Aurizon Network Pty Ltd

ABN 78 132 181 116

Annual Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2023

This financial report is the consolidated financial statements of the Group consisting of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd and its subsidiaries.

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars.

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd is a company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

Its registered office is:

Level 8
900 Ann Street
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006

The financial report for the Group for the year ended 30 June 2023 has been authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Directors on 14 August 2023. The Directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial report.

Directors’ Report

The Directors of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd (the Company) present their report, together with the financial statements of the Company and its controlled entities (collectively referred to as the consolidated entity or the Group) for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 (FY2023). Aurizon Network Pty Ltd is a subsidiary of Aurizon Holdings Limited. Aurizon Holdings Limited and its subsidiary entities are referred to as the Aurizon Group. Aurizon Holdings Limited is a public company listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX: AZJ) and all relevant announcements are available on its website.

Directors

The following persons were Directors of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd during the financial year and up to the date of this report:

L Strambi (Chairman)
P Bains
M Bastos
A Harding
K Vidgen (retired 31 May 2023)
T Longstaff (appointed 1 June 2023)

Principal activities

The nature of the Company's operations and its principal activities during the year were:

(i) provision of access to, and operation and management of, the Central Queensland Coal Network (CQCN); and
(ii) the provision of design, construction, overhaul, maintenance and management services to the Aurizon Group as well as external below rail customers.

Review of operations

Business summary

The Company operates the 2,670 kilometre CQCN. The open access network is the largest coal rail network in Australia and one of the country’s most complex, connecting multiple customers from more than 40 mines to five export terminals located at three ports. The CQCN includes four major coal systems (Moura, Blackwater, Goonyella and Newlands) and a connecting link, the Goonyella to Abbot Point Expansion (GAPE).

Coal access revenue is from the provision of access to the CQCN and is the primary source of revenue. It is determined based on railed coal volumes and the applicable system reference tariffs approved by the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA). This regulatory framework permits the Company to earn an approved return on its Regulatory Asset Base (RAB) and recover its capital expenditure and provides operating allowances over each regulatory period covered by a QCA approved access undertaking. Access revenue also includes revenue from non-coal access (freight and passenger trains) and above regulatory returns in certain circumstances, such as in relation to GAPE.

The Company also derives revenue from services and other revenue including the maintenance of private infrastructure, external design and construction works, customer funded infrastructure charges and other services.

Performance overview

Operating profit increased $4.6 million (1%) from $456.5 million in FY2022 to $461.1 million in FY2023, with increased revenue of $143.8 million (12%), partly offset by increased operating costs of $130.7 million (32%) and depreciation of $8.5 million (3%).

Regulatory access revenue has been accounted for based on actual railed volumes using tariffs approved by the QCA on 26 May 2022 and the subsequent Electric Energy Charge DAAU approved on 16 November 2022 and Minerva DAAU approved on 16 February 2023.

Total Access Revenue increased by $121.4 million (11%) with the main drivers being:

- Electric Energy Charge (EC) was $102.7 million higher in FY2023 due to the EC tariff increasing from $1.11 to $2.82 per EGTK'000;
- Allowable revenue increased by $34.1 million primarily due to the capital underspends in FY2019 and FY2020 that reduced Allowable Revenue in FY2022;
- Reduced volumes compared to the regulatory forecast resulted in an under-recovery after Take-or-Pay (excluding GAPE) of $21.3 million in FY2023 (Access Revenue in FY2023 included the recognition of $76.1 million Take-or-Pay revenue). This compares to an under-recovery of $39.0 million (including $32.8 million of Take-or-Pay) in FY2022;
- Net unfavourable Revenue Cap movements of $6.0 million relating to FY2020 and FY2021;
- GAPE revenue was $8.8 million lower primarily due to the depreciating asset value and the Transfer Fee collected in FY2021 that is being returned via FY2023 Access Charges;

Review of operations (continued)

- WIRP Fees were $9.6 million lower due to FY2022 including $30.3 million of historical fees relating to the FY2016 to FY2021, partly offset by a $18.6 million termination fee included in FY2023; and
- Other Access Revenue was $8.2 million lower.

Service and other revenue was $22.4 million (38%) higher in FY2023 primarily due to higher external construction revenue.

Operating costs increased by $130.7 million (32%) primarily due to higher electric traction charges (offset in Access Revenue), higher external construction costs associated with the higher revenue and higher maintenance costs.

Depreciation increased $8.5 million (3%) primarily due to ongoing rail renewal and ballast undercutting investment.

Operational update

During FY2023:

- CQCN volumes increased by 1% to 207.6mt. Volumes were impacted by prolonged periods of wet weather, mine specific maintenance and production issues, and a derailment at Marmor in the Blackwater system.
- Wet weather, access to skilled labour and rising sub-contractor costs impacted maintenance and asset renewal expenditures.
- Employees covered by the Aurizon Infrastructure Enterprise Agreement (QLD) voted in favour of the proposed terms which were subsequently approved by Fair Work Australia on 28 July 2023.
- System Availability was 83.4% compared to 82.6% in the prior corresponding period.
- Cancellations due to the Network rail infrastructure increased from 2.1% to 2.3%.
- Cycle velocity declined marginally from 22.8km/h to 21.5km/h.

Dividends

Details of dividends paid are set out in note 12 of the financial report.

Significant changes in the state of affairs

Funding

During the year, the Company had:

- Privately placed A$100.0 million of 10 and 12-year fixed rate Medium-Term Notes in December 2022 and February 2023.
- Re-financed A$1,090.0 million of the existing bilateral bank debt facilities in January 2023 with maturities extended to FY2026 to FY2028 and reduced capacity.
- Issued ~A$306.0 million of US Private Placement (USPP) Notes in June 2023 across tenors of 10 and 12 years.

Capital structure

The Company completed a return of capital to the parent of $350.0 million on 29 July 2022 and of $250.0 million on 28 June 2023. There was no change to the number of ordinary shares on issue.

