £107.5bn) reflecting good net new asset inflows and favourable market conditions. Multi-Manager assets increased 63% (2005: 16.1bn) to £10.1bn (2005: £6.1bn); this growth included transfers of existing client assets.

Financial review
Analysis of results by business

Head office functions and other operations

Who we are

Head office functions and other operations comprises:

- Head office and central support functions
- Businesses in transition
- Inter segment adjustments.

What we do

Head office and central support functions comprises the following areas: Executive Management, Finance, Treasury, Corporate Affairs, Human Resources, Strategy and Planning, Internal Audit, Legal, Corporate Secretariat, Property, Tax, Compliance and Risk. Costs incurred wholly on behalf of the businesses are recharged to them.

Businesses in transition principally relate to certain lending portfolios that are centrally managed with the objective of maximising recovery from the assets.

Performance

2007/06

Head office functions and other operations loss before tax increased from ~~€169m~~ to ~~€223m~~ (2006: ~~€259m~~).

Group segmental reporting is performed in accordance with Group accounting policies. This means that inter-segment transactions are recorded in each segment as if undertaken on an arm's length basis. Adjustments necessary to eliminate inter-segment transactions are included in Head office functions and other operations.

The impact of such inter-segment adjustments increased ~~€88m~~ to ~~€235m~~ (2006: ~~€147m~~). These adjustments included internal fees for structured capital market activities of ~~€169m~~ (2006: ~~€97m~~) and fees paid to Barclays Capital for debt and equity raising and risk management advice of ~~€65m~~ (2006: ~~€23m~~), both of which increased net fee and commission expense in head office. The impact on the inter-segment adjustments of the timing of the recognition of insurance commissions included in Barclaycard was a reduction in head office income of ~~€26m~~ (2006: ~~€44m~~). This net reduction was reflected in a decrease in net fee and commission income of ~~€162m~~ (2006: ~~€184m~~) and an increase in net premium income of ~~€153m~~ (2006: ~~€140m~~).

Principal transactions decreased to a loss of ~~€233m~~ (2006: ~~€123m~~ profit). 2006 included a ~~€55m~~ profit from a hedge of the expected Asea foreign currency earnings. 2007 included a loss of ~~€33m~~ relating to fair valuation of call options embedded within retail US\$ preference shares arising from widening of own credit spreads.

Operating expenses decreased ~~€35m~~ to ~~€204m~~ (2006: ~~€239m~~). The primary driver of this decrease was the receipt of a break fee relating to the ABN AMRO transaction which, net of transaction costs, reduced expenses by ~~€50m~~. This was partially offset by lower rental income and lower proceeds on property sales.

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Income statement information | | | |
| Net interest income | 128 | 90 | 160 |
| Net fee and commission income | (124) | (301) | (324) |
| Net trading (loss)/income | (86) | 40 | 85 |
| Net investment (expense)/income | (17) | 2 | 8 |
| Principal transactions | (83) | 42 | 33 |
| Net premiums from insurance contracts | 182 | 139 | 72 |
| Other income | 35 | 39 | 24 |
| Total income | (192) | (1) | 25 |
| Impairment (charges)/releases | (3) | 11 | (1) |
| Net income | (195) | 10 | 24 |
| Operating expenses excluding amortisation of intangible assets | (233) | (259) | (349) |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | (1) | (10) | (4) |
| Operating expenses | (234) | (269) | (347) |
| Profit on disposal of associates and joint ventures | 1 | - | - |
| Loss before tax | (120) | (259) | (323) |
| Balance sheet information | | | |
| Total assets | £7.1bn | £7.1bn | £9.3bn |
| Selected statistical measures | | | |
| Risk Tendency ^a | £ 10m | £ 10m | £ 25m |
| Risk weighted assets | £1.6bn | £1.9bn | £4.0bn |

a Defined on page 2.

2006/05

Head office functions and other operations loss before tax decreased to £239m (2005: loss £323m).

Net interest income decreased £80m to £90m (2005: £160m) reflecting a reduction in net interest income in Treasury following the acquisition of Absa Group Limited. Treasury's net interest income also included the hedge ineffectiveness for the period, which together with other related Treasury adjustments amounted to a gain of £11m (2005: £18m) and the cost of hedging the foreign exchange risk on the Group's equity investment in Absa, which amounted to £71m (2005: £37m).

The impact of such inter-segment adjustments reduced £72m to £147m (2005: £219m). These adjustments related to internal loss for structured capital market activities of £67m (2005: £67m) and fees paid to Barclays Capital for capital raising and risk management advice of £23m (2005: £39m), both of which reduce net fees and commission income.

In addition the impact of the timing of the recognition of insurance commissions included in Barclaycard and UK Retail Banking reduced to £41m (2005: £113m). This reduction was reflected in a decrease in net fee and commission income of £189m (2005: £185m) and an increase in net premium income of £140m (2005: £72m).

Principal Transactions decreased £51m to £42m (2005: £33m). 2005 included hedging related gains in Treasury of £80m. 2006 included £33m (2005: £20m) in respect of the economic hedge of the translation exposure arising from Absa foreign currency earnings.

The impairment charge improved £12m to a release of £11m (2005: £11m charge) as a number of workout situations were resolved.

Operating expenses decreased £28m to £269m (2005: £347m) primarily due to the expenses of the 2005 Head office relocation to Canary Wharf not recurring in 2006 (2005: £205m) and the gains of £200m (2005: £4m) from the sale and leaseback of property offset by increased costs, principally driven by major project expenditure including work related to implementing Basel II.

Financial review

Results by nature of income and expense

Results by nature of income and expense

Net interest income

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Cash and balances with central banks | 145 | 91 | 9 |
| Available for sale investments | 2,580 | 2,811 | 2,272 |
| Loans and advances to banks | 1,416 | 803 | 690 |
| Loans and advances to customers | 19,553 | 18,290 | 12,944 |
| Other | 1,608 | 1,710 | 1,317 |
| Interest income | 25,302 | 21,805 | 17,232 |
| Deposits from banks | (2,720) | (2,819) | (2,058) |
| Customer accounts | (4,110) | (3,078) | (2,715) |
| Debt securities in issue | (6,651) | (5,282) | (3,268) |
| Subordinated liabilities | (879) | (777) | (605) |
| Other | (1,336) | (708) | (513) |
| Interest expense | (15,696) | (12,662) | (9,157) |
| Net interest income | 9,610 | 9,143 | 8,075 |

Notes

a For 2005, this reflects the period from 27th July until 31st December 2005.

2007/06

Group net interest income increased 5% to £9,610m (2006: £9,143m) reflecting balance sheet growth across a number of businesses.

Group net interest income reflects structural hedges which function to reduce the impact of the volatility of short-term interest rate movements on equity and customer balances that do not re-price with market rates.

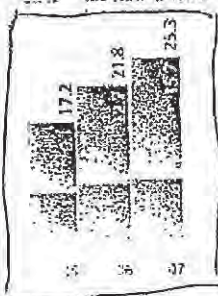
The contribution of structural hedges relative to average base rates decreased to £351m expense (2006: £250m income), largely due to the smoothing effect of the structural hedge on changes in interest rates.

Other interest expense principally includes interest on repurchase agreements and hedging activity.

2006/05

Group net interest income increased 13% to £9,143m (2005: £8,075m). The inclusion of Absa contributed net interest income of £1,138m (2005: £251m). Group net interest income excluding Absa grew

The contribution of the structural hedge decreased to £25m (2005: £145m), largely due to the impact of relatively higher short-term interest rates and lower medium-term rates.



Interest income
Interest expense
Net interest income

Financial review

Results by nature of income and expense

Net fee and commission income

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Brokerage fees | 109 | 70 | 64 |
| Investment management fees | 1,787 | 1,535 | 1,250 |
| Securities lending | 241 | 185 | 151 |
| Banking and credit related fees and commissions | 8,363 | 6,031 | 4,805 |
| Foreign exchange commission | 178 | 104 | 160 |
| Fee and commission income | 8,678 | 8,005 | 6,430 |
| Fee and commission expense | (970) | (828) | (725) |
| Net fee and commission income | 7,708 | 7,177 | 5,705 |

2007/06

Net fee and commission income increased 7% (£531m) to £7,708m (2005: £6,770m).

Fee and commission income rose 8% (£673m) to £8,678m (2005: £6,005m) reflecting increased management and securities lending fees in Barclays Global Investors, increased client assets and higher transactional income in Barclays Wealth and higher income generated from lending fees in Barclays Commercial Bank. Fee income in Barclays Capital increased primarily due to the acquisition of HomeEq.

2006/05

Net fee and commission income increased 26% (£1,472m) to £7,177m (2005: £5,705m). The inclusion of Absa contributed net fee and commission income of £50m (2005: £33m). Group net fee and commission income excluding Absa grew 25% reflecting growth across all businesses.

Fee and commission income rose 24% (£1,575m) to £8,005m (2005: £6,430m). The inclusion of Absa contributed fee and commission income of £45m (2005: £38m). Excluding Absa, fee and commission income grew 18% driven by a broadly based performance across the Group, particularly within Barclays Global Investors.

Fee and commission expense increased 14% (£103m) to £828m (2005: £725m), reflecting the growth in Barclaycard US. Absa contributed fee and commission expense of £46m (2005: £52m).

Principal transactions

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Rates related business | 4,162 | 2,648 | 1,732 |
| Credit related business | (403) | 766 | 589 |
| Net trading income | 3,759 | 3,614 | 2,321 |
| Net gain from disposal of available for sale assets | 580 | 307 | 120 |
| Dividend income | 26 | 15 | 22 |
| Net gain from financial instruments designated at fair value | 293 | 447 | 389 |
| Other investment income | 337 | 193 | 327 |
| Net investment income | 1,216 | 962 | 858 |
| Principal transactions | 4,975 | 4,576 | 3,179 |

2007/06

Principal transactions increased 9% (£399m) to £4,975m (2005: £4,576m).

Net trading income increased 4% (£145m) to £3,759m (2005: £3,614m). The majority of the Group's net trading income arises in Barclays Capital. Growth in the Rates related business reflects very strong performances in fixed income, commodities, foreign exchange, equity and prime services. The Credit related business includes net losses from credit market turbulence and the benefits of widening credit spreads on the fair value of issued notes.

Net investment income increased 26% (£254m) to £1,216m (2005: £862m). The cumulative gain from disposal of available for sale assets increased £254m (£253m) to £580m (2005: £307m) largely as a result of a number of private equity realisations and divestments. Net income from financial instruments designated at fair value decreased by £32m (£154m) largely due to lower growth in the value of linked insurance assets within Barclays Wealth.

Fair value movements on insurance assets included within net investment income contributed £113m (2005: £205m).

2006/05

Net trading income increased 36% (£1,293m) to £3,614m (2005: £2,321m) due to excellent performances in Barclays Capital Rates and Credit businesses, in particular in commodities, fixed income, equities, credit derivatives and emerging markets. This was driven by higher volumes of client-led activity and favourable market conditions. The inclusion of Absa contributed net trading income of £63m (2005: £39m). Group net trading income excluding Absa grew 64%.

Net investment income increased 23% (£104m) to £962m (2005: £858m). The inclusion of Absa contributed net investment income of £14m (2005: £62m). Group net investment income excluding Absa increased 23%.

The cumulative gain from disposal of available for sale assets increased £253m (£187m) to £580m (2005: £307m) driven by investment realisations, primarily in Private Equity.

Fair value movements on certain assets and liabilities have been reported within net trading income or within net investment income depending on the nature of the transaction. Fair value movements on insurance assets included within net investment income contributed £205m (2005: £317m).

Note

a For 2005, this reflects the period from 27th July until 31st December 2005.

Other income

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Increase in fair value of assets held in respect of linked liabilities to customers under investment contracts | 5,592 | 7,417 | 9,234 |
| Increase in liabilities to customers under investment contracts | (6,592) | (7,417) | (9,234) |
| Property rentals | 63 | 55 | 54 |
| Loss on part disposal of Monument credit card portfolio | (27) | - | - |
| Other | 162 | 159 | 83 |
| Other income | 188 | 214 | 147 |

Certain asset management products offered to institutional clients by Barclays Global Investors are recognised as investment contracts. Accordingly the invested assets and the related liabilities to investors are held at fair value and changes in those fair values are reported within other income.

Impairment charges and other credit provisions

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Impairment charges on loans and advances | | | |
| - New and increased impairment allowances | 2,871 | 2,722 | 2,129 |
| - Releases | (338) | (589) | (333) |
| - Recoveries | (227) | (259) | (222) |
| Impairment charges on loans and advances | 2,306 | 2,074 | 1,574 |
| Other credit provisions | | | |
| Charges/(credits) in respect of undrawn contractually committed facilities and guarantees | 478 | (8) | (7) |
| Impairment charges on loans and advances and other credit provisions | 2,782 | 2,068 | 1,567 |
| Impairment charges on available for sale assets | 13 | 85 | 4 |
| Impairment charges and other credit provisions | 2,795 | 2,154 | 1,571 |
| Impairment charges and other credit provisions on ABS CDO Super Senior and other credit market exposures included above: | | | |
| Impairment charges on loans and advances | 313 | - | - |
| Charges in respect of undrawn facilities | 469 | - | - |
| Impairment charges and other credit provisions on ABS CDO Super senior and other credit market positions | 782 | - | - |

2007/06

Total impairment charges and other credit provisions increased 10% (2006: £2,154m) to £2,795m (2007: £2,795m).

Impairment charges on loans and advances and other credit provisions increased 5% (£714m) to £2,795m (2006: £2,668m) reflecting charges of £278m against ABS CDO Super Senior and other credit market positions.

Impairment charges on loans and advances and other credit provisions as a percentage of Group total loans and advances increased to 0.77% (2006: 0.63%); total loans and advances grew 23% to £359,250m (2006: £291,551m).

Retail

Retail impairment charges on loans and advances fell 1% (£204m) to £1,605m (2006: £1,809m). Retail impairment charges as a percentage of period end total loans and advances reduced to 0.52% (2006: 0.37%); total retail loans and advances increased 48% to £154,052m (2006: £103,350m).

Barclaycard impairment charges improved £130m (£223m) to £93m (2006: £1,057m) reflecting reduced flows into delinquency, lower levels of arrears and lower charge-offs in UK Cards. We made changes to our impairment methodologies to standardise our approach and in anticipation of Basel II. The net positive impact of these changes in methodology was offset by the increase in impairment charges in Barclaycard International and secured consumer lending.

Impairment charges in UK Retail Banking decreased by £76m (12%) to £559m (2006: £635m), reflecting lower charges in unsecured consumer lending and Local Business driven by improved collection processes, reduced flows into delinquency, lower arrears trends and stable charge-offs. In UK Home Finance, asset quality remained strong and mortgage charges remained negligible. Mortgage delinquencies as a percentage of outstandings remained stable and amounts charged off were low.

Impairment charges in International Retail and Commercial Banking - excluding Absa rose by £98m (93%) to £79m (2006: £41m) reflecting very strong balance sheet growth in 2006 and 2007 and the impact of lower releases in 2007.

Arrears in some of International Retail and Commercial Banking - Absa's retail portfolios deteriorated in 2007, driven by interest rate increases in 2006 and 2007 resulting in pressure on collections.

Wholesale and corporate

Wholesale and corporate impairment charges on loans and advances increased £485m to £701m (2006: £265m). Wholesale and corporate impairment charges as a percentage of period end total loans and advances increased to 0.31% (2006: 0.15%); total loans and advances grew 27% to £225,228m (2006: £177,211m).

Barclays Capital impairment charges and other credit provisions of £346m included a charge of £78m against ABS CDO Super Senior and other credit market exposures and £58m net of fees relating to drawn leveraged finance positions.

The impairment charge in Barclays Commercial Bank increased £38m (15%) to £250m (2006: £252m) primarily due to higher impairment charges in Larger Business, partially offset by a lower charge in Medium Business due to tightening of the lending criteria.

Financial review

Results by nature of income and expense

Impairment charges (continued)

2006/05

Total impairment charges increased 37% (£583m) to £2,154m (2005: £1,571m).

Impairment charges on loans and advances and other credit provisions increased 25% (£301m) to £2,068m (2005: £1,567m). Excluding Absa, the increase was 25% (£306m) and largely reflected the continued challenging credit environment in UK unsecured retail lending through 2006. The wholesale and corporate sectors remained stable with a low level of defaults.

The Group impairment charges on loans and advances and other credit provisions as a percentage of year-end total loans and advances of £16.56% (2005: £16.45%) increased to 16.55% (2005: 16.52%).

Retail

Retail impairment charges on loans and advances and other credit provisions increased to £1,809m (2005: £1,254m), including £13m (2005: £7m) in respect of Absa. Retail impairment charges on loans and advances amounted to £30% (2005: 19.3%) as a percentage of year-end total loans and advances of £39,350m (2005: £134,420m), including balances in Absa of £20,990m (2005: £20,830m).

In the UK retail businesses, household cash flows remained under pressure leading to a deterioration in consumer credit quality. High debt levels and changing social attitudes to bankruptcy and debt default contributed to higher levels of insolvency and increased impairment charges. In UK cards and unsecured consumer lending, the flows of new delinquencies and the levels of arrears balances declined in the second half of 2006, reflecting more selective customer recruitment, limit management and improved collections.

In UK Home Finance, delinquencies were flat and amounts charged-off remained low. The weaker external environment led to increased credit delinquency in Local Business, where there were both higher balances on caution status and higher flows into delinquency, which both stabilised towards the year end.

Wholesale and corporate

In the wholesale and corporate businesses, impairment charges on loans and advances and other credit provisions decreased to £59m (2005: £313m), including £27m (2005: £10m) in respect of Absa. The fall was due mainly to recoveries in Barclays Capital as a result of the benign wholesale credit environment. This was partially offset by an increase in Barclays Commercial Bank, reflecting higher charges in Medium Business and growth in lending balances.

The wholesale and corporate impairment charge was 0.15% (2005: 0.19%) as a percentage of year-end total loans and advances to banks and to customers of £177,211m (2005: £169,031m), including balances in Absa of £1,293m (2005: £9,73m).

In Absa, impairment charges increased to £12m (2005: £20m) reflecting a full year of business and normalisation of credit conditions in South Africa following a period of low interest rates.

Impairment on available for sale assets

The total impairment charges in Barclays Capital included losses of £83m (2005: £6m) on an available for sale portfolio where an intention to sell caused the losses to be viewed as other than temporary in nature. These losses in 2006 were primarily due to interest rate movements, rather than credit deterioration, with a corresponding gain arising on offsetting derivatives recognised in net trading income.

Notes

1 For 2005, this reflects the period from 27th July until 31st December 2005.

Operating expenses

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Staff costs (refer to page 37) | 8,405 | 8,169 | 6,318 |
| Administrative expenses | 3,973 | 3,980 | 3,443 |
| Depreciation | 457 | 455 | 362 |
| Impairment loss – property and equipment and intangible assets | 16 | 21 | 9 |
| Operating lease rentals | 414 | 345 | 316 |
| Gain on property disposals | (257) | (432) | - |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | 195 | 133 | 79 |
| Operating expenses | 13,199 | 12,674 | 10,527 |

2007/06

Operating expenses grew 4% (£525m) to £13,199m (2006: £12,674m). The increase was driven by growth of 3% (£235m) in staff costs to £8,405m (2006: £8,169m) and lower gains on property disposals.

Administrative expenses remained flat at £3,973m (2006: £3,980m) reflecting good cost control across all businesses.

Operating lease rentals increased 20% (£69m) to £414m (2006: £345m), primarily due to increased property held under operating leases.

Operating expenses were reduced by gains from the sale of property of £257m (2006: £432m) as the Group continued the sale and leaseback of some of its freehold portfolio, principally in UK Banking.

Amortisation of intangible assets increased 47% (£57m) to £195m (2006: £133m) primarily reflecting the amortisation of mortgage servicing rights resulting to the acquisition of HomeEq in November 2006.

The Group cost-income ratio improved 16 percentage points to 57% (2006: 58%).

2006/05

Operating expenses increased 20% (£2,147m) to £12,674m (2005: £10,527m). The inclusion of Absa contributed operating expenses of £1,498m (2005: £564m). Group operating expenses excluding Absa grew 13%, reflecting a higher level of business activity and an increase in performance related pay.

Administrative expenses increased 16% (£537m) to £3,980m (2005: £3,443m). The inclusion of Absa contributed administrative expenses of £579m (2005: £237m). Group administrative expenses excluding Absa grew 7% principally as a result of higher business activity in UK Banking and Barclays Capital.

Operating lease rentals increased 6% (£29m) to £345m (2005: £316m). The inclusion of Absa contributed operating lease rentals of £73m (2005: £27m), which more than offset the absence of double occupancy costs incurred in 2005, associated with the Head office relocation to Canary Wharf.

Operating expenses were reduced by gains from the sale of property of £432m (2005: £257m) as the Group took advantage of historically low yields on property to realise gains on some of its freehold portfolio.

Amortisation of intangible assets increased 72% (£57m) to £133m (2005: £79m) primarily reflecting the inclusion of Absa for the full year.

The Group cost-income ratio improved to 58% (2005: 61%). This reflected improved productivity.

Staff costs

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Salaries and accrued incentive payments | 6,993 | 6,635 | 6,036 |
| Social security costs | 508 | 502 | 412 |
| Pension costs | | | |
| – defined contribution plans | 141 | 128 | 79 |
| – defined benefit plans | 150 | 282 | 271 |
| Other post-retirement benefits | 10 | 30 | 27 |
| Other | 603 | 592 | 496 |
| Staff costs | 8,405 | 8,169 | 6,318 |

2007/06

Staff costs increased 3% (£236m) to £8,405m (2006: £8,169m).

Salaries and accrued incentive payments rose 5% (£358m) to £6,993m (2006: £6,635m) reflecting increased permanent and fixed term staff worldwide.

Defined benefit plans pension costs decreased 47% (£182m) to £150m (2006: £282m). This was mainly due to lower service costs.

2006/05

Staff costs increased 29% (£1,851m) to £8,169m (2005: £6,318m). The inclusion of Absa contributed staff costs of £659m (2005: £285m). Group staff costs excluding Absa rose 24%.

Salaries and accrued incentive payments rose 32% (£1,599m) to £6,993m (2005: £6,036m) principally due to increased performance related payments and the full year inclusion of Absa. The inclusion of Absa contributed salaries and incentive payments of £615m (2005: £278m). Group salaries and accrued incentive payments excluding Absa rose 28%.

Note

2 For 2005, this reflects the period from 27th July until 31st December 2005.

Staff numbers

| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| UK Banking | 41,200 | 42,600 | 41,100 |
| UK Retail Banking | 32,800 | 34,500 | 33,300 |
| Barclays Commercial Bank | 8,400 | 8,100 | 7,800 |
| Barclaycard | 7,800 | 8,500 | 7,700 |
| IRCB | 58,300 | 47,800 | 45,200 |
| IRCB – ex Absa | 22,100 | 13,900 | 12,500 |
| IRCB – Absa | 36,200 | 33,900 | 32,700 |
| Barclays Capital | 16,200 | 13,200 | 9,900 |
| Barclays Global Investors | 3,400 | 2,700 | 2,300 |
| Barclays Wealth | 6,900 | 6,600 | 6,200 |
| Head office functions and other operations | 1,100 | 1,200 | 600 |
| Total Group permanent staff worldwide | 134,900 | 122,600 | 113,300 |

2007/06

Staff numbers are shown on a full-time equivalent basis. Total Group permanent and fixed term contract staff comprised 61,600 (2006: 62,400) in the UK and 73,000 (2006: 60,200) internationally.

UK Retail Banking headcount decreased 1,700 to 32,800 (2006: 34,500), due to efficiency initiatives in back office operations and the transfer of operations personnel to Barclays Commercial Bank. Barclays Commercial Bank headcount increased 300 to 8,400 (2006: 8,100) due to the transfer of operations personnel from UK Retail Banking and additional investment in front line staff to drive improved geographical coverage.

Barclaycard staff numbers decreased 700 to 7,800 (2006: 8,500), due to efficiency initiatives implemented across the UK operation and the sale of part of the Monument card portfolio, partially offset by an increase in the international cards businesses.

International Retail and Commercial Banking staff numbers increased 10,500 to 58,300 (2006: 47,800). International Retail and Commercial Banking – excluding Absa staff numbers increased 8,200 to 22,100 (2006: 13,900) due to growth in the distribution network. International Retail and Commercial Banking – Absa staff numbers increased 2,300 to 36,200 (2006: 33,900), reflecting growth in the business and distribution network.

Barclays Capital staff numbers increased 3,000 to 16,200 (2006: 13,200) including 800 from the acquisition of EquiFirst. This reflected further investment in the front office, systems development and control functions to support continued business expansion. The majority of organic growth was in Asia Pacific.

Barclays Global Investors' staff numbers increased 700 to 3,400 (2006: 2,700). Headcount increased in all geographical regions and across product groups and the support functions, reflecting continued investment to support further growth.

Barclays Wealth staff numbers increased 300 to 6,900 (2006: 6,600) principally due to the acquisition of Walbrook and increased client facing professionals.

Financial review

Results by nature of income and expense

Staff numbers (continued)

2006/05

Total Group permanent and contract staff comprised 62,400 (2005: 59,100) in the UK and 60,200 (2005: 54,200) internationally.

UK Banking staff numbers increased 1,500 to 42,500 (2005: 41,100), primarily reflecting the inclusion in UK Retail Banking of mortgage processing staff involved in activities previously outsourced.

Barclaycard staff numbers rose 800 to 8,500 (2005: 7,700), reflecting growth of 400 in Barclaycard US and increases in operations and customer-facing staff in the UK.

International Retail and Commercial Banking increased staff numbers 2,600 to 47,800 (2005: 45,200). International Retail and Commercial Banking – excluding Absa increased staff numbers by 1,400 to 13,900 (2005: 12,500), mainly due to growth in continental Europe and Africa. International Retail and Commercial Banking – Absa increased staff numbers by 1,200 to 33,900 (2005: 32,700), reflecting continued growth in the business.

Barclays Capital staff numbers increased 3,300 during 2006 to 13,200 (2005: 9,900) and included 1,300 from the acquisition of HmEq. Organic growth was broadly based across all regions and reflected further investments in the front office, systems development and control functions to support continued business expansion.

Barclays Global Investors increased staff numbers 400 to 2,700 (2005: 2,300) spread across regions, product groups and support functions, reflecting continued investment to support strategic initiatives.

Barclays Wealth staff numbers rose 400 to 6,600 (2005: 6,200) to support the continued expansion of the business, including increased hiring of client-facing staff.

Head office functions and other operations staff numbers grew 300 to 1,200 (2005: 900) primarily reflecting the centralisation of functional activity and the increased regulatory environment and audit demands as a result of the expansion of business areas.

Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Profit from associates | 33 | 53 | 53 |
| Profit/(loss) from joint ventures | 9 | (7) | (8) |
| Share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures | 42 | 46 | 45 |

2007/06

The overall share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures decreased £4m to £42m (2006: £46m). The share of results from associates decreased £20m mainly due to the sale of FirstCaribbean International Bank (2006: £21m) at the end of 2006, partially offset by an increased contribution from private equity associates. The share of results from joint ventures increased by £16m mainly due to the contribution from private equity entities.

2006/05

The share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures increased 2% (£1m) to £46m (2005: £45m).

Of the £46m share of post-tax results of associates and joint ventures, FirstCaribbean International Bank contributed £41m (2005: £37m).

Profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures | 28 | 328 | - |

2007/06

The profit on disposal in 2007 relates mainly to the disposal of the Group's shareholdings in Gabelli Property Solutions (£8m) and Internet Global Services (£13m).

2006/05

The profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures includes £247m profit on disposal of FirstCaribbean International Bank and £76m from the sale of interests in vehicle leasing and vendor finance businesses.

Tax

The overall tax charge is explained in the following table:

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Profit before tax | 7,076 | 7,136 | 5,280 |
| Tax charge at average UK corporation tax rate of 30% | 2,123 | 2,141 | 1,584 |
| Prior year adjustments | (37) | 24 | (133) |
| Differing overseas tax rates | (77) | (17) | (35) |
| Non-taxable gains and income (including amounts offset by unrecognised tax losses) | (136) | (353) | (129) |
| Share-based payments | 72 | 27 | (12) |
| Deferred tax assets not previously recognised | (158) | (4) | (7) |
| Change in tax rates | 24 | 4 | 3 |
| Other non-allowable expenses | 170 | 159 | 168 |
| Overall tax charge | 1,981 | 1,941 | 1,439 |
| Effective tax rate | 28% | 27% | 27% |

2007/06

The tax charge for the period was based on a UK corporation tax rate of 30% (2006: 30%). The effective rate of tax for 2007, based on profit before tax, was 28.0% (2006: 27.2%). The effective tax rate differed from 30% as it took account of the different tax rates applied to profits earned outside the UK, non-taxable gains and income and adjustments to prior year tax provisions. The forthcoming change in the UK rate of corporation tax from 30% to 28% on 1st April 2008 led to an additional tax charge in 2007 as a result of its effect on the Group's net deferred tax asset. The effective tax rate for 2007 was higher than the 2006 rate, principally because there was a higher level of profit on disposals of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures offset by losses or exemptions in 2006.

2006/05

The charge for the period is based upon a UK corporation tax rate of 30% for the calendar year 2006 (2005: 30%). The effective rate of tax for 2006, based on profit before tax, was 27.2% (2005: 27.3%). The effective tax rate differs from 30% as it takes account of the different tax rates which are applied to the profits earned outside the UK, disallowable expenditure, certain non-taxable gains and adjustments to prior year tax provisions. The effective tax rate for 2006 is consistent with the prior period. The tax charge for the year includes £1,234m (2005: £961m) arising in the UK and £707m (2005: £478m) arising overseas.

The profit on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures of £323m was substantially offset by losses or exemptions. The effective tax rate on profit before business disposals was 28.5%.

Financial review

Total assets and risk weighted assets

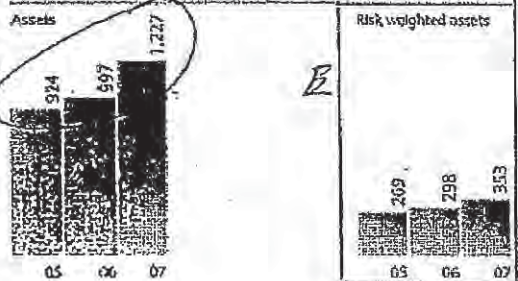
Total assets

| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £m | £m | £m |
| UK Banking | 161,777 | 147,576 | 137,981 |
| UK Retail Banking | 97,833 | 81,692 | 73,066 |
| Barclays Commercial Bank | 73,944 | 65,884 | 59,915 |
| Barclaycard | 22,164 | 20,052 | 18,256 |
| IRCB | 89,457 | 68,538 | 63,383 |
| IRCB - ex Absa | 52,204 | 38,191 | 34,022 |
| IRCB - Absa | 37,253 | 30,397 | 29,361 |
| Barclays Capital | 839,662 | 657,922 | 601,193 |
| Barclays Global Investors | 89,224 | 80,515 | 80,900 |
| Barclays Wealth | 18,024 | 15,022 | 13,401 |
| Head office functions and other operations | 7,053 | 7,092 | 9,263 |
| Total assets | 1,227,961 | 996,787 | 924,957 |

Risk weighted assets

| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £m | £m | £m |
| UK Banking | 98,836 | 92,561 | 87,971 |
| UK Retail Banking | 45,992 | 43,020 | 40,845 |
| Barclays Commercial Bank | 53,844 | 49,961 | 47,126 |
| Barclaycard | 18,929 | 17,035 | 13,825 |
| IRCB | 63,269 | 40,910 | 41,069 |
| IRCB - ex Absa | 29,667 | 20,092 | 20,235 |
| IRCB - Absa | 23,602 | 20,728 | 20,834 |
| Barclays Capital | 169,124 | 137,635 | 116,677 |
| Barclays Global Investors | 1,994 | 1,375 | 1,456 |
| Barclays Wealth | 7,692 | 8,077 | 4,305 |
| Head office functions and other operations | 1,632 | 1,920 | 4,045 |
| Risk weighted assets | 353,478 | 297,833 | 269,148 |

Total assets and risk weighted assets £bn



Note

a Risk weighted assets are calculated under Basel I

2007/06

Total assets increased 23% to £1,227.4bn (2006: £996.8bn). Risk weighted assets increased 19% to £353.5bn (2006: £297.8bn). Loans and advances to customers that have been securitised increased £4.3bn to £28.7bn (2006: £24.4bn). The increase in risk weighted assets since 2006 reflected a rise of £11.6bn in the banking book and a rise of £24.0bn in the trading book.

UK Retail Banking total assets increased 7% to £97.8bn (2006: £81.7bn). This was mainly attributable to growth in mortgage balances. Risk weighted assets increased by 7% to £45.0bn (2006: £43.0bn) with growth in mortgages partially offset by an increase in securitised balances and other reductions.

Barclays Commercial Bank total assets grew 12% to £73.9bn (2006: £65.9bn) driven by good growth across lending products. Risk weighted assets increased 6% to £53.8bn (2006: £49.9bn), reflecting asset growth partially offset by increased regulatory netting and an increase in securitised balances.

Barclaycard total assets increased 10% to £22.2bn (2006: £20.1bn). Risk weighted assets increased 6% to £18.9bn (2006: £17.0bn), primarily reflecting the increase in total assets, redemption of securitisation transactions, partially offset by changes to the treatment of regulatory associates and the sale of part of the Mondragon card portfolio.

International Retail and Commercial Banking - excluding Absa total assets grew 17% to £22.2bn (2006: £18.2bn). This growth was mainly driven by increases in retail mortgages and unsecured lending in Western Europe and increases in unsecured lending in Emerging Markets. Risk weighted assets increased 6% to £18.9bn (2006: £17.0bn), reflecting asset growth and a change in project mix.

International Retail and Commercial Banking - Absa total assets increased 10% to £23.6bn (2006: £20.4bn), primarily driven by increases in mortgages, credit cards and commercial property finance. Risk weighted assets increased 6% to £23.6bn (2006: £20.7bn), reflecting balance sheet growth.

Barclays Capital total assets rose 23% to £839.7bn (2006: £687.9bn). Derivative assets increased £109.8bn primarily due to movements across a range of market indices. This was accompanied by a corresponding increase in derivative liabilities. The increase in non-derivative assets reflects an expansion of the business across a number of asset classes, combined with an increase in drawn leveraged loan positions and mortgage-related assets. Risk weighted assets increased 16% to £169.1bn (2006: £147.6bn) reflecting growth in fixed income, equities and credit derivatives.

Barclays Global Investors total assets increased 11% to £89.2bn (2006: £80.5bn), mainly attributable to growth in certain asset management products recognised as investment contracts. The majority of total assets relates to asset management products with equal and offsetting balances reflected within liabilities to customers. Risk weighted assets increased 4% to £1.9bn (2006: £1.4bn) mainly attributable to overall growth in the balance sheet and the mix of securities lending activity.

Barclays Wealth total assets increased 20% to £18.0bn (2006: £15.0bn) reflecting strong growth in lending to high net worth, affluent and intermediary clients. Risk weighted assets increased 26% to £7.7bn (2006: £6.1bn) reflecting the increase in lending.

Head office functions and other operations total assets remained flat at £7.1bn (2006: £7.1bn). Risk weighted assets decreased 16% to £1.6bn (2006: £1.9bn).

2006/05

Total assets increased 8% to £286.8bn (2005: £264.4bn). Risk weighted assets increased 11% to £297.8bn (2005: £268.1bn). Loans and advances to customers that have been securitised increased £5.8bn to £24.4bn (2005: £18.6bn). The increase in risk weighted assets since 2005 reflects a rise of £18.1bn in the banking book and a rise of £10.9bn in the trading book.

UK Retail Banking total assets increased 6% to £81.7bn (2005: £78.1bn). This was mainly attributable to growth in mortgage balances. Risk weighted assets increased 6% to £83.0bn (2005: £78.0bn) also primarily reflecting the growth in mortgage balances.

Barclays Commercial Bank total assets increased 10% to £55.9bn (2005: £50.9bn) reflecting good growth across short, medium and long term lending products. Risk weighted assets increased 6% to £50.1bn (2005: £47.1bn), reflecting asset growth and increased regulatory netting.

Barclaycard total assets increased 10% to £20.1bn (2005: £18.2bn) driven by growth in lending balances in the international businesses and FirstPlus. Risk weighted assets increased 8% to £17.0bn (2005: £15.6bn), primarily reflecting the increase in total assets and lower securitised balances.

International Retail and Commercial Banking-excluding Absa total assets increased 12% to £39.2bn (2005: £34.0bn) mainly reflecting increase in mortgage and other lending. Risk weighted assets remained flat at £20.1bn (2005: £20.2bn) with balance sheet growth offset by the sale of FirstCaribbean International Bank.

International Retail and Commercial Banking-Absa total assets increased 3% to £30.4bn (2005: £29.1bn). Risk weighted assets remained flat at £20.7bn (2005: £20.6bn). This reflects very strong growth in Rand terms assets offset by a 24% decline in the value of the Rand. In Rand terms assets grew 31% to R41.7bn (2005: R31.9bn) and risk weighted assets grew 25% to R26.4bn (2005: R22.7bn) due to strong growth in mortgage lending along with growth in corporate lending.

Barclays Capital total assets increased 9% to £57.5bn (2005: £50.2bn). This reflected continued expansion of the business with growth in reverse repurchase agreements, debt securities and traded equity securities. Risk weighted assets increased 18% to £37.6bn (2005: £31.6bn) in line with risk, driven by the growth in equity derivatives, credit derivatives and fixed income.

Barclays Global Investors total assets remained flat at £50.9bn (2005: £50.9bn). The majority of total assets relates to asset management products with equal and offsetting balances reflected within liabilities to customers. Risk weighted assets decreased 1% to £3.4bn (2005: £3.5bn).

Barclays Wealth total assets increased 12% to £15.0bn (2005: £13.4bn) reflecting strong growth in lending to high net worth, affluent and intermediary clients. Risk weighted assets increased 42% to £8.1bn (2005: £4.3bn) above the rate of balance sheet growth driven by changes in the mix of lending and growth in guarantees.

Head office functions and other operations total assets decreased 24% to £7.1bn (2005: £9.3bn). Risk weighted assets decreased 63% to £1.9bn (2005: £4.0bn).

Financial review Capital management

Total shareholders' equity

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Barclays PLC Group | | | |
| Called up share capital | 1,651 | 1,634 | 1,623 |
| Share premium account | 55 | 5,818 | 5,950 |
| Available for sale reserve | 154 | 132 | 225 |
| Cash flow hedging reserve | 28 | (230) | 70 |
| Capital redemption reserve | 384 | 308 | 309 |
| Other capital reserve | 617 | 617 | 617 |
| Currency translation reserve | (307) | (438) | 156 |
| Other reserves | 874 | 380 | 1,377 |
| Retained earnings | 20,970 | 12,169 | 8,957 |
| Less: Treasury shares | (250) | (212) | (181) |
| Shareholders' equity excluding minority interests | 23,291 | 19,799 | 17,426 |
| Minority interests | 9,185 | 7,591 | 7,804 |
| Total shareholders' equity | 32,476 | 27,390 | 24,430 |

2007/06

Total shareholders' equity increased by £5,086m to £32,476m (2006: £27,390m).

Called up share capital comprises £600 million (2006: £535 million) ordinary shares of £5 each and £1 million (2006: £1 million) staff shares of £1 each. Called up share capital increased by £17m representing the nominal value of shares issued to Temasek Holdings, China Development Bank (CDB) and employees under share option plans largely offset by a reduction in nominal value arising from share buy-backs. Share premium reduced by £5,762m due to reclassification of £7,223m of retained earnings resulting from the High Court approved cancellation of share premium was partly offset by additional premium arising on the issuance to CDB and on employee options. The capital redemption reserve increased by £756m representing the nominal value of the share buy-backs.

Retained earnings increased by £8,801m. Increases primarily arose from profit attributable to equity holders of the parent of £4,417m, the reclassification of share premium of £2,223m and the proceeds of the Temasek issuances in excess of nominal value of £941m. Reductions primarily arose from external dividends paid of £2,079m and the total cost of share repurchases of £1,803m.

Movements in other reserves, except the capital redemption reserve, reflect the relevant amounts recorded in the consolidated statement of recognised income and expense on page 162.

Minority interests increased £1,594m to £9,185m (2006: £7,591m). The increase was primarily driven by preference share issuances of £1,322m and an increase in the minority interest in Absa of £225m.

The Group's authority to buy-back equity shares was renewed at the 2007 AGM.

2006/05

Total shareholders' equity increased by £2,950m to £27,390m (2005: £24,430m).

Called up share capital and share premium increased by £11m and £168m respectively representing the issue of shares to employees under share option plans.

Retained earnings increased by £3,212m primarily reflecting profit attributable to equity holders of the parent of £2,571m partly offset by dividends paid of £1,771m.

Movements in other reserves reflect the relevant amounts recorded in the consolidated statement of recognised income and expense.

Minority interests increased £87m primarily reflecting the issuance of preference shares by Barclays Bank PLC and Absa.

Barclays Bank PLC

Preference shares issued by Barclays Bank PLC are included within share capital and share premium in the Barclays Bank PLC Group but represent minority interests in the Barclays PLC Group. Certain issuances of reserve capital instruments and capital notes by Barclays Bank PLC are included within other shareholders' equity in the Barclays Bank PLC Group but represent minority interests in Barclays PLC Group.

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Barclays Bank PLC Group | | | |
| Called up share capital | 2,382 | 2,363 | 2,348 |
| Share premium account | 10,751 | 9,452 | 8,992 |
| Available for sale reserve | 111 | 184 | 267 |
| Cash flow hedging reserve | 23 | (230) | 70 |
| Currency translation reserve | (307) | (438) | 166 |
| Other reserves | (170) | (484) | 483 |
| Other shareholders' equity | 2,587 | 2,534 | 2,490 |
| Retained earnings | 14,222 | 11,556 | 8,462 |
| Shareholders' equity excluding minority interests | 29,872 | 25,421 | 22,665 |
| Minority interests | 1,949 | 1,685 | 1,578 |
| Total shareholders' equity | 31,821 | 27,106 | 24,243 |

Capital ratios

| | Basel II | Basel I | | Basel I | | Basel I | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| | 2007 | 2007 | | 2006 | | 2005 | |
| | Barclays PLC Group | Barclays PLC Group | Barclays Bank PLC Group | Barclays PLC Group | Barclays Bank PLC Group | Barclays PLC Group | Barclays Bank PLC Group |
| Capital ratios | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Tier 1 ratio | 7.6 | 7.8 | 7.5 | 7.7 | 7.5 | 7.0 | 6.9 |
| Risk asset ratio | 11.2 | 12.1 | 11.8 | 11.7 | 11.5 | 11.3 | 11.2 |
| Risk weighted assets | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Banking book | | | | | | | |
| on-balance sheet | n/a | 231,496 | 231,491 | 197,979 | 197,979 | 190,808 | 180,808 |
| off-balance sheet | n/a | 32,820 | 32,626 | 33,821 | 33,821 | 31,351 | 31,351 |
| Associates and joint ventures | n/a | 1,354 | 1,354 | 2,072 | 2,072 | 3,914 | 3,914 |
| Total banking book | 244,474 | 265,470 | 265,465 | 233,872 | 233,872 | 216,073 | 216,073 |
| Trading book | | | | | | | |
| Market risks | 39,812 | 36,265 | 36,265 | 30,291 | 30,291 | 23,215 | 23,215 |
| Counterparty and settlement risks | 41,203 | 61,741 | 61,741 | 33,670 | 33,670 | 29,859 | 29,859 |
| Total trading book | 81,015 | 98,006 | 98,006 | 63,961 | 63,961 | 53,075 | 53,075 |
| Operational risk | 28,389 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Total risk weighted assets | 353,878 | 353,476 | 353,471 | 297,833 | 297,833 | 269,148 | 269,148 |

Minimum requirements under the FSA's Basel rules are expressed as a ratio of capital resources to risk weighted assets (Risk Asset Ratio). Risk weighted assets are a function of risk weights applied to the Group's assets using calculations developed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision.

Basel I

At 31st December 2007, the Tier 1 capital ratio was 7.6% and the risk asset ratio was 11.2%. From 31st December 2006, total net capital resources rose £7.9bn and risk weighted assets increased £55.6bn.