Events since the end of the financial year

No matter or circumstance, other than the matters disclosed in key events and transactions for the reporting period, has occurred subsequent to the financial period that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Group or economic entity in subsequent financial periods.

Likely developments

The 2017 Access Undertaking UT5 provides for certain components of allowable revenue and Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC) (predominately risk-free rate, debt risk premium, inflation and the tax allowance) (together the Reset Values) to be reset on 1 July 2023 to take account of prevailing market conditions at that time. The reset process involves the establishment of:

- Preliminary Reset Values in FY2023 to form the basis of tariffs that will apply in FY2024. On 25 May 2023, the QCA approved Preliminary Reset Values, including a WACC of 8.18% (applying a risk-free rate of 3.47% and a debt risk premium of 2.60%); and
- Final Reset Values in FY2024. On 31 July 2023, the Company submitted Final Reset Values to the QCA for approval including a WACC of 8.51% (applying a risk-free rate of 3.87% and a debt risk premium of 2.48%). The Company is providing additional information to the QCA in support of its submission prior to it being published. The proposed Final Reset Values remain subject to approval by the QCA, following a period of stakeholder consultation.

While the Final Reset Values will take effect from 1 July 2023, FY2024 Allowable Revenues and Tariffs will not be amended during that year to reflect the QCA’s decision on the Final Reset Values. Any difference between the Preliminary and Final Reset allowable revenues for FY2024 (1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024) will be reconciled through the usual Revenue Adjustment Amounts (Revenue Cap) process in two years' time and will be incorporated into FY2026 Reference Tariffs.

Environmental and Cultural Heritage regulation and performance

The Company is exposed to a range of environmental regulations as part of the Aurizon Group. The Aurizon Group has a centralised team which monitors compliance with, and performance against, these regulations. The Aurizon Group is committed to managing its operational activities and services in an environmentally responsible manner to meet legal, social and moral obligations. To deliver on this commitment, the Company seeks to comply with all applicable laws and regulations that have an environmental or cultural heritage focus.

The Company continues to work collaboratively with supply chain partners to minimise coal dust emissions associated with coal haulage on the CQCN. Data from the CQCN opacity monitoring stations indicated FY2023 continues to yield low rates of coal dust loss from tops of wagons.

No incidents involving impact to cultural heritage values have occurred since the launch of Aurizon’s Cultural Heritage Governance Framework (CHGF). Two learning modules and online tools, designed to support the CHGF, provide a summary of key Cultural Heritage (CH) information and guidance for employees whose roles interface with CH. Over 1,200 staff have completed the first module.

The *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007 (NGER)* (Cth) requires the Aurizon Group to report its annual greenhouse gas emissions and energy use. The Company is not captured under the NGER Scheme’s Safeguard Mechanism.

Environmental and Cultural Heritage prosecutions

The Company did not incur any monetary fines, nor was it subject to any prosecutions related to environment or cultural heritage regulations in FY2023.

Indemnification and insurance of officers

The Company's Constitution provides that the Company may indemnify any person who is, or has been, an officer of the Group, including the Directors and Company Secretary, against liabilities incurred whilst acting as such officers to the maximum extent permitted by law.

The Company's holding company, Aurizon Holdings Limited, has entered into a Deed of Access, Indemnity and Insurance with each of the Company's Directors. No Director or officer of the Company has received benefits under an indemnity from the Company during or since the end of the year.

The Company has paid a premium for insurance for officers of the Group. This insurance is against a liability for costs and expenses incurred by officers in defending civil or criminal proceedings involving them as such officers, with some exceptions. The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the liability insured against and the amount of the premium paid.

Rounding of amounts

The amounts contained in this report and in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest $100,000, unless otherwise stated (where rounding is applicable) in accordance with *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*. The Company is an entity to which the instrument applies.

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 6.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of Directors.

L Strambi
Chairman

Brisbane
14 August 2023

Deloitte.

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14 August 2023

Board of Directors
Aurizon Network Pty Ltd
900 Ann Street
Fortitude Valley, QLD 4006
Australia

Dear Board Members

Auditor's Independence Declaration to Aurizon Network Pty Ltd

In accordance with section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*, I am pleased to provide the following declaration of independence to the Board of Directors of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd.

As lead audit partner for the audit of the financial report of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2023, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- The auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit and
- Any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Yours faithfully

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU

Matthew Donaldson
Partner
Chartered Accountants

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

Member of Deloitte Asia Pacific Limited and the Deloitte organisation.

Financial Report
for the year ended 30 June 2023

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Results for the year	Operating assets and liabilities	Capital and financial risk management	Group structure	Other notes	Unrecognised items and events after reporting date
1. Revenue 2. Expenses 3. Income tax	4. Trade and other receivables 5. Inventories 6. Property, plant and equipment 7. Intangible assets 8. Trade and other payables 9. Provisions 10. Other liabilities	11. Capital risk management 12. Dividends 13. Equity 14. Borrowings 15. Financial risk management	16. Subsidiaries 17. Parent entity disclosures	18. Notes to the consolidated statement of cash flows 19. Related party transactions 20. Key Management Personnel 21. Auditor's remuneration 22. Summary of other significant accounting policies	23. Commitments and contingencies 24. Events occurring after the reporting period

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Aurizon Network Pty Ltd
Consolidated income statement
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	**2023 $m**	2022 $m
Revenue from continuing operations	1	**1,336.7**	1,192.9
Employee benefits expense	2	**(158.6)**	(154.3)
Energy and fuel		**(215.0)**	(107.7)
Consumables		**(146.3)**	(127.8)
Depreciation and amortisation	2	**(341.1)**	(332.6)
Impairment losses		**(0.2)**	(1.2)
Other expenses		**(14.4)**	(12.8)
Operating profit		**461.1**	456.5
Finance income		**0.3**	0.2
Finance expenses	2	**(139.4)**	(109.8)
Net finance costs		**(139.1)**	(109.6)
Profit before income tax		**322.0**	346.9
Income tax expense	3	**(101.1)**	(105.0)
Profit for the year attributable to the owners of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd		**220.9**	241.9

The above consolidated income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

	Notes	**2023 $m**	2022 $m
Profit for the year		**220.9**	241.9
Other comprehensive income/(expense)			
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss:			
Changes in the fair value of cash flow hedges	13(b)	**(35.0)**	105.1
Income tax relating to changes in fair value of cash flow hedges	13(b)	**10.5**	(31.5)
Other comprehensive income/(expense) for the year, net of tax		**(24.5)**	73.6
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the owners of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd		**196.4**	315.5

The above consolidated statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

	Notes	**2023 $m**	2022 $m
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		**30.2**	15.0
Trade and other receivables	4	**272.3**	194.7
Inventories	5	**70.1**	61.5
Derivative financial instruments	15(a)	**-**	42.3
Other assets		**2.8**	2.9
Total current assets		**375.4**	316.4
Non-current assets			
Inventories	5	**11.9**	17.4
Derivative financial instruments	15(a)	**89.3**	37.9
Property, plant and equipment	6	**5,215.6**	5,206.6
Intangible assets	7	**69.5**	82.0
Total non-current assets		**5,386.3**	5,343.9
Total assets		**5,761.7**	5,660.3
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8	**144.2**	136.4
Borrowings	14	**460.3**	348.0
Provisions	9	**57.3**	58.7
Other liabilities	10	**97.5**	123.8
Total current liabilities		**759.3**	666.9
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	14	**3,171.8**	2,537.8
Derivative financial instruments	15(a)	**181.5**	200.2
Deferred tax liabilities	3(c)	**721.0**	716.1
Provisions	9	**3.5**	3.0
Other liabilities	10	**81.4**	96.9
Total non-current liabilities		**4,159.2**	3,554.0
Total liabilities		**4,918.5**	4,220.9
Net assets		**843.2**	1,439.4
EQUITY			
Contributed equity	13(a)	**404.5**	1,004.1
Reserves	13(b)	**(7.0)**	17.5
Retained earnings		**445.7**	417.8
Total equity		**843.2**	1,439.4

The above consolidated balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

	Notes	Contributed equity $m	Reserves $m	Retained earnings $m	Total equity $m
		Attributable to the owners of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd			
Balance at 1 July 2022		**1,004.1**	**17.5**	**417.8**	**1,439.4**
Profit for the year		**-**	**-**	**220.9**	**220.9**
Other comprehensive income		**-**	**(24.5)**	**-**	**(24.5)**
Total comprehensive income/(expense) for the year		**-**	**(24.5)**	**220.9**	**196.4**
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Dividends paid	12	**-**	**-**	**(193.0)**	**(193.0)**
Return of capital to the parent	13(a)	**(600.0)**	**-**	**-**	**(600.0)**
Capital contribution from the parent for share-based payments	13(a)	**0.4**	**-**	**-**	**0.4**
		(599.6)	**-**	**(193.0)**	**(792.6)**
Balance at 30 June 2023		**404.5**	**(7.0)**	**445.7**	**843.2**
Balance at 1 July 2021		1,002.9	(56.1)	405.6	1,352.4
Profit for the year		-	-	241.9	241.9
Other comprehensive income		-	73.6	-	73.6
Total comprehensive income/(expense) for the year		-	73.6	241.9	315.5
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Dividends paid	12	-	-	(229.7)	(229.7)
Capital contribution from the parent for share-based payments	13(a)	1.2	-	-	1.2
		1.2	-	(229.7)	(228.5)
Balance at 30 June 2022		1,004.1	17.5	417.8	1,439.4

The above consolidated statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd
Consolidated statement of cash flows
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	**2023 $m**	2022 $m
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST)		**1,403.5**	1,342.2
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		**(681.5)**	(547.4)
Interest received		**0.2**	-
Income taxes paid		**(121.3)**	(83.1)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	18	**600.9**	711.7
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		**(342.3)**	(280.0)
Proceeds from sale of assets		**0.7**	0.8
Payments for intangibles		**-**	(4.5)
Interest paid on qualifying assets		**-**	(0.4)
Net cash outflow from investing activities		**(341.6)**	(284.1)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from external borrowings		**834.0**	60.0
Repayment of external borrowings		**(60.0)**	(224.0)
Payment of transaction costs related to borrowings		**(4.3)**	(0.1)
(Repayments to)/proceeds from related parties under the Intra Group Loan Agreement		**(93.0)**	93.0
Interest paid		**(127.8)**	(112.7)
Return of capital to the parent		**(600.8)**	-
Dividends paid to Company's shareholder	12	**(193.0)**	(229.7)
Net cash outflow from financing activities		**(244.9)**	(413.5)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		**14.4**	14.1
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		**15.0**	1.1
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		**0.8**	(0.2)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		**30.2**	15.0

The above consolidated statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

About this report

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd (the Company) is a for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing this financial report and is a company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The consolidated financial report comprises the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the Group or Aurizon Network).

The financial report is a general purpose financial report which:

- has been prepared on the going concern basis of accounting;
- has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*, Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB);
- has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets and liabilities (including derivative instruments) at fair value;
- is presented in Australian dollars with values rounded to the nearest $100,000 unless otherwise stated, in accordance with *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191*;
- presents reclassified comparative information where required for consistency with current year presentation;
- adopts all new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the AASB that are relevant to the operations of the Group and effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2022; and
- has applied the Group accounting policies consistently to all periods presented.

The general purpose financial report for the Group for the year ended 30 June 2023 (FY2023) has been authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Directors on 14 August 2023. The Directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial report.

Significant judgements and estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to exercise judgement in applying the Group's accounting policies. It also requires the use of estimates and assumptions of assets, liabilities, income and expense.

The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity are set out below and in more detail in the related notes:

	Note
Revenue	1
Useful life of infrastructure assets	6

Other accounting policies

Significant and other accounting policies that summarise the measurement basis used, and are relevant to an understanding of the financial statements, are provided throughout the notes to the financial statements.