Tier 1 capital rose £4.1bn, including £2.3bn arising from profits attributable to equity holders of the parent net of dividends paid. Minority interests within Tier 1 capital increased £2.7bn primarily due to the issuance of reserve capital instruments and preference shares. The deduction for goodwill and intangible assets increased by £1.0bn. Tier 2 capital increased £3.1bn mainly as a result of an increase of £3.0bn of dated loan capital.

Basel II

Under Basel II, effective from 1st January 2008, the Group has been granted approval by the FSA to adopt the advanced approaches to credit and operational risk management. Pillar 1 risk weighted assets will be generated using the Group's risk models. Pillar 1 minimum capital requirements under Basel II pro Pillar 1 risk weighted assets multiplied by 8%, the internationally agreed minimum ratio.

Under Pillar 2 of Basel II, the Group is subject to an overall regulatory capital requirement (expressed in £ terms) based on individual capital guidance ('ICG') received from the FSA. The ICG imposes additional capital requirements in excess of Pillar 1 minimum capital requirements. Barclays received its ICG from the FSA in December 2007.

Risk weighted assets calculated on a Basel II basis are broadly in line with risk weighted assets calculated on a Basel I basis. A reduction in credit and counterparty risk weighted assets of £31.5bn more than offset the identification of capital equivalent risk weighted assets of £25.4bn attributable to operational risk. The reduced risk weighted assets attributable to credit risk were mainly driven by recognition of the low risk profile of first charge residential mortgages in UK Retail Banking and Abse and the use of internal models to assess exposures to counterparty risk in the trading book. These were partially offset by higher counterparty risk weightings in emerging markets and greater recognition of undrawn commitments.

Compared to Basel I, deductions from Tier 1 and Tier 2 capital under Basel II include additional amounts relating to expected loss and securitisations. For advanced portfolios, any excess of expected loss over impairment allowances is deducted half from Tier 1 and half from Tier 2 capital. Deductions relating to securitisation transactions, which are made from total capital under Basel I, are deducted half from Tier 1 and half from Tier 2 capital under Basel II.

For portfolios treated under the standardised approach, the inclusion of collectively assessed impairment allowances in Tier 2 capital remains the same under Basel II. Collectively assessed impairment allowances against exposures treated under Basel II advanced approaches are not eligible for direct inclusion in Tier 2 capital.

Financial review
Capital resources and deposits

Total net capital resources

| | Basel II 2007 £m | Basel I 2007 £m | | Basel I 2006 £m | | Basel I 2005 £m | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Barclays PLC Group | Barclays PLC Group | Barclays Bank PLC Group | Barclays PLC Group | Barclays Bank PLC Group | Barclays PLC Group | Barclays Bank PLC Group |
| Capital resources (as defined for regulatory purposes) | | | | | | | |
| Tier 1 | | | | | | | |
| Called up share capital | 1,651 | 1,651 | 2,382 | 1,634 | 2,363 | 1,623 | 2,348 |
| Eligible reserves | 22,939 | 22,526 | 25,615 | 10,608 | 21,700 | 16,837 | 18,646 |
| Minority interests | 10,551 | 10,551 | 5,857 | 7,899 | 4,528 | 5,634 | 3,700 |
| Tier One Notes | 699 | 699 | 699 | 909 | 909 | 681 | 581 |
| Less: Intangible assets | (8,191) | (8,191) | (8,191) | (7,045) | (7,045) | (7,180) | (7,180) |
| Less: Deductions from Tier 1 capital | (1,106) | (28) | (28) | - | - | - | - |
| Total qualifying tier 1 capital | 26,743 | 27,408 | 26,534 | 23,005 | 22,455 | 18,895 | 18,495 |
| Tier 2 | | | | | | | |
| Revaluation reserves | 26 | 26 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| Available for sale equity | 295 | 295 | 295 | 221 | 221 | 223 | 223 |
| Collectively assessed impairment allowances | 440 | 2,619 | 2,619 | 2,556 | 2,556 | 2,306 | 2,306 |
| Minority interests | 442 | 442 | 442 | 451 | 451 | 515 | 515 |
| Qualifying subordinated liabilities | | | | | | | |
| Undated loan capital | 3,191 | 3,191 | 3,191 | 3,180 | 3,180 | 3,212 | 3,212 |
| Dated loan capital | 10,578 | 10,578 | 10,578 | 7,603 | 7,603 | 7,069 | 7,069 |
| Less: Deductions from Tier 2 capital | (1,106) | (28) | (28) | - | - | - | - |
| Total qualifying tier 2 capital | 13,866 | 17,123 | 17,123 | 14,036 | 14,036 | 13,350 | 13,350 |
| Less: Regulatory deductions | | | | | | | |
| Investments not consolidated for supervisory purposes | (633) | (633) | (633) | (982) | (982) | (782) | (782) |
| Other deductions | (193) | (1,266) | (1,255) | (1,349) | (1,348) | (961) | (961) |
| Total deductions | (826) | (1,899) | (1,888) | (2,330) | (2,330) | (1,743) | (1,743) |
| Total net capital resources | 39,783 | 42,642 | 41,769 | 34,711 | 34,161 | 30,502 | 30,102 |

Financial review

Deposits and short-term borrowings

Deposits

Deposits include deposits from banks and customers accounts.

Average: year ended 31st December

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Deposits from banks | | | |
| Customers in the United Kingdom | 15,321 | 12,832 | 9,703 |
| Customers outside the United Kingdom: | | | |
| Other European Union | 33,162 | 30,116 | 29,082 |
| United States | 6,656 | 7,352 | 8,670 |
| Africa | 4,452 | 4,140 | 3,236 |
| Rest of the World | 36,626 | 35,019 | 39,660 |
| Total deposits from banks | 96,217 | 89,453 | 89,761 |
| Customer accounts | | | |
| Customers in the United Kingdom | 187,249 | 173,767 | 155,252 |
| Customers outside the United Kingdom: | | | |
| Other European Union | 23,883 | 22,418 | 20,773 |
| United States | 21,909 | 17,861 | 15,197 |
| Africa | 29,855 | 23,680 | 17,189 |
| Rest of the World | 23,832 | 19,982 | 16,911 |
| Customer accounts | 285,740 | 257,428 | 225,272 |

Deposits from banks in offices in the United Kingdom from non-residents amounted to £45,162m (2006: £41,752m).

Year ended 31st December

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Customer accounts | 294,987 | 256,754 | 238,684 |
| In offices in the United Kingdom: | | | |
| Current and Demand accounts – interest free | 33,400 | 25,650 | 22,980 |
| Current and Demand accounts – interest bearing | 32,047 | 31,769 | 28,416 |
| Savings accounts | 70,882 | 62,745 | 57,715 |
| Other time deposits – retail | 36,123 | 38,110 | 35,142 |
| Other time deposits – wholesale | 55,726 | 59,733 | 42,367 |

Total repayable in offices in the United Kingdom 237,978 210,007 187,220

In offices outside the United Kingdom:

| | | | |
|------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Current and Demand accounts – interest free | 2,990 | 2,169 | 2,300 |
| Current and Demand accounts – interest bearing | 11,570 | 17,825 | 20,494 |
| Savings accounts | 3,017 | 3,041 | 3,230 |
| Other time deposits | 38,532 | 23,911 | 25,440 |

Total repayable in offices outside the United Kingdom 57,009 46,747 51,464

Customer accounts deposits in offices in the United Kingdom received from non-residents amounted to £48,179m (2006: £40,291m).

Note

a Average interest rate during the year for commercial paper and negotiable certificates of deposit have been restated for 2006 and 2005 to reflect methodology enhancements.

Short-term borrowings

Short-term borrowings include deposits from banks, commercial paper and negotiable certificates of deposit.

Deposits from banks

Deposits from banks are taken from a wide range of counterparties and generally have maturities of less than one year.

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Year-end balance | 96,546 | 79,582 | 75,127 |
| Average balance | 96,217 | 89,453 | 89,761 |
| Maximum balance | 109,580 | 97,165 | 103,397 |
| Average interest rate during year | 4.1% | 4.2% | 2.6% |
| Year-end interest rate | 4.0% | 4.3% | 3.6% |

Commercial paper

Commercial paper is issued by the Group, mainly in the United States, generally in denominations of not less than US\$100,000, with maturities of up to 270 days.

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Year-end balance | 24,451 | 26,546 | 28,275 |
| Average balance | 25,229 | 29,740 | 22,309 |
| Maximum balance | 30,736 | 31,659 | 28,598 |
| Average interest rate during year ^a | 5.4% | 4.4% | 3.1% |
| Year-end interest rate | 5.2% | 5.0% | 4.5% |

Negotiable certificates of deposit

Negotiable certificates of deposits are issued mainly in the UK and US, generally in denominations of not less than US\$100,000.

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Year-end balance | 68,401 | 52,800 | 43,109 |
| Average balance | 55,394 | 49,327 | 45,533 |
| Maximum balance | 762,438 | 80,914 | 53,456 |
| Average interest rate during year ^a | 5.1% | 5.3% | 3.8% |
| Year-end interest rate | 5.0% | 5.1% | 4.5% |

Financial Review

Commitments and contractual obligations

Commitments and contractual obligations

Commitments and contractual obligations include loan commitments, contingent liabilities, debt securities and purchase obligations.

Commercial commitments

| | Amount of commitment expiration per period | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Less than one year £m | Between one to three years £m | Between three to five years £m | After five years £m | Total amounts committed £m |
| Acceptances and endorsements | 365 | - | - | - | 365 |
| Guarantees and letters of credit pledged as collateral security | 29,136 | 2,711 | 1,971 | 1,874 | 35,692 |
| Other contingent liabilities | 6,594 | 1,556 | 416 | 1,151 | 9,717 |
| Documentary credits and other short-term trade related transactions | 401 | 121 | - | - | 522 |
| Forward asset purchases and forward deposits placed | 283 | - | - | - | 283 |
| Standby facilities, credit lines and other | 135,457 | 17,039 | 22,127 | 10,211 | 191,834 |

Contractual obligations

| | Payments due by period | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| | Less than one year £m | Between one to three years £m | Between three to five years £m | After five years £m | Total £m |
| Long-term debt | 90,201 | 13,558 | 8,630 | 19,358 | 131,747 |
| Operating lease obligations | 197 | 765 | 610 | 2,225 | 3,787 |
| Purchase obligations | 141 | 186 | 27 | 6 | 360 |
| Total | 90,639 | 14,499 | 9,267 | 21,589 | 135,894 |

The long-term debt does not include undated loan capital of £9,631m.

Further information on the contractual maturity of the Group's assets and liabilities is given in Note 48.

Financial review

Securities

Securities

The following table analyses the book value of securities which are carried at fair value.

| | 2007 | | 2006 | | 2005 | |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| | Book value £m | Amortised cost £m | Book value £m | Amortised cost £m | Book value £m | Amortised cost £m |
| Investment securities – available for sale | | | | | | |
| Debt securities: | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom government | 78 | 81 | 758 | 761 | 31 | 31 |
| Other government | 7,383 | 7,434 | 12,587 | 12,735 | 14,860 | 14,827 |
| Other public bodies | 634 | 632 | 280 | 277 | 216 | 216 |
| Mortgage and asset backed securities | 1,367 | 1,429 | 1,708 | 1,708 | 3,062 | 3,062 |
| Corporate issuers | 19,864 | 19,649 | 27,089 | 27,100 | 25,590 | 25,597 |
| Other issuers | 9,547 | 9,589 | 5,492 | 5,450 | 6,265 | 6,257 |
| Equity securities | 1,676 | 1,418 | 1,371 | 1,047 | 1,250 | 1,007 |
| Investment securities – available for sale | 40,349 | 40,242 | 49,283 | 49,076 | 51,274 | 50,997 |
| Other securities – held for trading | | | | | | |
| Debt securities: | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom government | 3,032 | n/a | 4,988 | n/a | 4,786 | n/a |
| Other government | 51,184 | n/a | 46,845 | n/a | 49,426 | n/a |
| Mortgage and asset backed securities | 37,038 | n/a | 29,606 | n/a | 17,844 | n/a |
| Bank and building society certificates of deposit | 17,751 | n/a | 14,159 | n/a | 15,837 | n/a |
| Other issuers | 43,053 | n/a | 44,980 | n/a | 43,674 | n/a |
| Equity securities | 36,307 | n/a | 31,548 | n/a | 20,288 | n/a |
| Other securities – held for trading | 189,085 | n/a | 172,124 | n/a | 148,666 | n/a |

Investment debt securities include government securities held as part of the Group's treasury management portfolio for asset and liability, liquidity and regulatory purposes and are for use on a continuing basis in the activities of the Group. In addition, the Group holds as investments listed and unlisted corporate securities.

Mortgage and asset backed securities and other issuers within held for trading debt securities have been restated in 2006 and 2005 to reflect changes in classification of assets.

Bank and building society certificates of deposit are freely negotiable and have original maturities of up to five years, but are typically held for shorter periods. In addition to UK government securities shown above, at 31st December 2007, 2006 and 2005, the Group held the following government securities which exceeded 10% of shareholders' equity.

Government securities

| | 2007 Book value £m | 2006 Book value £m | 2005 Book value £m |
|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| United States | 16,156 | 18,343 | 16,093 |
| Japan | 9,124 | 15,505 | 14,560 |
| Germany | 5,136 | 4,741 | 6,376 |
| France | 3,538 | 4,386 | 4,822 |
| Italy | 5,090 | 3,418 | 4,300 |
| Spain | 3,674 | 2,859 | 2,456 |
| Netherlands | 1,270 | 395 | 2,791 |

Maturities and yield of available for sale debt securities

| | Maturing within one year: | | Maturing after one but within five years: | | Maturing after five but within ten years: | | Maturing after ten years: | | Total: | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| | Amount £m | Yield % | Amount £m | Yield % | Amount £m | Yield % | Amount £m | Yield % | Amount £m | Yield % |
| Government | 1,354 | 5.8 | 3,997 | 4.0 | 788 | 1.0 | 1,322 | 1.1 | 7,481 | 3.5 |
| Other public bodies | 646 | 9.8 | 78 | 1.3 | – | – | 10 | 5.2 | 634 | 7.7 |
| Other issuers | 11,845 | 5.2 | 12,542 | 4.9 | 4,343 | 5.5 | 1,844 | 7.0 | 30,578 | 5.2 |
| Total book value | 13,749 | 5.4 | 16,617 | 4.6 | 5,131 | 5.0 | 3,176 | 4.5 | 38,673 | 5.0 |

The yield for each range of maturities is calculated by dividing the annualised interest income prevailing at 31st December 2007 by the fair value of securities held at that date.

Financial review

Critical accounting estimates

The Group's accounting policies are set out on pages 149 to 157. Certain of these policies, as well as estimates made by management, are considered to be important to an understanding of the Group's financial condition since they require management to make difficult, complex or subjective judgements and estimates, some of which may relate to matters that are inherently uncertain. The following accounting policies include estimates which are particularly sensitive in terms of judgements and the extent to which estimates are used. Other accounting policies involve significant amounts of judgements and estimates, but the total amounts involved are not significant to the financial statements. Management has discussed the accounting policies and critical accounting estimates with the Board Audit Committee.

Fair value of financial instruments

Some of the Group's financial instruments are carried at fair value through profit or loss such as those held for trading, designated by management under the fair value option and non-cash flow hedging derivatives.

Other non-derivative financial assets may be designated as available for sale. Available for sale financial investments are initially recognised at fair value and are subsequently held at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in fair value of such assets are included as a separate component of equity. The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties, other than in a forced or liquidation sale. Financial instruments entered into as trading transactions, together with any associated hedging, are measured at fair value and the resultant profits and losses are included in net trading income, along with interest and dividends arising from long and short positions and funding costs relating to trading activities. Assets and liabilities resulting from gains and losses on financial instruments held for trading are reported gross in trading portfolio assets and liabilities or derivative financial instruments, reduced by the effects of netting agreements where there is an intention to settle net with counterparties.

Valuation methodology

The method of determining the fair value of financial instruments can be analysed into the following categories:

- Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets where the quoted price is readily available and the price represents actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.
- Valuation techniques using market observable inputs. Such techniques may include:
 - using recent arm's length market transactions;
 - reference to the current fair value of similar instruments;
 - discounted cash flow analysis, pricing models or other techniques commonly used by market participants.
- Valuation techniques used above, but which include significant inputs that are not observable. On initial recognition of financial instruments measured using such techniques the transaction price is deemed to provide the best evidence of fair value for accounting purposes.

The valuation techniques in (b) and (c) use inputs such as interest rate yield curves, equity prices, commodity and currency prices/yields, volatilities of underlyings and correlations between inputs. The models used in these valuation techniques are calibrated against industry standards, economic models and to observed transaction prices where available.

The following tables set out the total financial instruments stated at fair value as at 31st December 2007 and those fair values are calculated with valuation techniques using unobservable inputs.

| | Unobservable inputs £m | Total £m |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Assets stated at fair value | | |
| Trading portfolio assets | 4,457 | 93,691 |
| Financial assets designated at fair value: | | |
| – held on own account | 16,819 | 58,629 |
| – held in respect of linked liabilities to customers under investment contracts | – | 90,851 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 2,707 | 248,088 |
| Available for sale financial investments | 810 | 43,078 |
| Total | 24,793 | 632,337 |

| | Unobservable inputs £m | Total £m |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Liabilities stated at fair value | | |
| Trading portfolio liabilities | 42 | 65,402 |
| Financial liabilities designated at fair value | 6,172 | 74,489 |
| Liabilities to customers under investment contracts | – | 32,639 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 4,382 | 248,880 |
| Total | 10,596 | 419,810 |

Various factors influence the availability of observable inputs and these may vary from product to product and change over time. Factors include for example, the depth of activity in the relevant market, the type of product, whether the product is new and not widely traded in the market place, the maturity of market modelling and the nature of the transaction (bespoke or generic).

To the extent that valuation is based on models or inputs that are not observable in the market, the determination of fair value can be more subjective, dependant on the significance of the unobservable input to the overall valuation. Unobservable inputs are determined based on the best information available, for example by reference to similar assets, similar maturities, appropriate proxies, or other analytical techniques. The effect of changing the assumptions for those financial instruments for which the fair values were measured using valuation techniques that are determined in full or in part on assumptions that are not supported by observable inputs to a range of reasonably possible alternative assumptions, would be to provide a range of £1.2bn (2006: £0.3bn) lower to £1.5bn (2006: £0.1bn) higher than the fair values recognised in the financial statements.

The size of this range will vary over time in response to market volatility, market uncertainty and changes to benchmark proxy relationships of similar assets and liabilities. The calculation of this range is performed on a consistent basis each period.

Further information on the fair value of financial instruments is provided in Note 49 to the accounts.

The following summary sets out those instruments which use inputs where it may be necessary to use valuation techniques as described above.

Corporate bonds

Corporate bonds are generally valued using observable quoted prices or recently executed transactions. Where observable price quotations are not available, the fair value is determined based on cash flow models where significant inputs may include yield curves, bond or single name credit default swap spreads.

Financial review

Critical accounting estimates

Within the retail and small businesses portfolios, which comprise large numbers of small homogeneous assets with similar risk characteristics where credit scoring techniques are generally used, statistical techniques are used to calculate impairment allowances on a portfolio basis, based on historical recovery rates and assumed emergence periods. These statistical analyses use as primary inputs the extent to which accounts in the portfolio are in arrears and historical information on the eventual losses encountered from such delinquent portfolios. There are many such models in use, each tailored to a product, line of business or customer category. Judgement and knowledge is needed in selecting the statistical methods to use when the models are developed or revised. The impairment allowance reflected in the financial statements for these portfolios is therefore considered to be reasonable and supportable. The impairment charge reflected in the income statement for these portfolios is £1,605m (2006: £1,605m) and amounts to 70% (2006: 67%) of the total impairment charge on loans and advances in 2007.

For larger accounts, impairment allowances are calculated on an individual basis and all relevant considerations that have a bearing on the expected future cash flows are taken into account, for example, the business prospects for the customer, the realisable value of collateral, the Group's position relative to other claimants, the reliability of customer information and the likely cost and duration of the work-out process. The level of the impairment allowance is the difference between the value of the discounted expected future cash flows (discounted at the loan's original effective interest rate), and its carrying amount. Subjective judgements are made in the calculation of future cash flows. Furthermore, judgements change with time as new information becomes available or as work-out strategies evolve, resulting in frequent revisions to the impairment allowance as individual decisions are taken. Changes in these estimates would result in a change in the allowances and have a direct impact on the impairment charge. The impairment charge reflected in the financial statements in relation to larger accounts is £701m (2006: £263m) or 30% (2006: 13%) of the total impairment charge on loans and advances in 2007. Further information on impairment allowances is set out on pages B4 to B5.

Goodwill

Management have to consider at least annually whether the current carrying value of goodwill is impaired. The first step of the impairment review process requires the identification of independent cash generating units, by dividing the Group business into as many largely independent income streams as is reasonably practicable. The goodwill is then allocated to these independent units. The first element of this allocation is based on the share of the business expected to benefit from the synergies derived from the acquisition. The second element reflects the allocation of the net assets acquired and the difference between the consideration paid for those net assets and their fair value. This allocation is reviewed following business reorganisation. The carrying value of the unit, including the allocated goodwill, is compared to its fair value to determine whether any impairment exists. If the fair value of a unit is less than its carrying value, goodwill will be impaired. Detailed calculations may need to be carried out taking into consideration changes in the market in which a business operates (e.g. competitive activity, regulatory change). In the absence of readily available market price data this calculation is based upon discounting expected pre-tax cash flows at a risk adjusted interest rate appropriate to the operating unit, the determination of both of which requires the exercise of judgement. The estimation of pre-tax cash flows is sensitive to the periods for which detailed forecasts are available and to assumptions regarding the long term sustainable cash flows. While forecasts are compared with actual performance and external economic data, expected cash flows naturally reflect management's view of future performance. The most significant amounts of goodwill relate to the Absa and Woolwich acquisitions. The goodwill impairment testing performed in 2007 indicated that none of the goodwill was impaired. Management believes that reasonable changes in key assumptions used to determine the recoverable amounts of Absa and Woolwich goodwill would not result in impairment.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets that derive their value from contractual customer relationships or that can be separated and sold and have a finite useful life are amortised over their estimated useful life. Determining the estimated useful life of these finite life intangible assets requires an analysis of circumstances, and judgement by the Bank's management. At each balance sheet date, or more frequently when events or changes in circumstances dictate, intangible assets are assessed for indications of impairment. If indications are present, these assets are subject to an impairment review. The impairment review comprises a comparison of the carrying amount of the asset with its recoverable amount; the higher of the assets' or the cash-generating unit's net selling price and its value in use. Net selling price is calculated by reference to the amount at which the asset could be disposed of in a binding sale agreement in an arms-length transaction evidenced by an active market or recent transactions for similar assets. Value in use is calculated by discounting the expected future cash flows obtainable as a result of the asset's continued use, including those resulting from its ultimate disposal, at a market-based discount rate on a pre-tax basis. The most significant amounts of intangible assets relate to the Absa acquisition.