The notes to the financial statements

The following notes include information which is material and relevant to the operations, financial position and performance of the Group. Information is considered material and relevant due to its size and nature or if the information:

- is important for understanding the Group's current period results;
- provides an explanation of significant changes in the Group's business - for example acquisitions or divestments; or
- relates to an aspect of the Group's operations that are important to its future performance.

Key events and transactions for the reporting period

(a) Access revenue

2017 Access Undertaking (UT5)

The 2017 Access Undertaking (UT5) approved by the QCA on 19 December 2019 included an increase in the WACC from 5.90% to 6.30% upon the Company notifying the Chair of the Rail Industry Group (RIG) of its proposed options to address any capacity deficits identified in the Initial Capacity Assessment Report (ICAR) of the CQCN completed by the Independent Expert appointed under UT5 (Report Date).

On 15 December 2022, the QCA rejected the FY2022 Revenue Adjustment Amount of $44.6 million (net under-recovery) ($33.0 million excluding GAPE) on the view that the Report Date was 14 March 2022 instead of 12 November 2021 used to calculate the FY2022 Revenue Adjustment Amount. The Company submitted an amended FY2022 Revenue Adjustment Amount of $35.8 million (net under-recovery) ($25.4 million excluding GAPE) on 20 January 2023 in compliance with the QCA's decision, so as to ensure the other aspects of the QCA's decision could operate without delays arising, and reserved its rights in relation to the proper interpretation of the Report Date. On the same day, the Company lodged an application with the Supreme Court of Queensland to appeal the QCA's decision, seeking a declaration from the court about the proper interpretation of the definition of Report Date. The Supreme Court hearing took place on 14 June 2023. On 28 July 2023, the Supreme Court dismissed the Company's application and decided that the Report Date is 14 March 2022. The Company is considering the judgement and next steps. At this time, there is no requirement for any further adjustment to FY2024 tariffs.

The QCA's decision has no impact on FY2023 access revenue as the FY2022 Revenue Adjustment Amount will be reflected in reference tariffs for FY2024.

In FY2023 annual volumes were lower than the regulatory forecast resulting in Take-or-Pay of $100.2 million ($76.1 million excluding GAPE) being recognised. In addition, there was a net under-recovery amount of approximately $31.5 million ($27.2 million excluding GAPE) which represents the FY2023 Revenue Adjustment Amount that will be recovered in FY2025. The FY2023 Revenue Adjustment Amount is subject to approval by the QCA.

UT5 includes a defined process to reset the WACC at 1 July 2023 (Preliminary Reset Values) and 1 July 2024 (Final Reset Values). On 25 May 2023, the QCA approved Preliminary Reset Values, including a WACC of 8.18% (applying a risk-free rate of 3.47% and a debt risk premium of 2.60%), to be incorporated into reference tariffs for FY2024.

On 31 July 2023, the Company submitted to the QCA the Final Reset Values including a WACC of 8.51% (applying a risk-free rate of 3.87% and a debt risk premium of 2.48%). Following a QCA consultation and decision process on the Final Reset Values, the WACC will be incorporated into reference tariffs for FY2025. Any difference between the Preliminary and Final Reset allowable revenues for FY2024 will be reconciled through the FY2024 Revenue Adjustment Amount and reflected in reference tariffs for FY2026.

(b) Debt financing

The Company privately placed two AUD fixed rate Medium-Term Notes (AMTNs) in December 2022, including a $50.0 million AMTN maturing December 2032 (AMTN 6) and a $20.0 million AMTN maturing December 2034 (AMTN 7). The capacity of AMTN 6 was increased by $30.0 million to $80.0 million in February 2023. Interest rate swaps with a notional amount of $100.0 million have been executed to swap the fixed rate AMTNs to floating rate debt.

In January 2023, the Company re-financed existing floating rate bilateral facilities and reduced the capacity from $1,200.0 million to $1,090.0 million. The re-financed bilateral facilities include $575.0 million maturing January 2026, $310.0 million maturing January 2027, and $205.0 million maturing January 2028. The maturity of the $75.0 million working capital facility was extended to June 2024.

The Company successfully priced a US Private Placement (USPP) comprising of both USD and AUD tranches (~A$306.0 million equivalent) in April 2023 which settled in June 2023. The proceeds from the USPP, along with AMTN 6 and AMTN 7, will be used to repay AMTN 2 maturing June 2024. In the interim period, the proceeds have been used to repay drawn bank debt facilities. The USPP includes a A$55.5 million tranche maturing June 2033, a A$55.5 million tranche maturing June 2035, a US$87.0 million tranche maturing June 2033, and a US$45.0 million tranche maturing June 2035. Cross-currency interest rate swaps covering the entirety of the US$132.0 million have been executed to swap USD tranches to AUD floating rate debt.

Floating-to-fixed interest rate swaps with a notional amount of $2,300.0 million matured June 2023, in line with the WACC reset date in the 2017 Access Undertaking (UT5). The floating-to-fixed interest rate swaps were replaced with a notional amount of $2,900.0 million (including $570.0 million future dated swaps) maturing June 2027 to align with the remaining term of UT5. As at 30 June 2023, variable rate borrowings are 88% hedged through fixed rate interest rate swaps for an average period of 4 years.

Key events and transactions for the reporting period (continued)

(b) Debt financing (continued)

At balance date, the Group has a net current liability position of $383.9 million due to the classification of AMTN 2 with a notional amount of $425.0 million maturing June 2024 as a current liability. The proceeds from the USPP, along with AMTN 6 and AMTN 7, will be used to repay AMTN 2 and replace this capacity.

(c) Capital structure

The Company completed a return of capital to the parent of $350.0 million on 29 July 2022 and of $250.0 million on 28 June 2023. There was no change to the number of ordinary shares on issue.

Results for the year

IN THIS SECTION

Results for the year provides a breakdown of individual line items in the consolidated income statement that the Directors consider most relevant, including a summary of the accounting policies, judgements and estimates relevant to understanding these line items.