Retirement benefit obligations

The Group provides pension plans for employees in most parts of the world. Arrangements for staff retirement benefits vary from country to country and are made in accordance with local regulations and customs. For defined contribution schemes, the pension cost recognised in the profit and loss account represents the contributions payable to the scheme. For defined benefit schemes, actuarial valuation of each of the scheme's obligations using the projected unit credit method and the fair valuation of each of the scheme's assets are performed annually in accordance with the requirements of IAS 19.

The actuarial valuation is dependent upon a series of assumptions, the key ones being interest rates, mortality, investment returns and inflation. Mortality estimates are based on standard industry and national mortality tables, adjusted where appropriate to reflect the Group's own experience. The returns on fixed interest investments are set to market yields at the valuation date (less an allowance for risk) to ensure consistency with the asset valuation. The returns on UK and overseas equities are based on the long-term outlook for global equities at the calculation date having regard to current market yields and dividend growth expectations. The inflation assumption reflects long-term expectations of both earnings and retail price inflation.

The difference between the fair value of the plan assets and the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the balance sheet date, adjusted for any historic unrecognised actuarial gains or losses and past service cost, is recognised as a liability in the balance sheet. An asset arising, for example, as a result of past over-funding or the performance of the plan investments, is recognised to the extent that it does not exceed the present value of future contribution holidays or refunds of contributions. To the extent that any unrecognised gains or losses at the start of the measurement year in relation to any individual defined benefit scheme exceed 10% of the greater of the fair value of the scheme assets and the defined benefit obligation for that scheme, a proportion of the excess is recognised in the income statement.

The Group's IAS 19 pension surplus across all pension and post-retirement schemes as at 31st December 2007 was a surplus of £393m (2006: £817m deficit). This comprises net recognised liabilities of £1,507m (2006: £1,719m) and unrecognised actuarial gains of £1,899m (2006: £602m). The net recognised liabilities comprises retirement benefit liabilities of £1,537m (2006: £1,807m) relating to schemes that are in deficit, and assets of £330m (2006: £188m) relating to schemes that are in surplus. The Group's IAS 19 pension surplus in respect of the main UK scheme as at 31st December 2007 was £366m (2006: £450m deficit). The estimated actuarial funding position of the main UK pension scheme as at 31st December 2007, estimated from the actuarial valuation in 2004, was a surplus of £1,206m (2006: £1,296m). Cash contributions to the main UK scheme were £300m (2006: £351m).

Further information on retirement benefit obligations, including assumptions is set out in Note 30 to the accounts.

Financial review

Off-balance sheet arrangements

In the ordinary course of business and primarily to facilitate client transactions, the Group enters into transactions which may involve the use of off-balance sheet arrangements and special purpose entities (SPEs). These arrangements include the provision of guarantees, loan commitments, retained interests in assets which have been transferred to an unconsolidated SPE or obligations arising from the Group's involvements with such SPEs.

Guarantees

The Group issues guarantees on behalf of its customers. In the majority of cases, the Group will hold collateral against the exposure, have a right of recourse to the customer or both. In addition, the Group issues guarantees on its own behalf. The main types of guarantees provided are: financial guarantees given to banks and financial institutions on behalf of customers to secure loans; overdrafts and other banking facilities, including stock borrowing indemnities and standby letters of credit. Other guarantees provided include performance guarantees, advance payment guarantees, lender guarantees, guarantees to Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs and retention guarantees. The nominal principal amount of contingent liabilities with off-balance sheet risk is set out in Note 34 and in the table on page 46.

Loan commitments

The Group enters into commitments to lend to its customers subject to certain conditions. Such loan commitments are made either for a fixed period, or are cancellable by the Group subject to notice conditions. Information on loan commitments and similar facilities is set out in Note 34 and in the table on page 46.

Special purpose entities

Transactions entered into by the Group may involve the use of SPEs. SPEs are entities that are created to accomplish a narrow and well defined objective. There are often specific restrictions or limits around their ongoing activities.

Transactions with SPEs take a number of forms, including:

- The provision of financing to fund asset purchases, or commitments to provide finance for future purchases.
- Derivative transactions to provide investors in the SPE with a specified exposure.
- The provision of liquidity or backstop facilities which may be drawn upon if the SPE experiences future funding difficulties.
- Direct investment in the notes issued by SPEs.

Depending on the nature of the Group's resulting exposure, it may consolidate the SPE on to the Group's balance sheet. The consolidation of SPEs is considered at inception based on the arrangements in place and the assessed risk exposures at that time. In accordance with IFRS, SPEs are consolidated when the substance of the relationship between the Group and the entity indicates control. Potential indicators of control include, amongst others, an assessment of the Group's exposure to the risks and benefits of the SPE. The initial consolidation analysis is revisited at a later date if:

- the Group acquires additional interests in the entity;
- the contractual arrangements of the entity are amended such that the relative exposures to risks and rewards change; or if
- the Group acquires control over the main operating and financial decisions of the entity.

A number of the Group's transactions have recourse only to the assets of unconsolidated SPEs. Typically, the majority of the exposure to these assets is borne by third parties and the Group's risk is mitigated through over-collateralisation, unwind features and other protective measures. The Group's involvement with unconsolidated third party conduits, collateralised debt obligations and structured investment vehicles is described further below.

Collateralised Debt Obligations

The Group has structured and underwritten CDOs. At inception, the Group's exposure principally takes the form of a liquidity facility provided to support future funding difficulties or cash shortfalls in the vehicles. If required by the vehicle, the facility is drawn with the amount advanced included within loans and advances in the balance sheet. Upon an event of default or other triggering event, the Group may acquire control of a CDO and, therefore, be required to fully consolidate the vehicle for accounting purposes. The potential for transactions to hit default triggers before the end of 2008 has been assessed and included in the determination of impairment charges and other credit provisions (£782.8m in relation to ABS CDO Super Senior and other credit market exposures for the year ended 31st December 2007).

The Group's exposure to ABS CDO Super Senior positions before hedging was £6.018bn as at 31st December 2007. This includes £1,149m of undrawn facilities provided to mezzanine transactions (exposure stated net of writedowns and charges). Undrawn facilities provided to unconsolidated CDOs are included as part of commitments in Note 34 to the accounts.

The remaining £4,869m is the Group's exposure to High Grade CDOs, stated net of writedowns and charges. £3,785m of drawn balances are included within loans and advances on the balance sheet, with the remaining £1,084m representing consolidated High Grade CDOs accounted for on a fair value basis.

Collateral

The collateral underlying unconsolidated CDOs comprised 77% residential mortgage backed securities, 6% non-residential asset backed securities and 17% in other categories, including 10% ABS CDO exposure (a proportion of which will be backed by residential mortgage collateral).

The remaining Weighted Average Life (WAL) of all collateral is 3.9 years. The combined Net Asset Value (NAV) for all of the CDOs was £2.6bn below the nominal amount, equivalent to an aggregate 40.2% decline in value on average for all investors.

Funding

The CDOs were funded with senior unrated notes and rated notes up to AAA. The capital structure senior to the AAA notes on cash CDOs was supported by a liquidity facility provided by the Group. On mezzanine CDOs, this portion of the capital structure is unfunded, but a liquidity facility is provided to support the level of synthetic instruments within each transaction. The senior portion covered by liquidity facilities is on average 79% of the capital structure.

The initial WAL of the notes in issue averaged 7.1 years. The full contractual maturity is 27.5 years.

Financial review

Off-balance sheet arrangements

Interests in Third Party CDOs

The Group has purchased securities in and entered into derivative instruments with third party CDOs. These interests are held as trading assets or liabilities on the Group's balance sheet and measured at fair value. The Group has not provided liquidity facilities or similar agreements to third party CDOs.

Structured Investment Vehicles (SIVs)

The Group has not structured or managed SIVs. Group exposure to third party SIVs comprised:

- £317m of senior liquidity facilities, of which £19m was drawn and included in loans and advances as at 31st December 2007. The Group is one of between two and eight independent liquidity providers on each transaction.
- Derivative exposures included on the balance sheet at their net fair value of £264m.
- Bonds issued by the SIVs included within trading portfolio assets at their fair value of £21m.
- £2.6bn repo funding facilities. £1.3bn has been utilised and included within loans and advances to customers in the balance sheet.

Other than the repo facilities, which when drawn are more than 100% collateralised by assets held by the Group with the collateral being valued daily, the items above are included in the credit market positions discussed on page 53.

SIV-Lites

The Group structured and helped to underwrite three SIV-Lite transactions. The Group is not involved in their ongoing management.

The Group provided £1.5bn in liquidity facilities as partial support to the £2.6bn of CP programmes on these transactions. These facilities have now been fully drawn or are terminated, such that no further drawings are possible. One of the three vehicles has been restructured into a cash CDO. As part of this restructuring, the Group acquired the £800m senior note in the CDO which is held at fair value within trading portfolio assets. The credit risk on this note has been transferred to a third party investment bank. For the remaining facilities, the amount drawn totalled £152m and is included on the balance sheet within loans and advances to customers and included in the credit market positions discussed on page 53.

Commercial Paper and Medium-term Note Conduits

The Group provided £1.9bn in undrawn backstop liquidity facilities to its own sponsored CP conduits. The Group fully consolidates these entities such that the underlying assets are reflected on the Group balance sheet.

The Group provided backstop facilities to support the paper issued by six third party conduits. These facilities totalled £1.7bn with underlying collateral comprising auto loans (31%), bank-guaranteed residential mortgages (41%), bank-guaranteed commercial and project finance loans (5%) and UK consumer finance receivables (23%). Drawings on these facilities were £45m as at 31st December 2007 and are included within loans and advances to customers.

The Group provided backstop facilities to six third-party SPEs that fund themselves with medium term notes. These notes are sold to investors as a series of 12 month securities and remarketed to investors annually. If investors decline to renew their holdings at a price below a pre-agreed spread, the backstop facility requires the Group to purchase the

outstanding notes at scheduled maturity. The group has provided facilities of £2.9bn to SPEs holding prime UK and Australian owner-occupied Residential Mortgage Back Securities (RMBS) assets. As at 31st December 2007, the Group had acquired notes of £59m under these backstop facilities (included as available for sale assets on the balance sheet) and further acquisitions are expected through 2008 as other notes are remarketed. The notes generally rank pari passu with the other term AAA+ rated notes from the same issuer. The facilities have been designated at fair value and are reflected in the balance sheet at their current fair value.

The Group's own CP conduits provided facilities of £1.3bn to third party conduits containing prime UK buy-to-let RMBS. As at 31st December 2007, £290m of this facility had been drawn. The undrawn facilities are included within the commitments disclosed in Note 34 to the accounts, while the drawn elements are included within loans and advances to customers.

Asset securitisations

The Group has assisted companies with the formation of asset securitisations, some of which are effected through the use of SPEs. These entities have minimal equity and rely on funding in the form of notes to purchase the assets for securitisation. As these SPEs are created for other companies, the Group does not usually control these entities and therefore does not consolidate them. The Group may provide financing in the form of senior notes or junior notes and may also provide derivatives to the SPE. These transactions are included on the balance sheet.

The Group has used SPEs to securitise part of its originated and purchased retail and commercial lending portfolios and credit card receivables. These SPEs are usually consolidated and derecognition only occurs when the Group transfers its contractual right to receive cash flows from the financial assets, or retains the contractual rights to receive the cash flows, but assumes a contractual obligation to pay the cash flows to another party without material delay or reinvestment, and also transfers substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership, including credit risk, prepayment risk and interest rate risk. The carrying amount of securitised assets together with the associated liabilities are set out in Note 29.

Client Intermediation

The Group has structured transactions as a financial intermediary to meet investor and client needs. These transactions involve entities structured by either the Group or the client and they are used to modify cash flows of third party assets to create investments with specific risk or return profiles or to assist clients in the efficient management of other risks. Such transactions will typically result in a derivative being shown on the balance sheet, representing the Group's exposure to the relevant asset.

The Group also invests in lessor entities specifically to acquire assets for leasing. Client Intermediation also includes arrangements to fund the purchase or construction of specific assets (most common in the property industry).

Fund management

The Group provides asset management services to a large number of investment entities on an arm's-length basis and at market terms and prices. The majority of these entities are investment funds that are owned by a large and diversified number of investors. These funds are not consolidated because the Group does not own either a significant portion of the equity, or the risks and rewards inherent in the assets.

During 2007, Group operating expenses included charges of £80m (2006: £nil) related to selective support of liquidity products managed by Barclays Global Investors and not consolidated by the Group. The Group has continued to provide further selective support to liquidity products subsequent to 31st December 2007.

Financial review

Barclays Capital credit market positions

Barclays Capital credit market positions

Barclays Capital credit market exposures resulted in net losses of £1,535m in 2007, due to dislocations in the credit markets. The net losses primarily related to ABS CDO super senior exposures, with additional losses from other credit market exposures partially offset by gains from the general widening of credit spreads on issued notes held at fair value.

Credit market exposures in this note are stated relative to comparatives as at 30th June 2007, being the reporting date immediately prior to the credit market dislocations.

| | As at | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | 31st December 2007 | 30th June 2007 |
| | £m | £m |
| ABS CDO Super Senior | | |
| High Grade | 4,969 | 6,151 |
| Mezzanine | 1,149 | 1,629 |
| Exposure before hedging | 6,018 | 7,780 |
| Hedges | (1,347) | (348) |
| Net ABS CDO Super Senior | 4,671 | 7,432 |
| Other US sub-prime | | |
| Whole loans | 3,205 | 2,900 |
| Other direct and indirect exposures | 1,832 | 3,146 |
| Other US sub-prime | 5,037 | 6,046 |
| Alt-A | 4,518 | 3,760 |
| Nonline insurers | 1,335 | 140 |
| Commercial mortgages | 12,399 | 8,282 |
| SIV-like liquidity facilities | 152 | 692 |
| Structured investment vehicles | 550 | 925 |

ABS CDO Super Senior exposure

ABS CDO Super Senior net exposure was £4,671m (30th June 2007: £7,432m). Exposures are stated net of writedowns and charges of £1,347m (30th June 2007: £348m) and hedges of £1,347m (30th June 2007: £348m).

The collateral for the ABS CDO Super Senior exposures primarily comprised Residential Mortgage Backed Securities. 79% of the RMBS sub-prime collateral comprised 2005 or earlier vintage mortgages. On ABS CDO super senior exposures, the combination of subordination, hedging and writedowns provide protection against loss levels to 72% on US sub-prime collateral as at 31st December 2007. None of the above hedges of ABS CDO Super Senior exposures as at 31st December 2007 were held with monoline insurer counterparties.

Other credit market exposures

Barclays Capital held other exposures impacted by the turbulence in credit markets, including: whole loans and other direct and indirect exposures to US sub-prime and Alt-A borrowers; exposures to monoline insurers; and commercial mortgage backed securities. The net losses in 2007 from these exposures were £2,235m.

Other US sub-prime whole loan and net trading book exposure was £5,037m (30th June 2007: £6,046m). Whole loans included £2,843m (30th June 2007: £1,889m) acquired since the acquisition of EquiFirst in March 2007, all of which were subject to Barclays underwriting criteria. As at 31st December 2007 the average loan to value of these EquiFirst loans was 80% with less than 3% at above 95% loan to value. 99% of the EquiFirst inventory was first lien.

Net exposure to the Alt-A market was £4,518m (30th June 2007: £3,760m), through a combination of securities held on the balance sheet including those held in consolidated conduits and residuals. Alt-A exposure is generally to borrowers of a higher credit quality than sub-prime borrowers. As at 31st December 2007, 93% of the Alt-A whole loan exposure was performing, and the average loan to value ratio was 81%. 86% of the Alt-A securities held were rated AAA or AA.

Barclays Capital held assets with insurance-protection or other credit enhancement from monoline insurers. The value of exposure to monoline insurers under these contracts was £1,335m (30th June 2007: £140m). There were no claims due under these contracts as none of the underlying assets were in default.

Exposures in our commercial mortgage backed securities business comprised commercial real estate loans of £11,100m (30th June 2007: £7,653m) and commercial mortgage backed securities of £1,299m (30th June 2007: £829m). The loan exposures were 54% US and 43% European. The US exposures had an average loan to value of 65% and the European exposures had an average loan to value of 71%. 87% of the commercial mortgage backed securities held as at 31st December 2007 were AAA or AA rated.

Loans and advances to customers included £1,523m (30th June 2007: £692m) of drawn liquidity facilities in respect of SIVs. Total exposure to other structured investment vehicles, including derivatives, undrawn commercial paper backstop facilities and bonds held in trading portfolio assets was £550m (30th June 2007: £925m).

Leveraged Finance

At 31st December 2007, drawn leveraged finance positions were £7,358m (30th June 2007: £7,317m). The positions were stated net of fees of £130m and impairment of £53m driven by widening of corporate credit spreads.

Own Credit

At 31st December 2007, Barclays Capital had issued notes held at fair value of £37,162m (30th June 2007: £44,620m). The general widening of credit spreads affected the carrying value of these notes and as a result revaluation gains of £658m were recognised in trading income.

Financial review

Average balance sheet

Average balance sheet and net interest income (year ended 31st December)

| | 2007 | | | 2006 | | | 2005 | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | Average balance ^(a) £m | Interest £m | Average rate % | Average balance ^(a) £m | Interest £m | Average rate % | Average balance ^(a) £m | Interest £m | Average rate % |
| Assets | | | | | | | | | |
| Loans and advances to banks ^b : | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the United Kingdom | 29,431 | 1,074 | 3.6 | 18,401 | 647 | 3.5 | 14,736 | 454 | 3.1 |
| – in offices outside the United Kingdom | 12,262 | 779 | 6.4 | 12,278 | 488 | 4.0 | 11,063 | 403 | 3.6 |
| Loans and advances to customers ^b : | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the United Kingdom | 205,707 | 13,027 | 6.3 | 184,392 | 11,247 | 6.1 | 172,398 | 10,229 | 5.9 |
| – in offices outside the United Kingdom | 88,212 | 6,733 | 7.6 | 77,615 | 4,931 | 6.4 | 50,699 | 2,975 | 5.9 |
| Lease receivables: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the United Kingdom | 4,822 | 283 | 5.9 | 5,266 | 300 | 5.7 | 6,521 | 348 | 5.3 |
| – in offices outside the United Kingdom | 5,861 | 691 | 11.8 | 6,182 | 595 | 9.7 | 1,706 | 117 | 6.9 |
| Financial investments: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the United Kingdom | 37,503 | 2,039 | 5.4 | 41,125 | 1,938 | 4.7 | 43,133 | 1,755 | 4.1 |
| – in offices outside the United Kingdom | 14,750 | 452 | 3.1 | 14,191 | 830 | 5.8 | 10,349 | 487 | 4.5 |
| Reverse repurchase agreements and cash collateral on securities borrowed | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the United Kingdom | 211,708 | 3,644 | 4.5 | 166,713 | 6,136 | 3.7 | 156,282 | 4,617 | 3.0 |
| – in offices outside the United Kingdom | 108,012 | 5,454 | 5.0 | 100,418 | 5,040 | 5.0 | 92,407 | 2,724 | 2.9 |
| Trading portfolio assets: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the United Kingdom | 120,691 | 6,926 | 4.9 | 105,148 | 4,168 | 3.9 | 81,607 | 2,710 | 3.3 |
| – in offices outside the United Kingdom | 57,535 | 3,489 | 6.1 | 61,370 | 2,608 | 4.2 | 57,452 | 2,116 | 3.7 |
| Total average interest earning assets | 897,795 | 49,591 | 5.5 | 794,077 | 38,924 | 4.9 | 698,425 | 28,915 | 4.1 |
| Impairment allowances/provisions | (4,435) | | | (3,555) | | | (3,105) | | |
| Non-interest earning assets | 422,834 | | | 310,948 | | | 278,328 | | |
| Total average assets and interest income | 1,318,194 | 49,591 | 3.8 | 1,101,461 | 38,924 | 3.5 | 973,648 | 28,915 | 3.0 |
| Percentage of total average interest earning assets in offices outside the United Kingdom | 32.0% | | | 34.3% | | | 32.0% | | |
| Total average interest earning assets related to: | | | | | | | | | |
| Interest income | 49,591 | | 5.5 | 38,924 | | 4.9 | 28,915 | | 4.1 |
| Interest expense | (37,892) | | 4.2 | (30,385) | | 3.8 | (20,665) | | 3.0 |
| | 11,699 | | 1.3 | 8,539 | | 1.1 | 7,950 | | 1.0 |

Notes

- a Average balances are based upon daily averages for most UK banking operations and monthly averages elsewhere.
- b Loans and advances to customers and banks include all doubtful lendings, including non-recrual lendings. Interest receivable on such lendings has been included to the extent to which either cash payments have been received or interest has been accrued in accordance with the income recognition policy of the Group.

Average balance sheet and net interest income (year ended 31st December)

| | 2007 | | | 2006 | | | 2005 | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | Average balance ^(a) £m | Interest £m | Average rate % | Average balance ^(a) £m | Interest £m | Average rate % | Average balance ^(a) £m | Interest £m | Average rate % |
| Liabilities and shareholders' equity | | | | | | | | | |
| Deposits by banks: | | | | | | | | | |
| — in offices in the United Kingdom | 63,902 | 2,511 | 3.9 | 62,236 | 2,464 | 4.0 | 54,801 | 1,665 | 3.0 |
| — in offices outside the United Kingdom | 27,598 | 1,225 | 4.4 | 23,438 | 1,137 | 4.9 | 21,921 | 705 | 3.2 |
| Customer accounts: | | | | | | | | | |
| demand deposits: | | | | | | | | | |
| — in offices in the United Kingdom | 29,110 | 858 | 2.9 | 25,397 | 680 | 2.7 | 22,593 | 510 | 2.3 |
| — in offices outside the United Kingdom | 13,739 | 404 | 2.9 | 10,851 | 254 | 2.5 | 6,196 | 88 | 1.4 |
| savings deposits: | | | | | | | | | |
| — in offices in the United Kingdom | 55,064 | 2,048 | 3.7 | 57,734 | 1,691 | 2.9 | 52,569 | 1,570 | 3.0 |
| — in offices outside the United Kingdom | 4,848 | 128 | 2.6 | 3,124 | 74 | 2.4 | 1,904 | 39 | 2.0 |
| Customer accounts: | | | | | | | | | |
| other time deposits – retail: | | | | | | | | | |
| — in offices in the United Kingdom | 30,578 | 1,601 | 5.2 | 34,865 | 1,548 | 4.4 | 33,932 | 1,470 | 4.3 |
| — in offices outside the United Kingdom | 12,425 | 724 | 5.8 | 8,946 | 482 | 5.4 | 6,848 | 260 | 4.1 |
| other time deposits – wholesale: | | | | | | | | | |
| — in offices in the United Kingdom | 52,147 | 2,482 | 4.8 | 45,830 | 1,794 | 3.9 | 41,745 | 1,101 | 2.9 |
| — in offices outside the United Kingdom | 24,298 | 1,661 | 6.8 | 23,442 | 1,131 | 5.1 | 12,545 | 590 | 4.7 |
| Debt securities in issue: | | | | | | | | | |
| — in offices in the United Kingdom | 41,552 | 2,053 | 4.9 | 47,218 | 1,850 | 3.9 | 46,583 | 1,531 | 3.5 |
| — in offices outside the United Kingdom | 99,271 | 5,055 | 5.1 | 74,125 | 3,688 | 5.0 | 52,698 | 1,695 | 3.2 |
| Dated and undated loan capital and other subordinated liabilities principally: | | | | | | | | | |
| — in offices in the United Kingdom | 12,972 | 763 | 5.9 | 13,098 | 777 | 5.7 | 11,288 | 605 | 5.4 |
| Repurchase agreements and cash collateral on securities lent: | | | | | | | | | |
| — in offices in the United Kingdom | 169,272 | 7,616 | 4.5 | 141,862 | 5,080 | 3.6 | 130,787 | 3,834 | 2.9 |
| — in offices outside the United Kingdom | 118,050 | 5,051 | 4.3 | 85,693 | 4,311 | 5.0 | 80,391 | 2,379 | 3.0 |
| Trading portfolio liabilities: | | | | | | | | | |
| — in offices in the United Kingdom | 47,971 | 2,277 | 4.7 | 49,892 | 2,014 | 4.0 | 44,549 | 1,737 | 3.9 |
| — in offices outside the United Kingdom | 29,838 | 1,435 | 4.8 | 39,064 | 1,352 | 3.5 | 36,538 | 1,198 | 3.3 |
| Total average interest bearing liabilities | 827,693 | 37,892 | 4.6 | 748,001 | 30,385 | 4.1 | 657,182 | 20,965 | 3.2 |
| Interest free customer deposits: | | | | | | | | | |
| — in offices in the United Kingdom | 34,109 | | | 27,549 | | | 25,095 | | |
| — in offices outside the United Kingdom | 3,092 | | | 2,228 | | | 2,053 | | |
| Other non-interest bearing liabilities | 421,473 | | | 207,316 | | | 287,531 | | |
| Minority and other interests and shareholders' equity | 29,827 | | | 25,867 | | | 21,807 | | |
| Total average liabilities, shareholders' equity and interest expense | 1,315,194 | 37,892 | 2.9 | 1,101,481 | 30,385 | 2.8 | 973,648 | 20,965 | 2.2 |
| Percentage of total average interest bearing non-capital liabilities in offices outside the United Kingdom | 39.4% | | | 38.1% | | | 33.3% | | |

Note

a Average balances are based upon daily averages for most UK banking operations and monthly averages elsewhere.

Financial review

Average balance sheet

Changes in net interest income – volume and rate analysis

The following tables allocate changes in net interest income between changes in volume and changes in interest rates for the last two years. Volume and rate variances have been calculated on the movement in the average balances and the change in the interest rates on average interest earning assets and average interest bearing liabilities. Where variances have arisen from changes in both volumes and interest rates, these have been allocated proportionately between the two.

| | 2007/2006 Change due to increase/(decrease) in: | | | 2006/2005 Change due to increase/(decrease) in: | | | 2005/2004 ^a Change due to increase/(decrease) in: | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| | Total change £m | Volume £m | Rate £m | Total change £m | Volume £m | Rate £m | Total change £m | Volume £m | Rate £m |
| Interest receivable | | | | | | | | | |
| Treasury bills and other eligible bills: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (68) | (68) | n/a |
| – in offices outside the UK | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (63) | (63) | n/a |
| | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (131) | (131) | n/a |
| Loans and advances to banks: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 427 | 402 | 25 | 193 | 121 | 72 | (287) | (115) | (122) |
| – in offices outside the UK | 291 | (1) | 292 | 85 | 46 | 39 | 132 | 45 | 87 |
| | 718 | 401 | 317 | 278 | 167 | 111 | (105) | (70) | (35) |
| Loans and advances to customers: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 1,780 | 1,337 | 443 | 1,018 | 728 | 292 | 1,419 | 1,681 | (262) |
| – in offices outside the UK | 1,802 | 728 | 1,074 | 1,956 | 1,695 | 261 | 1,705 | 787 | 918 |
| | 3,582 | 2,065 | 1,517 | 2,974 | 2,421 | 553 | 3,124 | 2,468 | 656 |
| Lease receivables: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | (17) | (26) | 9 | (48) | (70) | 22 | 128 | 78 | 50 |
| – in offices outside the UK | 98 | (30) | 128 | 478 | 413 | 65 | 93 | 91 | 5 |
| | 79 | (56) | 135 | 430 | 343 | 87 | 224 | 169 | 55 |
| Debt securities: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (2,129) | (2,129) | n/a |
| – in offices outside the UK | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (338) | (338) | n/a |
| | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (2,467) | (2,467) | n/a |
| Financial investments: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 103 | (165) | 268 | 181 | (85) | 266 | 1,755 | 1,755 | n/a |
| – in offices outside the UK | (378) | 32 | (410) | 383 | 202 | 181 | 467 | 467 | n/a |
| | (275) | (133) | (142) | 544 | 117 | 427 | 2,222 | 2,222 | n/a |
| External trading assets: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK and | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (4,971) | (4,971) | n/a |
| – outside the UK | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (2,224) | (2,224) | n/a |
| | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (7,195) | (7,195) | n/a |
| Reverse repurchase agreements and cash collateral on securities borrowed: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 3,508 | 1,865 | 1,643 | 1,519 | 324 | 1,195 | 4,617 | 4,617 | n/a |
| – in offices outside the UK | 414 | 430 | (16) | 2,316 | 254 | 2,062 | 2,724 | 2,724 | n/a |
| | 3,922 | 2,295 | 1,627 | 3,835 | 578 | 3,257 | 7,341 | 7,341 | n/a |
| Trading portfolio assets: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 1,780 | 521 | 1,139 | 1,456 | 907 | 549 | 2,710 | 2,710 | n/a |
| – in offices outside the UK | 881 | (172) | 1,053 | 492 | 151 | 341 | 2,116 | 2,116 | n/a |
| | 2,641 | 449 | 2,192 | 1,948 | 1,058 | 690 | 4,826 | 4,826 | n/a |
| Total interest receivable: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 7,561 | 4,034 | 3,527 | 4,319 | 1,923 | 2,396 | 3,224 | 3,558 | (334) |
| – in offices outside the UK | 3,105 | 887 | 2,118 | 5,690 | 2,761 | 2,929 | 4,815 | 3,605 | 1,010 |
| | 10,667 | 5,021 | 5,646 | 10,009 | 4,684 | 5,325 | 7,839 | 7,163 | 576 |

Note

^a 2004 figures do not reflect the applications of IAS 32 and IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.

Changes in net interest income – volume and rate analysis

| | 2007/2006 Change due to increase/(decrease) in: | | | 2006/2005 Change due to increase/(decrease) in: | | | 2005/2004 ^a Change due to increase/(decrease) in: | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| | Total change £m | Volume £m | Rate £m | Total change £m | Volume £m | Rate £m | Total change £m | Volume £m | Rate £m |
| Interest payable | | | | | | | | | |
| Deposits by banks: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 47 | 66 | (19) | 799 | 247 | 552 | 440 | 231 | 209 |
| – in offices outside the UK | 88 | 190 | (102) | 432 | 52 | 380 | 385 | 121 | 274 |
| | 135 | 256 | (121) | 1,231 | 299 | 932 | 825 | 352 | 483 |
| Customer accounts – demand deposits: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 178 | 105 | 73 | 170 | 58 | 112 | 200 | 28 | 172 |
| – in offices outside the UK | 150 | 95 | 55 | 166 | 80 | 86 | 57 | 36 | 21 |
| | 328 | 200 | 128 | 336 | 138 | 198 | 257 | 64 | 193 |
| Customer accounts – savings deposits: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 357 | (81) | 438 | 121 | 152 | (31) | 245 | 145 | 100 |
| – in offices outside the UK | 54 | 48 | 9 | 35 | 28 | 7 | 18 | 16 | 2 |
| | 411 | (33) | 447 | 156 | 180 | (24) | 263 | 161 | 102 |
| Customer accounts – other time deposits – retail: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 53 | (204) | 257 | 78 | 41 | 37 | 164 | (23) | 187 |
| – in offices outside the UK | 242 | 200 | 42 | 222 | 125 | 97 | 142 | 59 | 83 |
| | 295 | (4) | 299 | 300 | 166 | 134 | 306 | 36 | 270 |
| Customer accounts – other time deposits – wholesale: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 588 | 263 | 425 | 603 | 129 | 474 | (653) | (479) | (174) |
| – in offices outside the UK | 470 | 45 | 425 | 801 | 550 | 251 | 248 | (18) | 264 |
| | 1,158 | 308 | 850 | 1,204 | 679 | 525 | (405) | (495) | 90 |
| Debt securities in issue: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 203 | (240) | 443 | 219 | 22 | 197 | 398 | 507 | (109) |
| – in offices outside the UK | 1,369 | 1,063 | 306 | 1,091 | 850 | 1,141 | 1,369 | 323 | 1,036 |
| | 1,572 | 823 | 749 | 2,210 | 872 | 1,338 | 1,767 | 830 | 927 |
| Dated and undated loan capital and other subordinated liabilities principally in offices in the UK | (14) | (41) | 27 | 172 | 135 | 37 | (87) | (78) | (9) |
| External trading liabilities: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (5,611) | (5,611) | n/a |
| – in offices outside the UK | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (1,805) | (1,805) | n/a |
| | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | (7,416) | (7,416) | n/a |
| Repurchase agreements and cash collateral on securities lent: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 2,638 | 1,090 | 1,446 | 1,448 | 329 | 1,117 | 3,634 | 3,634 | n/a |
| – in offices outside the UK | 740 | 1,402 | (662) | 1,932 | 200 | 1,732 | 2,379 | 2,379 | n/a |
| | 3,278 | 2,492 | 784 | 3,378 | 529 | 2,849 | 6,013 | 6,013 | n/a |
| Trading portfolio liabilities: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 263 | (80) | 343 | 277 | 222 | 55 | 1,737 | 1,737 | n/a |
| – in offices outside the UK | 83 | (368) | 449 | 156 | 85 | 71 | 1,156 | 1,156 | n/a |
| | 346 | (448) | 792 | 433 | 307 | 126 | 2,893 | 2,893 | n/a |
| Internal funding of trading businesses | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | 2,045 | 2,045 | n/a |
| Total interest payable: | | | | | | | | | |
| – in offices in the UK | 4,311 | 678 | 3,433 | 3,685 | 1,345 | 2,340 | 2,512 | 2,136 | 376 |
| – in offices outside the UK | 3,190 | 2,674 | 522 | 5,535 | 1,970 | 3,565 | 3,989 | 2,309 | 1,680 |
| | 7,507 | 3,552 | 3,955 | 9,420 | 3,315 | 6,105 | 6,501 | 4,445 | 2,056 |
| Movement in net interest income | | | | | | | | | |
| Increase/(decrease) in interest receivable | 10,667 | 5,021 | 5,646 | 10,009 | 4,684 | 5,325 | 7,639 | 7,163 | 676 |
| (Increase)/decrease in interest payable | (7,507) | (3,552) | (3,955) | (9,420) | (3,315) | (6,105) | (6,501) | (4,445) | (2,056) |
| | 3,160 | 1,469 | 1,691 | 589 | 1,369 | (780) | 1,338 | 2,718 | (1,380) |

Note

^a 2004 figures do not reflect the applications of IAS 32 and IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.

Retail credit risk

A continued improvement in credit quality in the UK unsecured portfolios was a principal feature of the Group's retail credit risk profile during 2007. Barclaycard continued the underwriting revisions begun in 2006 in UK credit cards, and successfully reduced impairment in the main Barclays branded cards portfolio. Flows into delinquency and arrears balances fell, as did general charge-offs, which were helped by a fall in charge-offs due to bankruptcy. New customer quality increased again in 2007, reflected in a sustained improvement in average approval scores and a fall in early cycle delinquency rates.

The UK unsecured loans portfolio, which is now managed within UK Retail Banking, saw reduced early and late cycle delinquency resulting from revised underwriting criteria. Improved collections processes helped to reduce impairment in Local Business, while in UK Home Finance, delinquency and possession rates remained at the lows recorded since 2004, and impairment charges were negligible. Barclays delinquency and possession rates remain below industry averages, reflecting the high credit quality of the portfolio.

Lending criteria in Absa's retail portfolios were tightened in response to a more difficult credit environment, signalled by a rise in arrears rates. The change in conditions was primarily driven by a prolonged series of interest rate rises and the implementation of new consumer lending legislation in June 2007.

We increased our investment in credit risk infrastructure in India and Italy to support the launch or expansion of retail banking operations in those countries during 2007. Barclays has also established a credit risk modelling centre in Madrid to support our strategic growth objectives in the Western Europe business.

The US card business continued to grow, and the underwriting and account management criteria were adjusted as the US retail environment weakened during the year.

Looking ahead this year, we expect the retail credit environment to be more challenging in Absa and to some degree in the US portfolio. The UK portfolios' performance, which has improved in the past two years, will be subject to the evolving economic climate anticipated in 2008.

Risk tendency

Risk tendency at 2007 year-end reflected an increase in portfolio size as well as some weakening in credit grades, evidenced by wider spreads in wholesale credit and potentially more difficult conditions in some of the international retail portfolios in 2008.

Country risk

The portfolio is reasonably well diversified, assisted by increases in business levels in a range of European, African and Asian countries.

Market risk

Dislocation in the credit markets had an impact on all major interest rate, equity and foreign exchange markets, which also experienced higher volatility, particularly in the second half. Barclays Capital's market risk exposure, as measured by average total Daily Value at Risk (DVaR), increased 13% to an average of £42m in 2007. Over the same period, average daily market risk revenue increased 19% to £26m, satisfying our objective that trading revenues should grow at or above the rate of increase in risk levels. The average DVaR on interest rate and credit spread exposures was broadly unchanged, with increasing volatility in credit spreads offset by reduced positions held in the credit markets.

This reduction in exposure resulted in a lower level of credit stress loss, which is another important market risk control for Barclays Capital. Average commodity DVaR and equity DVaR increased as those businesses grew. Diversification across risk types remaining significant, reflecting the broad product mix. Higher market volatilities in the fourth quarter led to an increase in DVaR at year end, and will contribute to higher average DVaRs in 2008.

Liquidity risk

Bank funding markets and general liquidity in credit markets came under pressure in 2007. In the second half, some money market participants faced difficulties in obtaining funding beyond one week, and term LIBOR premiums rose despite the helpful provision of liquidity by central banks. The cost of longer-term bank funding and capital also increased, and funding channels such as securitisation and covered bond issuance became significantly constrained. Despite these developments, the Group's liquidity position remained strong due to its deep retail funding base, its diversity of institutional funding sources across tenors, counterparties and geographies and its limited reliance on securitisation as a funding source.

Operational risk

In 2007, Barclays embedded the advanced measurement approach (AMA) to operational risk across the Group, having received AMA approval from the FSA and the SARB. Barclays now allocates operational risk economic capital by business, providing operational insight and greater tangible incentives to the Group's businesses to further improve the management of their operational risk profiles. As a percentage of revenues, operational risk events fell in 2007.

Financial crime

The Group introduced two-factor authentication for online transactions through its PINentry device and continued to offer all UK personal customers anti-phishing software to combat internet fraud. Combined with improvements in transaction profiling, these changes enabled us to reduce net reported fraud losses. The threat from financial crime constantly evolves, however, and Barclays will continue to build the capacity to respond rapidly to emerging issues as well as to invest in strategic improvements in transaction channel security.

Basel II and capital management

New capital adequacy rules came into force in the UK from 1st January 2008, following the implementation of the Basel II banking accord. Barclays regulatory capital requirement will now more closely reflect the risk profile as measured by its own risk measurement systems (an approach termed the Advanced Internal Ratings Based approach or AIRB).

Permission from the FSA to apply the AIRB approach to capital calculations was the culmination of a lengthy and detailed programme of work across all business areas and covering all risk types. As part of the application process, Barclays assessed over 200 models to ensure that they were consistent with regulators' standards and that they met the 'use' test, which assesses a model's fitness as an input to capital calculations by the extent to which management make use of its output in business decisions.

Our focus over the coming years will be to further enhance risk models, processes and systems infrastructure, in line with our ambition to remain at the leading edge of risk management. With the most significant portfolios already consistent with the AIRB approach, the focus of our Basel II work will now be to progress the roll-out of the advanced approach for the remaining minority of our portfolios. In line with the schedule agreed with regulators, we will complete this process by 2011.

Risk management Credit risk management

Monitoring of loans and advances

As the granting of credit is one of the Group's major sources of income and its most significant risk, the Group dedicates considerable resources to gaining a clear and accurate understanding of credit risk across the business and ensuring that its balance sheet correctly reflects the value of the assets in accordance with accounting principles. This process can be broken down into the following stages:

- Measuring exposures and concentrations
- Monitoring weakness in exposures
- Identifying potential problem loans and credit risk loans (collectively known as potential credit risk loans or PCRLs)
- Raising allowances for impaired loans
- Writing off assets when the whole or part of a debt is considered irrecoverable

Fig. 1: Loans and advances

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Retail businesses | | |
| Banks | — | — |
| Customers | 164,062 | 139,330 |
| Total retail businesses | 164,062 | 139,330 |
| Wholesale businesses | | |
| Banks | 40,123 | 30,930 |
| Customers | 185,105 | 145,281 |
| Total wholesale businesses | 225,228 | 177,211 |
| Loans and advances | 389,290 | 316,541 |

Measuring exposures and concentrations

Loans and advances to customers provide the principal source of credit risk to the Group although Barclays can also be exposed to other forms of credit risk through loans to banks, loan commitments, contingent liabilities and debt securities; see page 46. The value of outstanding loans and advances balances, their risk profile, and potential concentrations within them can therefore have a considerable influence on the level of credit risk in the Group.

As at 31st December 2007, outstanding loans and advances to customers and banks were valued at £389,290m (2006: £317,211m) of which £249,930m (2006: £206,541m) was granted to personal or corporate customers (see figure 1). Loans and advances were well distributed across the retail and wholesale portfolios.

Loans and advances were well spread across industry classifications (figure 2). Excluding Financial Services, Barclays largest sectoral exposures are to home loans, other personal and business and other services. These categories are generally comprised of small loans, have low volatility of credit risk outcomes, and are intrinsically highly diversified.

Balances are also diversified across a number of geographical regions (figure 3, based on location of customers). The majority of Barclays exposure is to the UK, which includes secured home loans exposure, followed by the United States, Africa and the rest of the European Union.

Fig. 2: Loans and advances to customers by industry %

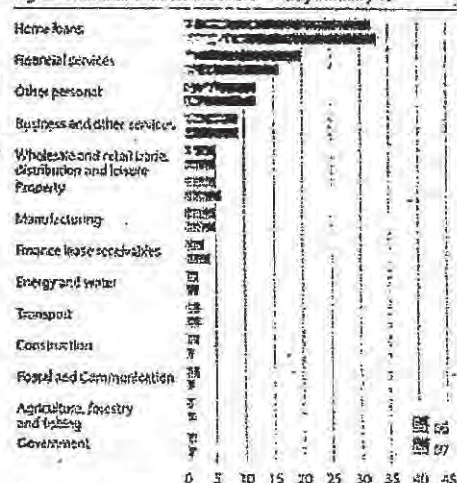


Fig. 3: Geographical analysis of loans and advances to customers %

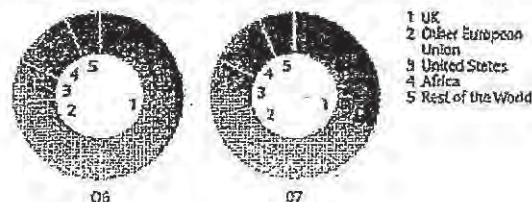
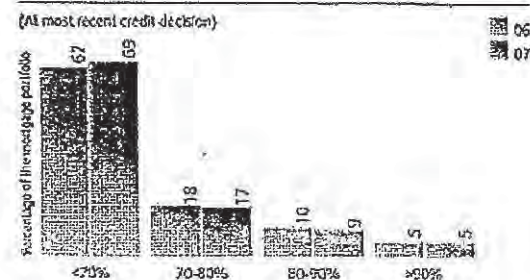


Fig. 4: Analysis of loans-to-value ratios of mortgages in the UK home loan portfolio at 31st December 2007 %



Risk management

Credit risk management

Allowances for impairment and other credit provisions

Barclays establishes, through charges against profit, impairment allowances and other credit provisions for the incurred loss inherent in the lending book.

Under IFRS, impairment allowances are recognised where there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more loss events that have occurred after initial recognition, and where these events have had an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or portfolio of financial assets. Impairment of loans and receivables is measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate. If the carrying amount is less than the discounted cash flows, then no further allowance is necessary.

Impairment is measured individually for assets that are individually significant, and collectively where a portfolio comprises homogeneous assets and where appropriate statistical techniques are available.