1	Revenue	Page 17
2	Expenses	Page 19
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1 Revenue

Coal access revenue is from the provision of access to the CQCN and is the primary source of revenue. It is determined based on railed coal volumes and the applicable system reference tariffs approved by the QCA. This regulatory framework permits Aurizon Network to earn an approved return on its RAB and recover its capital expenditure and provides operating allowances over each regulatory period covered by a QCA approved Access Undertaking. Access revenue also includes revenue from non-coal access (freight and passenger trains) and above regulatory returns in certain circumstances, such as in relation to GAPE.

The Group derives the following types of revenue from the provision of services over time:

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Revenue		
Service revenue		
Track access	**1,255.1**	1,133.7
Other services[1]	**43.9**	26.4
Other revenue[1]	**37.7**	32.8
Total revenue from continuing operations	**1,336.7**	1,192.9

[1] Other services revenue includes maintenance contracts for private infrastructure, external construction works and other services. Other revenue includes the recognition of charges for customer-funded infrastructure.

(a) Disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers

The Group derives revenue from the provision of services over time. The Group operates in one business and geographical segment (Queensland, Australia). Therefore all revenue recognised relates to this segment.

(b) Contract liabilities

The Group has recognised the following revenue-related contract liabilities:

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Current		
Advances for other revenue	**55.0**	45.7
Non-current		
Advances for other revenue	**81.4**	96.9

Contract liabilities primarily represent amounts received from customers as advances for track access and the provision of services under agreements for mine-specific infrastructure. These amounts are recognised in revenue either as volumes are delivered or on a straight line basis over the contract term as performance obligations are satisfied over time.

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Within one year	**55.0**	45.7
Later than one year but not later than five years	**60.8**	72.8
Later than five years	**20.6**	24.1
	136.4	142.6

The decrease in contract liabilities represents revenue recognised for track access and the provision of services under agreements for mine-specific infrastructure.

1 Revenue (continued)

(b) Contract liabilities (continued)

(i) Revenue recognised in relation to contract liabilities

The following table shows how much of the revenue recognised in the current reporting period relates to carried-forward contract liabilities.

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the year		
Advances for track access	**-**	26.3
Advances for other revenue	**42.2**	24.9
	42.2	51.2

(ii) Unsatisfied performance obligations

The Group has a number of long-term contracts to provide services to customers in future periods. The majority of revenues are recognised on an as-invoiced basis which directly corresponds with the Group's performance completed to date.

As at 30 June 2023, future contracted revenues for contracts with a timing difference are approximately $136.4 million (2022: $142.6 million), of which $55.0 million is expected to be recognised in FY2024. These amounts relate to track access and other services from contracts with customers. Future contracted revenues are in FY2023 dollars. Variable revenue is not included. As such, the future contracted revenues described above represent only part of the Group's forecast revenues for FY2024 and beyond.

The Group applies the practical expedient in AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (AASB 15), paragraph 121 to all other contracts and does not disclose information on future contracted revenues. This is because the right to consideration from a customer corresponds directly with the Group's performance obligations completed to date.

Significant judgements and estimates

Take-or-Pay revenue

The Group is able to recover in the financial year part of an Allowable Revenue shortfall through Take-or-Pay clauses which may trigger when annual volumes railed are less than the regulatory forecast. Take-or-Pay is calculated based on cancellations which are determined to be either of the Company's cause, above rail operator cause and/or mine cause. This determination impacts the calculation of Take-or-Pay and the receivable recognised in the year that the contractual railings were not achieved as a result of rail operator and/or mine cancellations. At the reporting date, the Group recognised Take-or-Pay revenue of $100.2 million (2022: $32.8 million) which will be collected in the first half of FY2024.

1 Revenue (continued)

(c) Accounting policies

The Group recognises revenue as performance obligations are satisfied.

Track access revenue is generated from the provision of access to, and operation of, the CQCN under an approved Access Undertaking. Track access revenue is recognised over time as access to the rail network is provided and is measured on a number of operating parameters including volumes hauled applied to regulator approved tariffs. The tariffs charged are determined with reference to the total allowable revenue, applied to the regulatory approved annual volume forecast for each rail system. At each reporting date, track access revenue includes an amount of revenue for which performance obligations have been met under the respective contract but have not yet settled. These amounts are recognised as trade receivables.

Where annual volumes railed are less than the regulatory forecast, Take-or-Pay may trigger. Take-or-Pay is recognised as revenue and a receivable in the year that the contractual railings were not achieved as the related performance obligations have been satisfied.

Regulated access revenue is subject to a revenue cap mechanism that serves to ensure the rail network recovers its Allowable Revenue over the regulatory period. A revenue adjustment event results in the under or over recovery of regulatory access revenue (net of Take-or-Pay revenue) for a financial year being recognised in the accounting revenues of the second financial year following the financial year in which the event occurred as per the Access Undertaking.

Access revenue for the financial year has been recognised based on the 2017 Access Undertaking applying a WACC rate of 6.30% (2022: 6.30%). Refer to key events and transactions for further information.

2 Expenses

Profit before income tax includes the following specific expenses:

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Employee benefits expense		
Salaries, wages and allowances including on-costs	**139.9**	135.0
Defined contribution superannuation expense	**18.2**	17.8
Redundancies	**0.5**	1.5
	158.6	154.3

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Depreciation and amortisation		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	**328.6**	320.3
Amortisation of intangibles	**12.5**	12.3
	341.1	332.6

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Finance expenses		
Interest and finance charges paid/payable	**133.5**	114.8
Amortisation of capitalised borrowing costs	**2.6**	3.3
Amortisation of AMTN 2 fair value adjustment	**(2.4)**	(2.4)
Hedge ineffectiveness[1]	**5.7**	(5.5)
	139.4	110.2
Capitalised interest paid on qualifying assets	**-**	(0.4)
	139.4	109.8

[1] Refer to the accounting policy in note 15.