In terms of individual assessment, the trigger point for impairment is formal classification of an account as exhibiting serious financial problems and where any further deterioration is likely to lead to failure. Two key inputs to the cash flow calculation are the valuation of all security and collateral and the timing of all asset realisations, after allowing for all attendant costs. This method applies in the corporate portfolios – Barclays Commercial Bank, Barclays Capital and certain areas within International Retail and Commercial Banking and Barclaycard.

For collective assessment, the trigger point for impairment is the missing of a contractual payment. The impairment calculation is based on a roll-rate approach, where the percentage of assets that move from the initial delinquency to default are derived from statistical probabilities based on experience. Recovery amounts and contractual interest rates are calculated using a weighted average for the relevant portfolio. This method applies to parts of International Retail and Commercial Banking, Barclaycard and UK Banking and is consistent with Barclays policy of raising an allowance as soon as impairment is identified.

Unidentified impairment allowances, albeit significantly lower in amount than those reported above, are also raised to cover losses which are judged to be incurred but not yet specifically identified in customer exposures at the balance sheet date, and which, therefore, have not been specifically reported.

The incurred but not yet reported calculation is based on the asset's probability of moving from the performing portfolio to being specifically identified as impaired within the given emergence period and then on to

default within a specified period. This is calculated on the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate.

The emergence periods vary across businesses and are based on actual experience and are reviewed on an annual basis. This methodology ensures that the Group only captures the loss incurred at the balance sheet date.

These impairment allowances are reviewed and adjusted at least quarterly by an appropriate charge or release of the stock of impairment allowances based on statistical analysis and management judgement.

Where appropriate, the accuracy of this analysis is periodically assessed against actual losses.

As one of the controls of ensuring that adequate impairment allowances are held, movements in impairment allowances to individual names above £10m are presented to the Group Credit Committee for agreement.

The Group Credit Risk Impairment Committee (GCRIC), on a semi-annual basis, obtains assurance on behalf of the Group that all businesses are recognising impairment in their portfolios accurately and promptly in their recommendations and in accordance with policy, accounting standards and established governance.

GCRIC exercises the authority of the Barclays Risk Director, as delegated by the Chief Executive, and is chaired by Barclays Credit Risk Director.

GCRIC reviews the movements to impairment in the businesses, including those already agreed at Group Credit Committee, Potential Credit Risk Loans and Risk Tendency.

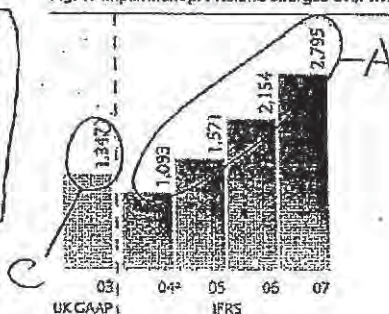
These committees are supported by a number of Group Policies including: Group Retail Impairment and Provisioning Policy; Group Wholesale Impairment and Provisioning Policy; and, Group Model Policy.

GCRIC makes twice-yearly recommendations to the Board Audit Committee on the adequacy of Group impairment allowances. Impairment allowances are reviewed relative to the risk in the portfolio, business and economic trends, current policies and methodologies and our position against peer banks.

Fig. 16: Impairment charges for bad and doubtful debts

| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | £m | £m | £m |
| UK Banking | 849 | 887 | 871 |
| Barclaycard | 338 | 1,067 | 753 |
| International Retail and Commercial Banking | 252 | 167 | 33 |
| Barclays Capital | 846 | 42 | 111 |
| Barclays Global Investors | - | - | - |
| Barclays Wealth | 7 | 2 | 2 |
| Head office functions and other operations | 3 | (11) | 1 |
| Total impairment charges | 2,785 | 2,154 | 1,571 |

Fig. 17 Impairment/provisions charges over five years £



Notes

- a Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.

GCRIC has delegated the detailed review of loan impairment in the businesses to the Retail and Wholesale Credit Risk Management Committees.

In 2007, total impairment charges on loans and advances and other credit provisions increased by £641m to £2,795m (2006: £2,154m) reflecting charges of £782m against ABS CDO Super Senior and other credit market positions.

Impairment charges on loans and advances and other credit provisions as a percentage of Group total loans and advances rose to 0.71% (2006: 0.65%). Total loans and advances grew by 23% to £383,250m (2006: £316,581m).

Retail impairment charges on loans and advances fell 11% (£204m) to £1,805m (2006: £1,809m). Retail impairment charges as a percentage of period-end total loans and advances reduced to 0.58% (2006: 0.62%). Total retail loans and advances rose by 18% to £164,062m (2006: £139,350m).

Barclaycard impairment charges improved £225m (21%) to £938m (2006: £1,163m) reflecting reduced flows into delinquency, lower levels of arrears and lower charge-offs in UK Cards. We made changes to our impairment methodologies to standardise our approach and in anticipation of Basel II. The net positive impact of these changes in methodology was offset by the increase in impairment charges in Barclaycard International and secured consumer lending.

Impairment charges in UK Retail Bank decreased by £76m (12%) to £559m (2006: £635m), reflecting lower charges in unsecured Consumer Lending and Local Business driven by improved collection processes, reduced flows into delinquency, lower trends of arrears and stable charge-offs. In UK Home Finance, asset quality remained strong and mortgage charges remained negligible. Mortgage delinquencies as a percentage of outstandings remained stable and amounts charged-off were low.

Impairment charges in International Retail and Commercial Banking – excluding Absa rose by £38m (33%) to £79m (2006: £41m) reflecting very strong balance sheet growth in 2006 and 2007 and the impact of lower releases in 2007.

Arrears in some of International Retail and Commercial Banking – Absa's key retail portfolios deteriorated in 2007, driven by interest rate increases in 2006 and 2007 resulting in pressure on collections.

Wholesale and corporate impairment charges on loans and advances increased £436m to £701m (2006: £265m). Wholesale and corporate impairment charges as a percentage of period-end total loans and advances increased to 0.31% (2006: 0.15%). Total loans and advances grew by 27% to £225,228m (2006: £177,211m).

Barclays Capital impairment charges and other credit provisions of £946m included a charge of £782m against ABS CDO Super Senior and other credit market exposure and £55m relating to drawn leveraged finance positions.

The impairment charge in Barclays Commercial Bank increased by £36m (15%) to £230m (2006: £253m), primarily due to higher gross impairment charges in Larger Business, partially offset by a lower charge in Medium Business due to a tightening of the lending criteria.

Writing-off of assets

After an advance has been identified as impaired and is subject to an impairment allowance, the stage may be reached whereby it is concluded that there is no realistic prospect of further recovery. Write-off will occur, when, and to the extent that, the whole or part of a debt is considered irrecoverable.

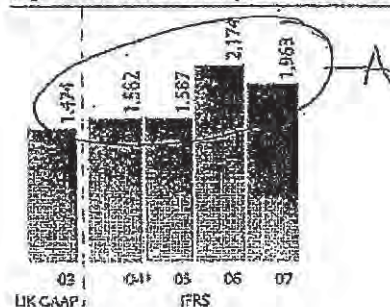
The timing and extent of write-offs may involve some element of subjective judgement. Nevertheless, a write-off will often be prompted by a specific event, such as the inception of insolvency proceedings or other formal recovery action, which makes it possible to establish that some or the entire advance is beyond realistic prospect of recovery. In any event, the position of impaired loans is reviewed at least quarterly to ensure that irrecoverable advances are being written off in a prompt and orderly manner and in compliance with any local regulations.

Such assets are only written off once all the necessary procedures have been completed and the amount of the loss has been determined.

Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are written back and hence decrease the amount of the reported loan impairment charge in the income statement.

Total write-offs of impaired financial assets decreased by £211m to £1,863m (2006: £2,174m).

Fig. 18: Total write-offs of impaired financial assets £m



Note

- a Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.

Risk management

Disclosures about certain trading activities

Disclosures about certain trading activities including non-exchange traded commodity contracts

The Group provides a fully integrated service to clients for base metals, precious metals, oil, power, natural gas, coal, freight, emission credits, structured products and other related commodities. This service offering continues to expand, as market conditions allow, through the addition of new products and markets.

The Group offers both over the counter (OTC) and exchange traded derivatives, including swaps, options, forwards and futures and enters into physically settled contracts in base metals, power and natural gas, with 2007 seeing the addition of oil and related products to this portfolio. Physical commodity positions are held at fair value and reported under the Trading Portfolio in Note 12.

Fair value measurement

The fair values of physical and derivative positions are primarily determined through a combination of recognised market-observable prices, exchange prices, and established inter-commodity relationships. Further information on fair value measurement of financial instruments can be found in Note 49.

Credit risk

Credit risk exposures are actively managed by the Group. Refer to Note 47 for more information on the Group's approach to credit risk management and the credit quality of derivative assets.

Fair value of the commodity derivative contracts

The tables below analyse the overall fair value of the commodity derivative contracts by movement over time and maturity. As at 31st December 2007 the fair value of the commodity derivative contracts reflects a gross positive fair value of £23.67m (2006: £17.501m) and a gross negative value of £22.759m (2006: £15.940m).

Movement in fair value of commodity derivative positions

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Fair value of contracts outstanding at the beginning of the period | 1,561 | 527 |
| Contracts realised or otherwise settled during the period | (764) | 379 |
| Fair value of new contracts entered into during the period | 243 | 808 |
| Other changes in fair values | (223) | (153) |
| Fair value of contracts outstanding at the end of the period | 812 | 1,561 |

Maturity analysis of commodity derivative fair value

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Not more than one year | (279) | 902 |
| Over one year but not more than five years | 773 | 327 |
| Over five years | 318 | 332 |
| Total | 812 | 1,561 |

Risk management

Statistical information

Statistical and other risk information

This section of the report contains supplementary information that is more detailed or contains longer histories than the data presented in the discussion. For commentary on this information, please refer to the preceding text (pages 74 to 85).

Barclays applied International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) with effect from 1st January 2004, with the exception of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4, which were applied from 1st January 2005.

Credit risk management

Table 1: Risk Tendency by business (page 78)

| | 2007 £m | 2008 £m |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| UK Banking | 775 | 790 |
| UK Retail Banking | 470 | 500 |
| Barclays Commercial Bank | 305 | 290 |
| Barclaycard | 945 | 1,135 |
| International Retail and Commercial Banking | 475 | 220 |
| International Retail and Commercial Banking – excluding Absa | 220 | 75 |
| International Retail and Commercial Banking – Absa | 255 | 145 |
| Barclays Capital | 140 | 95 |
| Barclays Wealth | 10 | 10 |
| Head office functions and other operations ^a | 10 | 10 |
| Risk Tendency by business | 2,355 | 2,260 |

Table 2: Loans and advances

| | 2007 £m | 2008 £m |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Retail businesses | | |
| Banks | 154,062 | 139,350 |
| Customers | 154,062 | 139,350 |
| Total retail businesses | 154,062 | 139,350 |
| Wholesale businesses | | |
| Banks | 40,123 | 30,830 |
| Customers | 185,105 | 145,281 |
| Total wholesale businesses | 225,228 | 177,211 |
| Loans and advances | 389,290 | 316,561 |

Note

^a Head office functions and other operations comprises discontinued business in transition.

Risk management Statistical information

Table 3: Maturity analysis of loans and advances to banks

| | On demand £m | Not more than three months £m | Over three months but not more than six months £m | Over six months but not more than one year £m | Over one year but not more than three years £m | Over three years but not more than five years £m | Over five years but not more than ten years £m | Over ten years £m | Total £m |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| At 31st December 2007 | | | | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 796 | 4,099 | 36 | 92 | 114 | 20 | 1 | 370 | 5,518 |
| Other European Union | 2,977 | 7,745 | 74 | 98 | 95 | 119 | 7 | - | 11,102 |
| United States | 321 | 5,736 | 95 | 1,265 | 343 | 98 | 5,498 | 97 | 13,443 |
| Africa | 263 | 1,250 | 131 | 114 | 196 | 439 | 168 | - | 2,581 |
| Rest of the World | 1,805 | 3,336 | 90 | 1,640 | 512 | 302 | 15 | 19 | 7,479 |
| Loans and advances to banks | 5,862 | 22,145 | 445 | 3,189 | 1,260 | 1,035 | 5,679 | 486 | 40,123 |
| At 31st December 2006 | | | | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 524 | 5,211 | 110 | 18 | 43 | 10 | - | 313 | 6,229 |
| Other European Union | 619 | 7,614 | 90 | 130 | 81 | 78 | 1 | - | 8,513 |
| United States | 431 | 2,592 | 363 | 2,634 | 5 | 209 | 923 | 1,299 | 9,065 |
| Africa | 701 | 1,027 | 83 | 91 | 188 | 85 | 44 | - | 2,219 |
| Rest of the World | 612 | 2,465 | 154 | 191 | 1,278 | 148 | 44 | 21 | 4,913 |
| Loans and advances to banks | 2,887 | 18,909 | 800 | 3,064 | 1,595 | 1,130 | 1,012 | 1,633 | 30,930 |

Table 4: Interest rate sensitivity of loans and advances

| | 2007 | | 2006 | |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| At 31st December | Fixed rate £m | Variable rate £m | Fixed rate £m | Variable rate £m |
| Banks | 18,447 | 23,676 | 40,123 | 18,754 |
| Customers | 77,861 | 271,308 | 349,167 | 219,631 |

Table 5: Loans and advances to customers by industry

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|
| At 31st December | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m | 2004 ^a £m | 2003 £m |
| Financial services | 71,160 | 45,954 | 43,102 | 25,132 | 9,872 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 3,319 | 3,997 | 3,785 | 2,345 | 2,115 |
| Manufacturing | 16,974 | 15,451 | 13,779 | 9,044 | 7,844 |
| Construction | 5,423 | 4,056 | 5,020 | 3,278 | 2,534 |
| Property | 17,018 | 16,528 | 18,325 | 8,992 | 6,728 |
| Government | 2,036 | 2,428 | 1,718 | - | - |
| Energy and water | 9,632 | 6,810 | 5,891 | 3,709 | 3,150 |
| Wholesale and retail, distribution and leisure | 17,768 | 15,480 | 17,760 | 11,099 | 9,628 |
| Transport | 6,258 | 5,885 | 5,960 | 3,742 | 3,654 |
| Postal and communication | 5,404 | 2,180 | 1,313 | 834 | 698 |
| Business and other services | 30,363 | 26,999 | 22,529 | 23,223 | 19,913 |
| Home loans ^b | 112,067 | 94,635 | 87,033 | 79,164 | 72,318 |
| Other personal | 41,635 | 35,377 | 38,069 | 29,293 | 23,922 |
| Overseas customers ^c | - | - | - | - | 8,666 |
| Finance lease receivables | 11,130 | 10,142 | 9,088 | 6,938 | 5,877 |
| Loans and advances to customers excluding reverse repurchase agreements | 349,167 | 285,631 | 272,342 | 206,793 | 170,919 |
| Reverse repurchase agreements | n/a | n/a | n/a | 58,804 | n/a |
| Trading business | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | 58,951 |
| Loans and advances to customers | 349,167 | 285,631 | 272,342 | 265,597 | 229,880 |

Notes

^a Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.

^b Excludes commercial property mortgages.

^c Overseas customers are now classified as part of other industry segments.

Barclays

Table 6: Loans and advances to customers in the UK

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| At 31st December | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Financial services | 21,131 | 14,011 | 11,958 | 8,774 | 7,721 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 2,220 | 2,307 | 2,409 | 1,963 | 1,768 |
| Manufacturing | 9,368 | 9,047 | 8,469 | 5,684 | 5,967 |
| Construction | 3,542 | 2,761 | 3,090 | 2,235 | 1,883 |
| Property | 10,203 | 10,010 | 10,647 | 7,912 | 6,341 |
| Government | 201 | 6 | 6 | - | - |
| Energy and water | 2,203 | 2,380 | 2,701 | 802 | 1,288 |
| Wholesale and retail distribution and leisure | 13,860 | 12,951 | 12,747 | 9,336 | 8,886 |
| Transport | 3,185 | 2,745 | 2,797 | 1,822 | 2,579 |
| Postal and communication | 1,416 | 890 | 465 | 440 | 478 |
| Business and other services | 20,485 | 19,260 | 15,397 | 13,439 | 12,030 |
| Home loans ^b | 71,765 | 64,150 | 58,730 | 61,348 | 61,905 |
| Other personal | 26,810 | 26,088 | 29,250 | 26,872 | 21,905 |
| Overseas customers ^c | - | - | - | - | 5,477 |
| Finance lease receivables | 4,008 | 3,929 | 5,203 | 5,551 | 5,587 |
| Loans and advances to customers in the UK | 100,347 | 170,518 | 163,759 | 146,248 | 143,809 |

The category 'other personal' now includes credit cards, personal loans, second home and personal overdrafts.

The industry classifications in Tables 5-9 have been prepared at the level of the borrowing entity. This means that a loan to the subsidiary of a major corporation is classified by the industry in which the subsidiary operates, even though the parent's predominant business may lie in a different industry.

Table 7: Loans and advances to customers in other European Union countries

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| At 31st December | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Financial services | 7,595 | 5,629 | 3,982 | 2,419 | 1,205 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 141 | 706 | 155 | 280 | 147 |
| Manufacturing | 4,175 | 3,147 | 2,254 | 2,021 | 1,275 |
| Construction | 1,159 | 639 | 803 | 716 | 609 |
| Property | 2,510 | 2,182 | 3,299 | 344 | 346 |
| Government | - | 8 | - | - | - |
| Energy and water | 2,425 | 2,060 | 1,450 | 940 | 409 |
| Wholesale and retail distribution and leisure | 1,719 | 778 | 552 | 810 | 426 |
| Transport | 1,933 | 1,165 | 1,635 | 840 | 566 |
| Postal and communication | 662 | 580 | 432 | 111 | 40 |
| Business and other services | 3,801 | 2,343 | 3,594 | 3,795 | 1,251 |
| Home loans ^b | 24,115 | 18,516 | 16,468 | 11,828 | 10,334 |
| Other personal | 3,905 | 3,672 | 1,809 | 1,369 | 1,769 |
| Overseas customers ^c | - | - | - | - | 433 |
| Finance lease receivables | 2,403 | 1,559 | 1,870 | 937 | 212 |
| Loans and advances to customers in other European Union countries | 56,533 | 43,430 | 38,923 | 26,210 | 19,027 |

See note under Table 6.

Notes

- a Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005. The 2004 analysis excludes reverse repurchase agreements.
- b Excludes commercial property mortgages.
- c Overseas customers are now classified as part of other industry segments.

Risk management Statistical information

Table 8: Loans and advances to customers in the United States

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| At 31st December | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Financial services | 29,342 | 17,516 | 16,229 | 9,942 | 919 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 2 | 2 | 1 | - | 1 |
| Manufacturing | 818 | 519 | 937 | 388 | 341 |
| Construction | 16 | 13 | 32 | 133 | 2 |
| Property | 568 | 1,714 | 329 | 394 | 1 |
| Government | 221 | 153 | 300 | - | - |
| Energy and water | 1,279 | 1,078 | 1,261 | 831 | 1,358 |
| Wholesale and retail distribution and leisure | 398 | 403 | 784 | 468 | 77 |
| Transport | 137 | 128 | 148 | 189 | 469 |
| Postal and communication | 2,446 | 33 | 236 | 63 | 153 |
| Business and other services | 1,053 | 1,432 | 885 | 1,566 | 220 |
| Home loans ^b | 458 | 349 | 2 | 5,768 | - |
| Other personal | 3,256 | 2,022 | 1,443 | 845 | - |
| Finance lease receivables | 304 | 312 | 328 | 335 | 33 |
| Loans and advances to customers in the United States | 40,300 | 25,677 | 22,925 | 20,982 | 3,573 |

See note under Table 6.

Table 9: Loans and advances to customers in Africa

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| At 31st December | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Financial services | 3,472 | 2,821 | 4,350 | 186 | 27 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 958 | 889 | 1,193 | 102 | 201 |
| Manufacturing | 1,351 | 1,747 | 1,601 | 313 | 201 |
| Construction | 637 | 591 | 1,088 | 76 | 40 |
| Property | 2,433 | 1,887 | 1,673 | 87 | 40 |
| Government | 957 | 785 | 625 | - | - |
| Energy and water | 356 | 165 | 183 | 184 | 97 |
| Wholesale and retail distribution and leisure | 1,325 | 1,050 | 2,774 | 165 | 239 |
| Transport | 116 | 354 | 394 | 137 | 41 |
| Postal and communication | 231 | 241 | 87 | 52 | 29 |
| Business and other services | 1,285 | 2,631 | 1,259 | 1,012 | 412 |
| Home loans ^b | 15,314 | 11,223 | 11,630 | 214 | 79 |
| Other personal | 6,368 | 2,976 | 4,955 | 190 | 248 |
| Finance lease receivables | 4,357 | 4,240 | 1,580 | 41 | 45 |
| Loans and advances to customers in Africa | 39,167 | 31,691 | 33,221 | 2,759 | 1,759 |

See note under Table 6.

Table 10: Loans and advances to customers in the Rest of the World

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| At 31st December | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Loans and advances | 22,702 | 14,207 | 13,407 | 10,620 | 2,751 |
| Finance lease receivables | 118 | 108 | 107 | 74 | - |
| Loans and advances to customers in the Rest of the World | 22,820 | 14,315 | 13,514 | 10,694 | 2,751 |

Notes

- Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005. The 2004 analysis excludes reverse repurchase agreements.
- Excludes commercial property mortgages.