3 Income tax

Income tax comprises current and deferred tax recognised in profit or loss or directly in equity or other comprehensive income.

(a) Income tax expense

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Current tax	**83.3**	114.7
Deferred tax	**14.6**	(9.6)
Current tax relating to prior periods	**2.4**	(13.1)
Deferred tax relating to prior periods	**0.8**	13.0
	101.1	105.0
Deferred income tax expense included in income tax expense comprises:		
(Increase)/decrease in deferred tax assets	**(16.9)**	43.8
Increase/(decrease) in deferred tax liabilities	**32.3**	(40.4)
	15.4	3.4

(b) Numerical reconciliation of income tax expense to prima facie tax payable

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Profit before income tax expense	**322.0**	346.9
Tax at the Australian tax rate of 30% (2022: 30%)	**96.6**	104.1
Tax effect of amounts which are not deductible (taxable) in calculating taxable income:		
Other	**1.3**	1.0
Adjustments for tax of prior periods	**3.2**	(0.1)
	101.1	105.0

3 Income tax (continued)

(c) Deferred tax balances

The table below outlines the items which comprise the deferred tax balances:

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Deferred tax assets		
Provisions and accruals	**20.7**	20.8
Contract liabilities	**8.8**	6.0
Financial instruments	**25.0**	10.8
Total deferred tax assets	**54.5**	37.6
Set-off against deferred tax liabilities	**(54.5)**	(37.6)
Net deferred tax assets	**-**	-
Deferred tax liabilities		
Inventories	**1.1**	0.8
Property, plant and equipment	**718.2**	716.7
Intangible assets	**17.2**	19.9
Financial instruments	**21.3**	5.9
Other items	**17.7**	10.4
Total deferred tax liabilities	**775.5**	753.7
Set-off of deferred tax assets	**(54.5)**	(37.6)
Net deferred tax liabilities	**721.0**	716.1

The table below outlines the items which comprise deferred income tax expense:

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Provisions and accruals	**0.1**	2.0
Contract liabilities	**(2.8)**	(6.0)
Financial instruments	**(14.2)**	46.8
Other items	**-**	1.0
(Increase)/decrease in deferred tax assets	**(16.9)**	43.8
Inventories	**0.3**	0.8
Property, plant and equipment	**1.5**	9.7
Intangible assets	**(2.7)**	(4.2)
Financial instruments	**25.9**	(57.1)
Other	**7.3**	10.4
Increase/(decrease) in deferred tax liabilities	**32.3**	(40.4)
Net deferred income tax expense	**15.4**	3.4

3 Income tax (continued)

(d) Accounting policies

The tax position is calculated based on the tax rates and laws enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date, in the relevant operating jurisdiction. The tax laws and accounting standards have different rules in respect of timing and recognition of income and expenses, resulting in temporary differences (which reverse over time) and non-temporary differences (which do not reverse over time or are temporary differences that do not meet the recognition criteria under the accounting standards).

Income tax expense is calculated as the profit or loss before tax, multiplied by the applicable tax rate, and adjusted for non-temporary differences. Income tax expense includes a current tax and deferred tax component and is recognised in the profit or loss, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in equity or in other comprehensive income.

(i) Current tax

Current tax is the expected tax payable for the period, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of prior periods. Current tax includes both temporary differences and non-temporary differences.

The positions taken in tax returns with respect to situations in which applicable tax regulation is subject to interpretation are periodically evaluated and provisions are provided where appropriate based on amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

Current tax assets and liabilities are offset where the Group has a legally enforceable right to offset and intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

(ii) Deferred tax

Deferred tax represents taxes to be paid or deductions available in future income years and any adjustment to deferred tax amounts in respect of prior periods. Deferred tax is recognised on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities, and their carrying amounts in the consolidated financial statements, except:

- when arising on the initial recognition of goodwill;
- when arising from the initial recognition of assets or liabilities in a transaction that is not a business combination and that affects neither accounting or taxable profit; or
- where it is not probable that future amounts will be available to utilise those temporary differences or carried-forward tax losses.

(iii) Offsetting deferred tax balances

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset where there is a legally enforceable right to offset and when the deferred tax balances relate to taxes levied by the same tax authority.

(iv) Tax consolidation legislation

The Company is a member of a tax consolidated group of which Aurizon Holdings Limited is the head entity.

The Company accounts for its own current and deferred tax amounts. These tax amounts are measured as if the Company continues to be a stand-alone taxpayer in its own right. However, the current tax liabilities and deferred tax assets arising from unused tax losses and unused tax credits are subsequently assumed by Aurizon Holdings Limited.

The members of the tax consolidated group have also entered into tax funding and tax sharing agreements. The tax funding agreement sets out the funding obligations of members in respect of income tax amounts and allocates tax liabilities using the standalone taxpayer approach. These tax funding arrangements result in the Company recognising a current inter-entity receivable or payable equal in amount to the tax liability or tax asset assumed by the head entity on behalf of the Company.

The tax sharing agreement limits the joint and several liability of the Company in the case of a default by the head entity.

Operating assets and liabilities

IN THIS SECTION

Operating assets and liabilities provides information about the working capital of the Group and major balance sheet items, including the accounting policies, judgements and estimates relevant to understanding these items.

4	Trade and other receivables	Page 24
5	Inventories	Page 25
6	Property, plant and equipment	Page 26
7	Intangible assets	Page 32
8	Trade and other payables	Page 33
9	Provisions	Page 33
10	Other liabilities	Page 35

4 Trade and other receivables

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Current		
Trade receivables	**134.9**	121.7
Provision for impairment of receivables	**(0.1)**	(0.1)
Net trade receivables	**134.8**	121.6
Other receivables[1]	**137.5**	73.1
	272.3	194.7

[1] Other receivables includes revenue for services performed but not yet invoiced under contracts including Take-or-Pay of $100.2 million (2022: $32.8 million) and annual GAPE fees of $32.5 million (2022: $34.0 million).

(a) Accounting policies

(i) Trade receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 31 days and are therefore classified as current.

(ii) Provision for impairment

The collectability of trade and other receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Individual debts which are known to be uncollectable are written off when identified.

The Group recognises a provision for impairment based on expected lifetime losses of trade and other receivables. The amount of the provision for impairment is recognised in profit or loss in other expenses.

(b) Credit risks related to receivables

In assessing an appropriate provision for impairment of trade and other receivables, consideration is given to historical experience of bad debts, the aging of receivables, knowledge of debtor insolvency and individual account assessment.

The Group's trade receivables exhibit similar credit risk characteristics and exposures. Customer credit risk is managed in accordance with the procedures and controls set out in the Group's credit risk management policy. Credit limits are established for all customers based on external and internal credit rating criteria. For some trade receivables, the Group may also obtain security in the form of guarantees, deeds of undertaking or letter of credit which can be called upon if the counterparty is in default under the terms of the agreement.

5 Inventories

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Current		
Raw materials and stores at cost	**70.1**	61.5
Non-current		
Raw materials and stores - at cost	**18.8**	24.2
Provision for inventory obsolescence	**(6.9)**	(6.8)
	11.9	17.4

(a) Accounting policies

Inventories include infrastructure items held in centralised stores, workshops and depots. Items expected to be consumed after more than 12 months are classified as non-current.

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of individual items of inventory are determined using weighted average cost.

The Group recognises a provision for inventory obsolescence based on an assessment of damaged stock, slow-moving stock and stock that has become obsolete. The amount of the provision for inventory obsolescence is recognised in profit or loss in other expenses.

6 Property, plant and equipment

	Assets under construction $m	Land $m	Buildings $m	Plant and equipment $m	Rollingstock $m	Infrastructure $m	Total $m
2023							
Opening net book amount	**71.2**	**28.6**	**15.0**	**169.6**	**20.1**	**4,902.1**	**5,206.6**
Additions	**341.0**	**-**	**0.1**	**2.5**	**-**	**-**	**343.6**
Transfers between asset classes	**(326.5)**	**-**	**0.2**	**7.1**	**-**	**319.2**	**-**
Disposals	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(0.6)**	**-**	**(5.2)**	**(5.8)**
Depreciation	**-**	**-**	**(1.4)**	**(16.4)**	**(1.3)**	**(309.5)**	**(328.6)**
Impairment	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(0.1)**	**-**	**(0.1)**	**(0.2)**
Closing net book amount	**85.7**	**28.6**	**13.9**	**162.1**	**18.8**	**4,906.5**	**5,215.6**
At 30 June 2023							
Cost	**85.7**	**28.6**	**27.0**	**278.5**	**28.9**	**8,086.7**	**8,535.4**
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	**-**	**-**	**(13.1)**	**(116.4)**	**(10.1)**	**(3,180.2)**	**(3,319.8)**
Net book amount	**85.7**	**28.6**	**13.9**	**162.1**	**18.8**	**4,906.5**	**5,215.6**
2022							
Opening net book amount	110.8	28.6	16.1	119.0	22.1	4,955.6	5,252.2
Additions	278.6	-	-	-	-	-	278.6
Transfers between asset classes	(317.0)	-	0.5	65.6	-	250.9	-
Disposals	-	-	-	(0.5)	-	(2.2)	(2.7)
Depreciation	-	-	(1.6)	(14.5)	(2.0)	(302.2)	(320.3)
Impairment	(1.2)	-	-	-	-	-	(1.2)
Closing net book amount	71.2	28.6	15.0	169.6	20.1	4,902.1	5,206.6
At 30 June 2022							
Cost	71.2	28.6	26.8	272.6	28.9	7,787.8	8,215.9
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-	(11.8)	(103.0)	(8.8)	(2,885.7)	(3,009.3)
Net book amount	71.2	28.6	15.0	169.6	20.1	4,902.1	5,206.6

6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Significant judgements and estimates

Useful life of infrastructure assets

The Group is the below rail operator and economic owner of the 2,670km CQCN through a long term lease. The Company is responsible for the provision of access to, and operation of the regulated infrastructure assets which connect 40 coal mines to five export terminals as well as to domestic customers. The useful life of infrastructure assets is determined based on the expected engineering life, capped at the remaining term of the infrastructure lease. In adopting this basis, the Group assumes that the infrastructure assets will remain economically viable throughout the lease term which, as explained further below, is dependent on the ongoing future supply and demand for Australian coal.

Around 70% of volume hauled across the CQCN is metallurgical coal which is primarily used to produce steel. Thermal coal which is used as a heat source in energy generation accounts for the remaining 30% of volume hauled. Metallurgical coal is expected to be in demand for longer than thermal coal. The useful life of infrastructure assets will be impacted by the future supply and demand for Australian metallurgical coal rather than thermal coal.

As part of the Group's Strategy in Uncertainty framework, scenario analysis is used to test market drivers and evaluate capital, fleet and haulage opportunities and sustainability in the context of climate change risks. A key component of this analysis is understanding the drivers of supply and demand for commodities transported over the short term as well as risks that emerge over the medium to long term. This analysis is extended over the lease term where the timing and magnitude is less certain.

The future supply of Australian metallurgical coal is dependent on government policies, including the ability of customers to gain regulatory approvals and raise funding to support the development of their resource base. Demand for Australian metallurgical coal is dependent on seaborne-traded markets which are increasingly concentrated in Asia and linked to Asian steel production. Future demand is dependent on economic development in Asia including steel intensive growth, alternatives to steel and current steel production methods, technology advancements, competing supply of metallurgical coal and changes in government policies including preference for domestic or imported coal and net-zero emission targets. Major import nations of Australian metallurgical coal with net-zero emissions targets include India (2070), Japan (2050), South Korea (2050) and China (2060).