Risk management Statistical information

Table 11: Maturity analysis of loans and advances to customers

| | On demand £m | Not more than three months £m | Over three months but not more than six months £m | Over six months but not more than one year £m | Over one year but not more than three years £m | Over three years but not more than five years £m | Over five years but not more than ten years £m | Over ten years £m | Total £m |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| At 31st December 2007 | | | | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | | | | | | | | | |
| Corporate lending ^a | 26,557 | 15,737 | 2,453 | 3,834 | 8,474 | 8,358 | 10,718 | 11,643 | 87,774 |
| Other lending to customers in the United Kingdom | 4,384 | 4,717 | 2,105 | 3,597 | 11,517 | 8,595 | 19,325 | 48,228 | 102,573 |
| Total United Kingdom | 30,941 | 20,454 | 4,558 | 7,431 | 19,991 | 17,057 | 30,043 | 59,871 | 190,347 |
| Other European Union | 4,016 | 7,665 | 2,329 | 3,204 | 5,842 | 4,883 | 8,942 | 19,772 | 56,533 |
| United States | 3,053 | 20,205 | 3,430 | 5,938 | 1,904 | 2,498 | 2,858 | 614 | 40,388 |
| Africa | 8,805 | 4,243 | 881 | 1,569 | 5,558 | 4,124 | 2,285 | 13,291 | 39,167 |
| Rest of the World | 1,085 | 8,733 | 1,895 | 859 | 2,223 | 2,585 | 3,688 | 954 | 22,820 |
| Loans and advances to customers | 45,901 | 62,380 | 12,794 | 19,481 | 35,528 | 31,148 | 47,513 | 94,502 | 349,167 |

| | On demand £m | Not more than three months £m | Over three months but not more than six months £m | Over six months but not more than one year £m | Over one year but not more than three years £m | Over three years but not more than five years £m | Over five years but not more than ten years £m | Over ten years £m | Total £m |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| At 31st December 2006 | | | | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | | | | | | | | | |
| Corporate lending ^a | 22,923 | 13,569 | 2,262 | 2,850 | 7,562 | 8,499 | 8,349 | 10,342 | 76,356 |
| Other lending to customers in the United Kingdom | 3,784 | 4,427 | 2,110 | 3,586 | 11,937 | 7,459 | 16,358 | 44,601 | 94,162 |
| Total United Kingdom | 26,707 | 17,996 | 4,372 | 6,436 | 19,499 | 15,958 | 24,707 | 54,943 | 170,518 |
| Other European Union | 2,137 | 6,254 | 1,744 | 2,889 | 4,783 | 4,397 | 6,565 | 14,681 | 43,490 |
| United States | 2,489 | 11,630 | 1,589 | 3,402 | 1,949 | 1,871 | 1,464 | 1,183 | 25,977 |
| Africa | 2,575 | 2,471 | 1,272 | 2,177 | 5,212 | 4,177 | 3,555 | 10,252 | 31,681 |
| Rest of the World | 86 | 6,377 | 1,015 | 1,020 | 1,116 | 1,465 | 1,600 | 1,438 | 14,316 |
| Loans and advances to customers | 33,994 | 44,728 | 10,092 | 15,904 | 32,559 | 27,868 | 38,091 | 82,395 | 265,631 |

Table 12: Loans and advances in currencies other than the local currency of the borrower for countries where this exceeds 1% of total Group assets

| | As % of assets | Total £m | Banks and other financial institutions £m | Governments and official institutions £m | Commercial Industrial and other private sectors £m |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| At 31st December 2007 | | | | | |
| United States | 2.1 | 26,249 | 7,151 | 6 | 19,092 |
| At 31st December 2006 | | | | | |
| United States | 1.7 | 16,579 | 7,307 | 89 | 8,183 |
| At 31st December 2005 | | | | | |
| United States | 2.6 | 24,274 | 15,693 | - | 8,581 |

At 31st December 2007, 2006 and 2005, there were no countries where Barclays had cross-currency loans to borrowers between 0.75% and 1% of total Group assets.

Note

a In the UK, finance lease receivables are included in 'Other lending', although some leases are to corporate customers.

Risk management Statistical information

Table 13: Off-balance sheet and other credit exposures as at 31st December

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Off-balance sheet exposures | | | |
| Contingent liabilities | 45,774 | 39,419 | 47,143 |
| Commitments | 192,639 | 205,504 | 203,795 |
| On-balance sheet exposures | | | |
| Trading portfolio assets | 193,691 | 177,867 | 155,728 |
| Financial assets designated at fair value held on own account | 56,629 | 31,798 | 12,904 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 248,088 | 138,353 | 136,823 |
| Available for sale financial investments | 43,072 | 51,703 | 53,497 |

Table 14: Notional principal amounts of credit derivatives as at 31st December

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Credit derivatives held or issued for trading purposes ^a | 2,472,249 | 1,224,548 | 609,381 |
| Total | 2,472,249 | 1,224,548 | 609,381 |

Table 16: Credit risk loans summary

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|
| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m | 2004 ^b £m | 2003 £m |
| At 31st December | | | | | |
| Impaired loans ^c | 8,574 | 4,444 | 4,550 | n/a | n/a |
| Non-accruing loans | n/a | n/a | n/a | 2,118 | 2,261 |
| Accruing loans where interest is being suspended with or without provisions | n/a | n/a | n/a | 482 | 629 |
| Other accruing loans against which provisions have been made | n/a | n/a | n/a | 943 | 821 |
| Subtotal | 8,574 | 4,444 | 4,550 | 3,550 | 3,711 |
| Accruing loans which are contractually overdue 90 days or more as to principal or interest | 794 | 598 | 603 | 550 | 590 |
| Impaired and restructured loans | 273 | 45 | 51 | 15 | 4 |
| Credit risk loans | 9,641 | 5,089 | 5,210 | 4,115 | 4,305 |

Notes

- a Includes credit derivatives held as economic hedges which are not designated as hedges for accounting purposes.
b 2004 does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.
c Includes £3,344m of ABS CDO Super Senior exposures.

Table 16: Credit risk loans

| At 31st December | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m | 2004 ^a £m | 2003 £m |
| Impaired loans: ^b | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 3,685 | 3,340 | 2,965 | n/a | n/a |
| Other European Union | 472 | 410 | 345 | n/a | n/a |
| United States | 3,703 | 128 | 230 | n/a | n/a |
| Africa | 757 | 535 | 831 | n/a | n/a |
| Rest of the World | 37 | 30 | 179 | n/a | n/a |
| Total | 8,574 | 4,444 | 4,550 | n/a | n/a |
| Non-accrual loans: | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | n/a | n/a | n/a | 1,509 | 1,572 |
| Other European Union | n/a | n/a | n/a | 243 | 143 |
| United States | n/a | n/a | n/a | 258 | 383 |
| Africa | n/a | n/a | n/a | 74 | 88 |
| Rest of the World | n/a | n/a | n/a | 31 | 77 |
| Total | n/a | n/a | n/a | 2,115 | 2,261 |
| Accruing loans where interest is being suspended with or without provisions: | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | n/a | n/a | n/a | 323 | 659 |
| Other European Union | n/a | n/a | n/a | 31 | 28 |
| Africa | n/a | n/a | n/a | 21 | 37 |
| Rest of the World | n/a | n/a | n/a | 117 | 4 |
| Total | n/a | n/a | n/a | 492 | 629 |
| Other accruing loans against which provisions have been made: | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | n/a | n/a | n/a | 865 | 760 |
| Other European Union | n/a | n/a | n/a | 27 | 35 |
| United States | n/a | n/a | n/a | 26 | - |
| Africa | n/a | n/a | n/a | 21 | 22 |
| Rest of the World | n/a | n/a | n/a | 4 | 4 |
| Total | n/a | n/a | n/a | 943 | 821 |
| Accruing loans which are contractually overdue 90 days or more as to principal or interest: | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 676 | 516 | 539 | 513 | 566 |
| Other European Union | 79 | 58 | 53 | 34 | 24 |
| United States | 10 | 3 | - | 1 | - |
| Africa | 29 | 21 | 17 | 1 | - |
| Rest of the World | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Total | 794 | 598 | 609 | 550 | 590 |
| Impaired and restructured loans: | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 179 | - | 5 | 2 | 4 |
| Other European Union | 14 | 10 | 7 | - | - |
| United States | 38 | 22 | 16 | 13 | - |
| Africa | 42 | 14 | 23 | - | - |
| Total | 273 | 46 | 51 | 15 | 4 |
| Total credit risk loans: | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 4,460 | 3,856 | 3,509 | 3,212 | 3,461 |
| Other European Union | 565 | 478 | 405 | 335 | 231 |
| United States | 3,751 | 154 | 248 | 293 | 383 |
| Africa | 828 | 570 | 871 | 117 | 145 |
| Rest of the World | 37 | 30 | 179 | 153 | 85 |
| Credit risk loans | 9,641 | 5,088 | 5,210 | 4,115 | 4,305 |

Notes

a Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.

b Includes £3,344m of ABS CDO Super Senior Exposures.

Risk management Statistical information

Table 17: Potential problem loans

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|
| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m | 2004 ^a £m | 2003 £m |
| At 31st December | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 419 | 455 | 640 | 659 | 989 |
| Other European Union | 59 | 32 | 26 | 32 | 23 |
| United States | 964 | 21 | 12 | 27 | 259 |
| Africa | 355 | 240 | 248 | 67 | 53 |
| Rest of the World | - | 3 | 3 | 14 | 9 |
| Potential problem loans ^b | 1,797 | 761 | 929 | 799 | 1,327 |

Table 18: Interest foregone on credit risk loans

| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Interest income that would have been recognised under the original contractual terms | | | |
| United Kingdom | 340 | 367 | 304 |
| Rest of the World | 91 | 70 | 62 |
| Total | 431 | 427 | 356 |

Interest income of approximately £44m (2006: £72m; 2005: £29m) from such loans was included in profit, of which £26m (2006: £49m; 2005: £20m) related to domestic lending and the remainder related to foreign lending.

In addition, a further £113m (2006: £98m; 2005: £76m) was recognised arising from impaired loans. Following impairment, interest income is recognised using the original effective rate of interest which was used to discount the expected future cash flows for the purpose of measuring the impairment loss. £53m (2006: £88m; 2005: £70m) of this related to domestic impaired loans and the remainder related to foreign impaired loans.

Table 19: Analysis of impairment/provision charges

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|
| | 2007 £m | 2006 £m | 2005 £m | 2004 ^a £m | 2003 £m |
| At 31st December | | | | | |
| Impairment charge/net specific provisions charge | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 1,593 | 1,880 | 1,362 | 1,021 | 1,132 |
| Other European Union | 123 | 92 | 75 | 102 | 37 |
| United States | 374 | 12 | 76 | 57 | 84 |
| Africa | 214 | 143 | 37 | 27 | 21 |
| Rest of the World | 2 | (53) | 4 | 103 | 46 |
| Impairment on loans and advances | 2,305 | 2,074 | 1,574 | n/a | n/a |
| Impairment on available for sale assets | 13 | 86 | 4 | n/a | n/a |
| Impairment charge | 2,319 | 2,160 | 1,578 | n/a | n/a |
| Total net specific provisions charge | n/a | n/a | n/a | 1,310 | 1,320 |
| General provisions (release)/charge | n/a | n/a | n/a | (206) | 27 |
| Other credit provisions charge/(release) | 476 | (6) | (7) | (11) | - |
| Impairment/provision charges | 2,795 | 2,154 | 1,571 | 1,093 | 1,347 |

Notes

a Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.

b Includes £951m of ABB GDO Super Senior and SIV-filos exposures.

Table 20: Impairment/provisions charges ratios ('Loan loss ratios')

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|-------------------|---------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Impairment/provisions charges as a percentage of average loans and advances for the year: | | | | | |
| Specific provisions charge | n/a | n/a | n/a | 0.40 | 0.46 |
| General provisions charge | n/a | n/a | n/a | (0.07) | 0.01 |
| Impairment charge | 0.54 | 0.58 | 0.58 | n/a | n/a |
| Total | 0.54 | 0.58 | 0.58 | 0.33 | 0.47 |
| Amounts written off (net of recoveries) | 0.49 | 0.51 | 0.50 | 0.40 | 0.48 |

Table 21: Analysis of allowance for impairment/provision for bad and doubtful debts

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Impairment allowance/Specific provisions | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 2,526 | 2,477 | 2,268 | 1,683 | 1,855 |
| Other European Union | 314 | 311 | 284 | 149 | 97 |
| United States | 356 | 100 | 130 | 155 | 121 |
| Africa | 514 | 417 | 547 | 70 | 79 |
| Rest of the World | 32 | 30 | 123 | 90 | 80 |
| Specific provision balances | n/a | n/a | n/a | 2,147 | 2,238 |
| General provision balances | n/a | n/a | n/a | 584 | 705 |
| Allowance for impairment provision balances | 3,772 | 3,335 | 3,450 | 2,711 | 3,023 |
| Average loans and advances for the year | 357,893 | 313,514 | 271,421 | 328,134 | 285,963 |

Table 22: Allowance for impairment/provision balance ratios

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|-------------------|---------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Allowance for impairment/provision balance at end of year as a percentage of loans and advances at end of year: | | | | | |
| Specific provision balances | n/a | n/a | n/a | 0.52 | 0.77 |
| General provision balances | n/a | n/a | n/a | 0.16 | 0.27 |
| Impairment balance | 0.97 | 1.05 | 1.14 | n/a | n/a |
| Total | 0.97 | 1.05 | 1.14 | 0.78 | 1.04 |

Notes

- a. Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.

Risk management Statistical information

Table 23: Movements in allowance for impairment/provisions charge for bad and doubtful debts

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Allowance for impairment/provision balance at beginning of year | 3,335 | 3,450 | 2,637 | 2,948 | 2,998 |
| Acquisitions and disposals | (73) | (23) | 555 | 21 | 62 |
| Unwind of discount | (113) | (98) | (76) | n/a | n/a |
| Exchange and other adjustments | 53 | (153) | 125 | (33) | (18) |
| Amounts written off | (1,963) | (2,174) | (1,587) | (1,582) | (1,474) |
| Recoveries | 227 | 259 | 222 | 255 | 113 |
| Impairment/provision charged against profit ^b | 2,305 | 2,074 | 1,574 | 1,104 | 1,347 |
| Allowance for impairment/provision balance at end of year | 3,772 | 3,335 | 3,450 | 2,711 | 3,028 |

Table 24: Amounts written off

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| United Kingdom | (1,330) | (1,748) | (1,302) | (1,260) | (1,176) |
| Other European Union | (143) | (74) | (56) | (63) | (54) |
| United States | (145) | (46) | (143) | (50) | (215) |
| Africa | (145) | (254) | (81) | (15) | (13) |
| Rest of the World | - | (44) | (5) | (174) | (17) |
| Amounts written off | (1,963) | (2,174) | (1,587) | (1,582) | (1,474) |

Table 25: Recoveries

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|----------------------|------|------|------|-------------------|---------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| United Kingdom | 154 | 178 | 160 | 217 | 55 |
| Other European Union | 32 | 18 | 13 | 9 | 7 |
| United States | 7 | 22 | 15 | 14 | 10 |
| Africa | 34 | 33 | 16 | 4 | 1 |
| Rest of the World | - | 8 | 18 | 11 | - |
| Recoveries | 227 | 259 | 222 | 255 | 113 |

Notes

- ^a Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.
- ^b Does not reflect the impairment of available for sale assets or other credit risk provisions.

Table 26: Impairment allowances/provision charged against profit

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Now and increased impairment allowance/specific provision charge: | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 1,980 | 2,253 | 1,763 | 1,358 | 1,373 |
| Other European Union | 192 | 182 | 113 | 131 | 57 |
| United States | 431 | 60 | 105 | 95 | 118 |
| Africa | 268 | 209 | 108 | 47 | 33 |
| Rest of the World | 20 | 18 | 35 | 134 | 47 |
| | 2,871 | 2,722 | 2,129 | 1,765 | 1,628 |
| Reversals of impairment allowance/specific provision charge: | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | (213) | (195) | (221) | (120) | (146) |
| Other European Union | (37) | (72) | (25) | (20) | (13) |
| United States | (60) | (26) | (14) | (14) | (24) |
| Africa | (20) | (33) | (56) | (15) | (10) |
| Rest of the World | (18) | (63) | (17) | (20) | (2) |
| | (338) | (389) | (333) | (180) | (195) |
| | (327) | (259) | (222) | (255) | (113) |
| Reverses | | | | | |
| Net impairment allowance/specific provision charge ^b | 2,306 | 2,074 | 1,574 | 1,310 | 1,320 |
| General provision (release)/charge | n/a | n/a | n/a | (206) | 27 |
| Net charge to profit | 2,306 | 2,074 | 1,574 | 1,104 | 1,347 |

Table 27: Total impairment/specific provision charges for bad and doubtful debts by industry

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2003 |
| | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| United Kingdom: | | | | | |
| Financial services | 32 | 64 | 22 | (1) | 13 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | - | 5 | 9 | - | (9) |
| Manufacturing | 72 | 1 | 120 | 28 | 79 |
| Construction | 14 | 17 | 14 | 10 | (23) |
| Property | 36 | 15 | 18 | (42) | (3) |
| Energy and water | 1 | (7) | 1 | 3 | 13 |
| Wholesale and retail distribution and leisure | 118 | 88 | 39 | 66 | 38 |
| Transport | 3 | 19 | (27) | (19) | 100 |
| Postal and communication | 15 | 15 | 3 | (1) | 1 |
| Business and other services | 91 | 133 | 45 | 64 | 76 |
| Home loans | 1 | 4 | (7) | 17 | 9 |
| Other personal | 1,187 | 1,526 | 1,142 | 854 | 757 |
| Overseas customers ^a | - | - | - | - | 66 |
| Finance lease receivables | 53 | - | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| | 1,593 | 1,600 | 1,382 | 1,021 | 1,132 |
| Overseas | 713 | 194 | 192 | 289 | 188 |
| Impairment/specific provision charges ^c | 2,306 | 2,074 | 1,574 | 1,310 | 1,320 |

The category 'other personal' now includes credit cards, personal loans, second liens and personal overdrafts.

The industry classifications in Tables 27, 28 and 29 have been prepared at the level of the borrowing entity. This means that a loan to the subsidiary of a major corporation is classified by the industry in which the subsidiary operates, even though the parent's predominant business may be in a different industry.

Notes

- a Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.
- b Does not reflect the impairment of available for sale assets or other credit risk provisions.
- c Overseas customers are now classified as part of other industry segments.

Risk management Statistical information

Table 28: Allowance for impairment/specific provision for bad and doubtful debts by industry

| | IFRS | | | | UK GAAP | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | 2007 | | 2006 | | 2005 | | 2004 ^a | |
| | £m | % | £m | % | £m | % | £m | % |
| United Kingdom: | | | | | | | | |
| Financial services | 103 | 2.7 | 67 | 2.0 | 28 | 0.8 | 7 | 0.3 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 5 | 0.1 | 17 | 0.5 | 12 | 0.3 | 4 | 0.2 |
| Manufacturing | 65 | 1.7 | 85 | 2.5 | 181 | 5.2 | 37 | 1.7 |
| Construction | 16 | 0.4 | 16 | 0.5 | 13 | 0.4 | 6 | 0.3 |
| Property | 54 | 1.4 | 26 | 0.8 | 24 | 0.7 | 28 | 1.2 |
| Energy and water | 1 | - | - | - | 18 | 0.5 | 23 | 1.0 |
| Wholesale and retail distribution and leisure | 102 | 2.7 | 81 | 2.4 | 98 | 2.9 | 70 | 3.3 |
| Transport | 11 | 0.3 | 24 | 0.7 | 32 | 0.9 | 55 | 2.6 |
| Postal and communication | 25 | 0.7 | 12 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.1 | 13 | 0.6 |
| Business and other services | 158 | 4.2 | 186 | 5.6 | 102 | 3.0 | 105 | 4.9 |
| Home loans | 16 | 0.4 | 10 | 0.3 | 50 | 1.4 | 58 | 2.7 |
| Other personal ^b | 1,915 | 50.8 | 1,953 | 59.8 | 696 | 49.2 | 265 | 59.8 |
| Overseas customers ^c | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Finance lease receivables | 56 | 1.5 | - | - | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.1 |
| Overseas | 2,526 | 67.0 | 2,477 | 74.9 | 2,266 | 65.7 | 1,683 | 78.4 |
| Total | 1,246 | 33.0 | 858 | 25.7 | 1,184 | 34.3 | 464 | 21.6 |
| | 3,772 | 100.0 | 3,335 | 100.0 | 3,350 | 100.0 | 2,147 | 100.0 |

See note under Table 27.

Table 29: Analysis of amounts written off and recovered by industry

| | Amounts written off for the year | | | | Recoveries of amounts previously written off | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| | IFRS | | UK GAAP ^a | | IFRS | | UK GAAP | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 ^a |
| | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| United Kingdom: | | | | | | | | |
| Financial services | 6 | 13 | 2 | 7 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 5 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Manufacturing | 83 | 73 | 47 | 79 | 126 | 7 | 21 | 11 |
| Construction | 23 | 17 | 15 | 13 | 19 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Property | 16 | 23 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 10 | 6 | 1 |
| Energy and water | - | 1 | 22 | 9 | 15 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Wholesale and retail distribution and leisure | 109 | 120 | 85 | 35 | 45 | 12 | 14 | 25 |
| Transport | 13 | 11 | 28 | 44 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 15 |
| Postal and communication | 3 | 5 | 15 | 2 | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Business and other services | 33 | 124 | 83 | 36 | 58 | 22 | 17 | 14 |
| Home loans | 1 | - | 2 | 19 | 11 | 1 | 7 | 4 |
| Other personal | 1,164 | 1,351 | 992 | 948 | 790 | 98 | 107 | 92 |
| Overseas customers ^b | - | - | - | - | 82 | - | - | - |
| Finance lease receivables | 24 | - | 3 | 4 | 4 | - | 1 | 1 |
| Overseas | 1,530 | 1,746 | 1,302 | 1,280 | 1,175 | 154 | 176 | 217 |
| Total | 1,963 | 2,174 | 1,597 | 1,582 | 1,474 | 227 | 259 | 255 |

See note under Table 27.

Notes

a Does not reflect the application of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which became effective from 1st January 2005.

b Overseas customers are now classified as part of other industry segments.

Directors' report

Directors' report

Profit Attributable

The profit attributable to equity shareholders of Barclays PLC for the year amounted to £4,417m compared with £4,571m in 2006.

Dividends

The final dividends for the year ended 31st December 2007 of 22.5p per ordinary share of 25p each and 10p per staff share of £1 each have been agreed by the Directors. The final dividends will be paid on 25th April 2008 in respect of the ordinary shares registered at the close of business on 7th March 2008 and in respect of the staff shares so registered on 31st December 2007. With the interim dividends of 11.5p per ordinary share and of 10p per staff share that were paid on 1st October 2007, the total distribution for 2007 is £4.06p (2006: £3.07p) per ordinary share and 20p (2006: 20p) per staff share. The dividends for the year absorb a total of £2,253m (2006: £1,973m).

Dividend Reinvestment Plan

Ordinary shareholders may have their dividends reinvested in Barclays PLC ordinary shares by participating in the Dividend Reinvestment Plan. The plan is available to all ordinary shareholders provided that they do not live in, and are not subject to the jurisdiction of, any country where their participation in the plan would require Barclays or The Plan Administrator to take action to comply with local government or regulatory procedures or any similar formalities. Any shareholder wishing to obtain details of the plan and a mandate form should contact The Plan Administrator to Barclays at Aspect House, Spencer Road, Lancing BN99 6DA. Those wishing to participate for the first time in the plan should send their completed mandate form to The Plan Administrator so as to be received by 4th April 2008 for it to be applicable to the payment of the final dividend on 25th April 2008. Existing participants should take no action unless they wish to alter their current mandate instructions, in which case they should contact The Plan Administrator.

Share Capital

During the year Barclays PLC purchased in the market for cancellation 299,547,510 of its ordinary shares of 25p each, at a total cost of £1,802,173,355, in order to minimise the dilutive effect on existing shareholders of the issuance of a total of 336,805,555 Barclays ordinary shares to Temasek Holdings and China Development Bank. Those transactions represent 4.5% of the issued share capital at 31st December 2007. As at 27th February 2008 (the latest practicable date for inclusion in this report), the Company had an unexpired authority to repurchase shares up to a maximum of 645.1 million ordinary shares.

The issued ordinary share capital was increased by 65.5m ordinary shares during the year as a result of the exercise of options under the Shareave and Executive Share Option Schemes. At 31st December 2007 the issued ordinary share capital totalled 6,606,181,801 shares. Ordinary shares represent 99.99% of the total issued share capital and Staff shares represent the remaining 0.01% as at 31st December 2007.

The Barclays PLC Memorandum and Articles of Association, a summary of which can be found in the Shareholder Information section on pages 269-270, contain the following details, which are incorporated into this report by reference:

- The structure of the Company's capital, including the rights and obligations attaching to each class of shares.
- Restrictions on the transfer of securities in the Company, including limitations on the holding of securities and requirements to obtain approvals for a transfer of securities.
- Restrictions on voting rights.
- The powers of the Directors, including in relation to issuing or buying back shares in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. It will be proposed at the 2008 AGM that the Directors be granted new authority to allot under the Companies Act 1985.
- Rules that the Company has about the appointment and removal of Directors or amendments to the Company's Articles of Association.

Employee Benefit Trusts ('EBTs') operate in connection with certain of the Group's Employee Share Plans ('Plans'). The Trustees of the EBTs may exercise all rights attached to the shares in accordance with their fiduciary duties other than as specifically restricted in the relevant Plan governing documents. Further information on the EBTs' voting policy can be found on page 132.

Substantial Shareholdings

As at 27th February 2008, the Company had been notified under Rule 5 of the Disclosure and Transparency Rules of the FSA of the following holdings of voting rights in its shares:

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| China Development Bank (via its subsidiary Upper Chance Group Ltd) | 3.02% |
| Legal & General Group plc | 4.02% |
| Lloyds TSB Group Plc | 5.01% |

Substantial shareholders do not have different voting rights from those of other shareholders. As at 27th February 2008, the Company had been notified that Lloyds TSB Group Plc held voting rights over 329,648,746 of its ordinary shares, amounting to 5.01% of the Company's total voting rights, as shown above.

Board Membership

The membership of the Boards of Directors of Barclays PLC and Barclays Bank PLC is identical and biographical details of the Board members are set out on pages 112 and 113.

Chris Lucas joined the Board as Group Finance Director on 1st April 2007 and Naguib Kherraj left the Board on 31st March 2007.

David Booth joined the Board as a non-executive Director on 1st May 2007 and Patricia Wheatcroft and Sir Michael Rake were appointed as non-executive Directors with effect from 1st January 2008.

Retirement and Re-election of Directors

In accordance with its Articles of Association, one-third (rounded down) of the Directors of Barclays PLC are required to retire by rotation at each Annual General Meeting (AGM), together with Directors appointed by the Board since the last AGM. The retiring Directors are eligible to stand for re-election. In addition, the UK Combined Code on Corporate Governance (the Code), recommends that every Director should seek re-election by shareholders at least every three years.

Corporate governance

Remuneration report

The Committee reviews the elements of remuneration relative to the policies stated in this report and to the practice of other comparable organisations. Remuneration is benchmarked against the markets in which we compete for talent. This includes benchmarking against other leading international banks and financial services organisations, and other companies of similar size to Barclays in the FTSE 100 Index.

The component parts for each executive Director are detailed in the tables accompanying this report.

The Committee guideline that executive Directors should hold, as a minimum, the equivalent of one times their base salary in Barclays shares, including shares held under award through ESAS, was met by all executive Directors.

Each element of remuneration is important and has a specific role in achieving the aims of the remuneration policy. The combined potential remuneration from bonus and PSP outweighs the other elements, and is subject to personal and Group performance, thereby placing the majority of total remuneration at risk.

Of the key elements of remuneration (salary, annual performance bonus, ESAS and PSP), salary made up a maximum of 30% of the 2007 remuneration for executive Directors and 1.4% in respect of Robert E Diamond Jr's arrangements, which reflects general practice in the investment banking and investment management industry. The remaining proportion of the key compensation elements for executive Directors is at risk. The relative weighting summarised in this paragraph does not include pension and benefits.

The purpose of each element of remuneration for executive Directors is summarised in the table below and discussed in greater detail in the sections that follow.

| Remuneration element | Purpose | Delivery | Programme detail |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Base salary | To reflect the market value of the individual and their role | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cash Monthly Pensionable | Reviewed annually, with changes typically effective on 1st April |
| Annual performance bonus and ESAS | To incentivise the delivery of annual goals at the Group, business division and individual levels | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Typically 75% cash ^a Typically 25% deferred Barclays shares under ESAS Annual Non-pensionable | Based on annual business unit performance, performance of the Group as a whole and leadership contribution |
| PSP ^b | To reward the creation of above median, sustained growth in shareholder value | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free shares subject to a performance condition Annual awards that vest after three years Non-pensionable | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discretionary awards Participation reviewed annually Barclays performance over three years determines the number of performance shares eligible for release to each individual For awards made in 2007, and awards to be made in 2008, EP threshold, thereafter 50% under a TSR performance condition and 50% under an EP performance condition |
| Pension ^c | To provide market competitive post-retirement benefit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deferred cash or cash allowance Monthly | Non-contributory, defined benefit scheme and/or defined contribution scheme, or cash allowance in lieu of pension contributions |

Changes to Group Chairman and executive Directors

Marcus Agius was appointed Group Chairman with effect from 1st January 2007.

Marcus Agius receives a fee of £750,000 (inclusive of Director's fees). He is also eligible for private health insurance. The minimum time commitment is equivalent to 60% of a full time role. Marcus Agius is not eligible to participate in Barclays bonus and share incentive plans, nor will he participate in Barclays pension plans or receive any pension contributions. The letter of appointment provides for a notice period of 12 months from Barclays and six months from Marcus Agius.

Naguib Kheraj ceased to be an executive Director on 31st March 2007. Naguib Kheraj was succeeded by Chris Lucas, who was appointed to the position of Group Finance Director with effect from 1st April 2007. The key terms of executive Directors' service contracts are on page 133.

Base Salary

The annual base salaries for the current executive Directors are shown in the table below:

| | As at 31st Dec 2007 | As at 1st April 2008 | Date of previous increase |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| John Varley | £1,000,000 | £1,100,000 | 1st Apr 2007 |
| Robert E Diamond Jr | £250,000 | £250,000 | 1st Mar 1999 |
| Gary Hoffman | £625,000 | £625,000 | 1st Apr 2006 |
| Frits Seegers | £700,000 | £700,000 | n/a |
| Chris Lucas | £600,000 | £650,000 | n/a |

In respect of John Varley and Chris Lucas, having regard to the levels of salary and total compensation in comparable organisations, the Committee approved an increase to base salary effective from 1st April 2008.

Notes

- Eligible executives may request that all or part of the cash bonus to which they would otherwise become entitled, be granted in the form of an additional award under ESAS or as a pension contribution by way of Special Company Contribution (Bonus Sacrifice). For 2007 Robert E Diamond Jr received 43% of his annual bonus in cash and 57% as a recommendation for an award of Barclays shares under Mandatory ESAS.
- Please refer to Note 44 to the accounts for further information on PSP.
- Please refer to Note 30 to the accounts for further information on the Group's pension plans.

2007 Annual Remuneration^a

| | Salary and fees £000 | Benefits ^b £000 | Annual cash bonus £000 | 2007 Total £000 | 2006 Total £000 |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Group Chairman | | | | | |
| Marcus Agius ^c | 750 | 1 | — | 751 | 22 |
| Executive Directors | | | | | |
| John Varley ^d | 975 | 18 | 1,425 | 2,418 | 2,516 |
| Robert E Diamond Jr ^e | 250 | 14 | 6,500 | 6,764 | 10,592 |
| Gary Hoffman ^d | 625 | 15 | 506 | 1,146 | 1,108 |
| Chris Lucas ^f | 450 | 135 | 450 | 1,035 | — |
| Frits Seegers ^g | 700 | 199 | 1,313 | 2,212 | 1,630 |
| Non-executive Directors^h | | | | | |
| David Booth ⁱ | 43 | — | — | 43 | — |
| Sir Richard Broadbent | 180 | — | — | 180 | 147 |
| Leigh Clifford | 80 | — | — | 80 | 76 |
| Fuyllo Conti | 85 | — | — | 85 | 54 |
| Dr Danie Cronje | 217 | — | — | 217 | 328 |
| Professor Dame Sandra Dawson | 35 | — | — | 35 | 81 |
| Sir Andrew Lickierman | 100 | — | — | 100 | 56 |
| Sir Nigel Rudd | 200 | — | — | 200 | 200 |
| Stephen Russell | 145 | — | — | 145 | 137 |
| Sir John Sunderland | 95 | — | — | 95 | 81 |
| Former Director | | | | | |
| Naguib Kharaf ^j | 175 | 44 | 436 | 657 | 2,565 |

Forfeiting ESAS and PSP awards^k

| | Mandatory ESAS – 2007 results £000 | March 2005 PSP – value of shares under initial allocation £000 | Mandatory ESAS – 2006 results £000 | March 2007 PSP – value of shares under initial allocation £000 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Executive Directors | | | | |
| John Varley | 610 | 1,200 | 899 | 1,200 |
| Robert E Diamond Jr ^l | 11,375 | 3,000 | 4,518 | 8,850 |
| Gary Hoffman | 219 | 925 | 203 | 625 |
| Chris Lucas | 195 | 800 | — | 600 |
| Frits Seegers | 569 | 1,600 | 520 | 1,000 |

Notes

- Emoluments include amounts, if any, payable by subsidiary undertakings. Amounts payable to Dr Danie Cronje include an amount of ZAR1,925,100 (£138,774) in respect of his Chairmanship of Absa Group Limited from which he retired on 31st July 2007 (2006: ZAR3,114,800 (£249,829)).
- The Group Chairman and executive Directors receive benefits in kind, which may include life and disability cover, the use of a Company owned vehicle or cash equivalent, medical insurance and tax advice. Benefits are provided on similar terms to other senior executives. No Director has an expense allowance.
- Marcus Agius was appointed as a non-executive Director on 1st September 2006 and as Group Chairman from 1st January 2007.
- In 2007 John Varley was a Director of Ascot Authority (Holdings) Limited (Directorship ceased on 31st December 2007) and British Grolux Investments Limited for which he received fees of £20,085 and £7,513 respectively (2006: £28,000 and £7,500 respectively). John Varley is a non-executive Director of AstreZeneca plc for which he received fees of £56,188 in 2007 (2006: £21,075). John Varley is also a member of the International Advisory Panel of the Monetary Authority of Singapore for which he received fees of US\$10,000 in 2007 (2006: US\$10,000). John Varley is Chairman of Business Action on Homelessness and President of the Employers' Forum on Disability for which he receives no fees. Robert E Diamond Jr is Chairman of Old Vic Productions plc for which he received no fees in 2007. Gary Hoffman is a Director of Visa (Europe) Limited and Visa (International) Limited for which he receives no fees. Gary Hoffman is also a Director of Trinity Mirror plc for which he received fees of \$92,754 in 2007 (2006: £50,000). During the course of his Directorship Naguib Kharaf was a member of the Board of Governors of the Institute of Israeli Studies and Chairman of the National Committee of the Aga Khan Foundation for which he received no fees in 2007. Naguib Kharaf (up to 31st March 2007) and Frits Seegers are non-executive Directors of Absa Group Limited and Absa Bank Limited. They have both waived their fees, which were paid to Barclays. Their respective fees in 2007 were ZAR138,503 (£9,694) and ZAR159,900 (£13,363) (2006: ZAR425,100 (£34,036) and ZAR75,400 (£6,048) respectively).
- The remuneration for 2007 for Robert E Diamond Jr was based on the performance of Barclays Group, Barclays Capital, Barclays Global Investors and Barclays Wealth, both on an absolute and industry relative basis. The composition of this package continues to be heavily weighted towards elements that are 'at risk' and reflects practice in the investment banking and investment management industry.
- Chris Lucas was appointed as an executive Director with effect from 1st April 2007. In addition to the amount shown in the 'Salary and fees' column above, Chris Lucas received an award under ESAS in recognition of forfeited compensation from his previous employment. Bonus shares are not applicable to this award. Details of this ESAS award are shown in the table on page 137 and the first table on page 139, and are not included in the table above. In addition, Chris Lucas received an award under the PSP which is shown in the table above (footnote k on this page provides further information). Chris Lucas received an allowance of 25% of base salary (£112,500) in lieu of pension contributions. This amount is included in the column for 'Benefits' in the table above.

Executive Directors: illustration of change in value of Barclays PLC shares owned beneficially, or held under option or awarded under employee share plans as at 31st December 2007^a

| | Number at 31st December 2007 | | | | | | Notional value based on share price of £7.30 ^f £000 | Notional value based on share price of £5.04 ^g £000 | Change in notional value £000 |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Shares owned beneficially ^b | ESAS ^c | PSP ^d | Executive Share Option Scheme | | Sharesave | | | |
| | | | | (ESOS) ^e | ISOP ^e | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Executive Directors | | | | | | | | | |
| John Vadey | 470,650 | 344,711 | 459,503 | - | 920,000 | 3,638 | 2,198,502 | 11,976 | 7,056 (4,920) |
| Robert E Diamond Jr | 3,482,192 | 4,863,749 | 1,755,335 | 100,000 | 560,000 | - | 10,661,278 | 75,033 | 50,942 (24,091) |
| Gary Hoffman | 431,781 | 274,402 | 257,115 | - | 540,000 | 5,150 | 1,309,429 | 8,555 | 5,187 (3,368) |
| Chris Lucas | 38,003 | 69,091 | 82,910 | - | - | 3,638 | 193,642 | 1,382 | 959 (424) |
| Frits Seegers | 699,870 | 231,388 | 294,154 | - | - | 3,390 | 1,228,797 | 8,954 | 6,177 (2,777) |

Notes

- a Under PSP, ESAS, ISOP, ESOS and Sharesave, nothing was paid by the participants on the grant of options or awards.
- b The number shown includes shares held under Sharepurchase.
- c ESAS includes the maximum potential 30% bonus share element where applicable, and any voluntary ESAS awards.
- d The number of shares shown represents the initial allocation of shares.
- e The number of shares shown represents the vested shares under option.
- f With the exception of Chris Lucas, the notional value is based on the share price as at 31st December 2006. The notional value for Chris Lucas is based on a share price of £7.23, which was the share price as at 2nd April 2007, the first working day after he was appointed executive Director.
- g The notional value is based on the share price as at 31st December 2007. The highest and lowest market prices per share during the year were £7.90 and £4.775 respectively.

EXHIBIT 15
[Filed Under Seal]

From: Ciobanu, Bogdan [CMB-GBKG] [bogdan.ciobanu@citi.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2008 1:48 PM
To: ross.aucutt@barclaysgt.com; nick.lambert@barclaysgt.com; keith.harding@barclaysgt.com; leigh.meyer@barclaysgt.com; todd.foreman@barclays.com; victoria.hardy@barclays.com; Raj.Cheema@barclayscapital.com; Mark.Wrafter@barclayscapital.com; kathryn.mcleland@barcap.com; yenal.ghori@barcap.com; tanja.gihr@barcap.com; simon.croxford@barcap.com; richard.d.johnson@barcap.com; belinda.vickery@barcap.com; mark.graham@barcap.com; bret.ganis@barcap.com; richard.smith3@barcap.com; Aherne, Peter O [CMB-GFICC]; Greve, Leo-Hendrik [CMB-GFICC]; Mason, Peter James [CMB-GFICC]; Drumm, Laura [CMB-GFICC]; Deese, Derrick [CMB-GFICC]; Dickey, John W [CMB-GFICC]; Mcgeary, Simon [CMB-GFICC]; Louie, Stanley [CMB-GFICC]; Keat, Deborah [CMB-GFICC]; Letina, Anastasia [CMB-GFICC]; Stephenson, Laura [CMB-GFICC]; Midander, Jakob [CMB-GFICC]; Walker, David [CMB-GBKG]; Reid, James [CMB-GBKG]; Mcspadden, Jack D [CMB-GBKG]; Harjani, Chandru [CMB-GBKG]; Rose-Smith, Alastair [CMB-GBKG]; Siekel, Peter [CMB-GBKG]; Bridgers, Darrell [CMB-GCO]; Pakenham, Jane [CMB-GCO]; siddharth_prasad@ml.com; matthew_pass@ml.com; julien_roman@ml.com; robin_palmer@ml.com; eric_wilson@ml.com; christine_macdonald@ml.com; alvaro_camara@ml.com; sarah_davis@ml.com; richard_doyle@ml.com; aj_davidson@ml.com; joseph_dicapua@ml.com; gary.abrahams@ubs.com; ron.yanagi@ubs.com; sophia.vonta@ubs.com; andrew.templeton@ubs.com; glenn.goggins@ubs.com; Jason.Norton@ubs.com; monica.meo@ubs.com; michael.altschuler@ubs.com; bryant.h.owens@wachovia.com; stuart.aylward@wachovia.com; faye.thorogood@wachovia.com; ken.greer@wachovia.com; edward.boulderstone@wachovia.com; john.papadopoulos@wachovia.com; kristina.clark@wachovia.com; Jill.enzman@wachovia.com; fleur.twohig@wachovia.com; kiley.knepp@wachovia.com; carolyn.coan@wachovia.com; laurie.watts@wachovia.com; melanie.panzone@wachovia.com; mike.borut@morganstanley.com; Victoria.Ortiz@morganstanley.com; Alex.MacMahon@morganstanley.com; Dominic.Trusted@morganstanley.com; Yuriy.Slyz@morganstanley.com; Jennifer.Moreland@MorganStanley.com; simon.sinclair@cliffordchance.com; mabel.tay@cliffordchance.com; Robert.Sartor@CliffordChance.com; Jonathan.Elman@CliffordChance.com; Mark.Persoff@CliffordChance.com; oconnorj@sullcrom.com; vonlanthenc@sullcrom.com; nyattai@sullcrom.com; david.ludwick@linklaters.com; vinay.samani@linklaters.com; joost.vanamelsfort@linklaters.com; sarah.whittington@linklaters.com; jon.gray@linklaters.com; andrew.r.karp@bankofamerica.com; james.m.probert@bankofamerica.com; ken.harris@rbccm.com; shannon.dahl@rbccm.com; richard.bansa@rbccm.com; keith.deleon@db.com; steven.burwell@db.com; donna_thacker@rhco.com; Bethany.bowman@suntrust.com; chris.grumboski@suntrust.com; Michael.I.smith@wellsfargo.com; Autumn.m.roth@wellsfargo.com; edwin.j.sondgroth@wellsfargo.com
Subject: Project Rimu - Pre-Pricing due diligence call today @ 10:30 AM NY / 15:30 UK
Attachments: Barclays - Pre-Pricing Bring Down April 2008.pdf

Project Rimu Team:

Please join us for a brief pre-pricing bring down due diligence conference call today (April 8) at 10:30 AM ET / 15:30 UK. Please find below the agenda and dial-in information.

Dial-in Information

Date: Tuesday, April 8, 2008

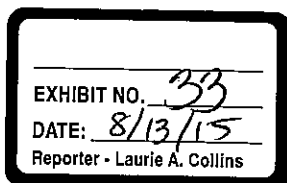
Time: 10:30 AM ET / 15:30 UK

Dial-in (US) +1-866 376 5281 / (UK) +44 (0) 207 477 2 477

Passcode: 034933#

<<Barclays - Pre-Pricing Bring Down April 2008.pdf>>

Please forward the attached list to other parties that were not included in the current distribution. Thank you



Regards,
Bogdan

Bogdan Ciobanu

Citi Markets and Banking

388 Greenwich St. | 34 Fl. | NY 10013

T: +1.212.816.9429 | F: +1.646.291.2712

M: +1.917.292.1184

BARCLAYS

Barclays Bank Pre-Pricing Bring Down Due Diligence Outline

Date: April 8, 2008 • **Time:** 10:30 AM NY / 15:30 UK
US: +1 866 376 5281; **UK:** +44 207 477 2 477
Participant code: 034933#

Please note that the last due diligence call refers to the call on April 3, 2008

1. Are there any material updates or issues that have arisen since our last due diligence call with regard to:
 - a) funding or liquidity;
 - b) rating agency actions;
 - c) anticipated changes in senior management or the Board of Directors;
 - d) organizational changes;
 - e) corporate governance;
 - f) tax matters;
 - g) changes in accounting policy or practice;
 - h) internal controls;
 - i) acquisitions and dispositions;
 - j) share buybacks;
 - k) litigation;
 - l) anti-money laundering or the foreign corrupt practices act;
 - m) regulatory actions, investigations or other government actions?
2. Are there any further material updates for YTD earnings, asset quality trends or asset valuation including any updates on exposures within Barclays Capital?
3. Have there been, or are there contemplated, any additional write-downs of assets in any division of Barclays Bank?
4. Have you reviewed the Prospectus Supplement (along with the Prospectus) and are there any misstatements or omissions that you believe should be addressed? Are you comfortable that the Prospectus Supplement, the Prospectus and the incorporated documents fully present the risks now applicable to Barclays Bank?
5. Are there any areas that we have not covered, which may be material in the context of this issuance, which you should bring to our attention?