Regulatory framework considerations

As the CQCN is a regulated asset, the Company earns a Return of Capital as part of Allowable Revenue for each coal system under the QCA approved Access Undertaking. The Return of Capital compensates the Company for depreciation of the RAB over QCA endorsed regulatory lives for individual asset classes which differ to the expected engineering life used for statutory reporting purposes. The QCA has also approved an accelerated depreciation profile for additions to the RAB from FY2010 onwards. As a result, at the commencement of each regulatory period, where an asset class has a remaining regulatory useful life:

- higher than 20 years, RAB depreciation is based on a 20-year rolling life, which resets to 20 years each regulatory period
- lower than 20 years, depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis.

The accelerated depreciation profile adopted by the QCA increases the rate at which the Company recovers the Return of Capital and increases Allowable Revenue in the near term.

The QCA approved economic life of the CQCN can be re-assessed at the commencement of each regulatory period and therefore the QCA approved economic life of the CQCN RAB is not an indicator that useful lives adopted for statutory reporting purposes should be revised.

The Group assumes the regulatory framework continues throughout the lease term.

Indicators

The key drivers for the future supply and demand for Australian metallurgical coal over the short term as well as risks that emerge over the medium to long term where the timing and magnitude is less certain are reviewed annually to assess the appropriateness of useful lives assigned to infrastructure assets. Indicators monitored include the following:

- government policies, including the ability of customers to gain regulatory approvals and raise funding to support the development of metallurgical coal reserves in the CQCN
- global crude steel production and the share of Australian metallurgical coal used in the process

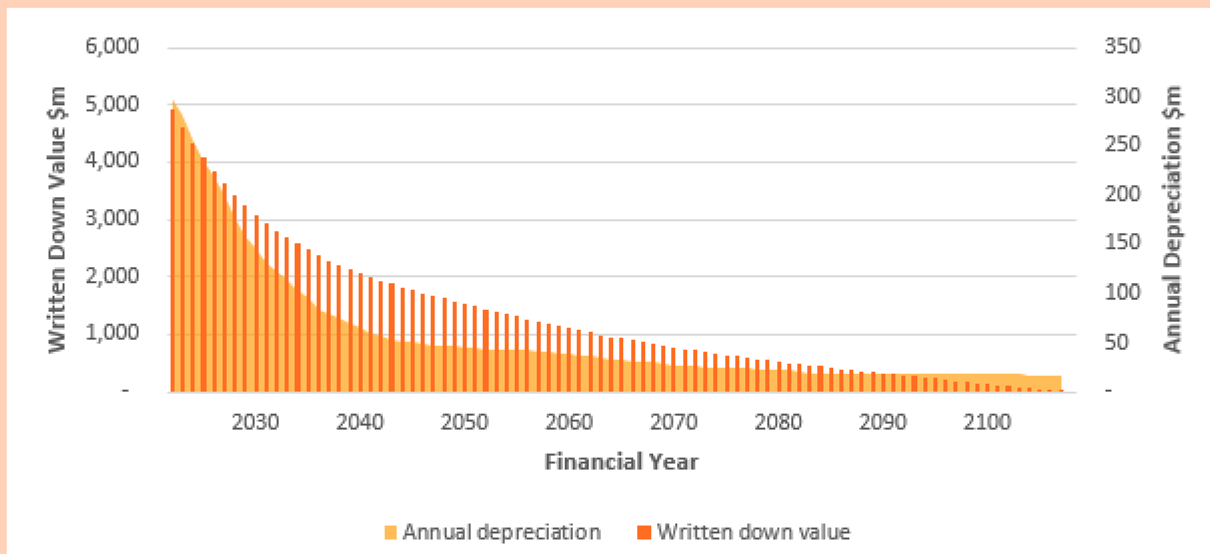
6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

- the viability of new and alternative technologies that are developed to reduce emissions targets such as carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS), and hydrogen-based steel making, that may positively or negatively impact future metallurgical coal demand
- the average age of steel plants for end markets of Australian metallurgical coal
- global supply competitiveness and Australia's share of seaborne metallurgical coal supply
- climate policy targets and how they are intended to be met at both a country and corporate level, including net-zero emissions targets set by major import nations of Australian coal.

Sensitivity

The indicators monitored are extended over the lease term where the timing and magnitude is less certain. Consequently, a change in indicators reviewed may result in a revision of useful lives assigned to the infrastructure assets in the future resulting in a change in depreciation on a prospective basis. The graph below summarises the annual depreciation profile of the current written down value of infrastructure assets of $4,906.5 million (leased assets of $4,361.0 million and owned assets of $545.5 million) over the useful life applied for each class of assets described in note 6(b)(i) and excludes future capital investments.

FIGURE 1 - INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS DEPRECIATION PROFILE



All infrastructure assets have a maximum useful life of FY2109. As an indication of sensitivity, the table below summarises the increase in annual depreciation if the maximum useful life of current infrastructure assets are reduced by 10, 20, 30 or 40 years.

Reduction in maximum useful life (years):	Increase in annual depreciation ($m p.a):
10	2
20	6
30	10
40	18

6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(a) Leases

Leased assets

The Group is the below rail operator and economic owner of rail infrastructure including the 2,670km CQCN through long term leases. The infrastructure and land leases include corridor land and buildings. The assets associated with the leases are classified in infrastructure, land and buildings.

The following table summarises the infrastructure and land leases:

Leases	Lessee	Lessor	Term	Expiry	Rental Amount	Extension Option[1]
CQCN	Aurizon Network Pty Ltd	State of Queensland (land) and Queensland Treasury Holdings (infrastructure)	99 years	30 June 2109	$1 if demanded	99 years
Part of the North Coast Line	Aurizon Network Pty Ltd	State of Queensland (land) and Queensland Rail (infrastructure)	99 years	30 June 2109	$1 if demanded	99 years

[1] The State of Queensland and Queensland Rail have an option to extend the leases by a further 99 years. The extension option is on the same terms as the initial lease period. Notice must be provided at least 20 years prior to the expiry of the existing term. The extension option under the corridor land leases are dependent on the infrastructure lease extension being exercised and granted.

(i) Amounts recognised in the consolidated balance sheet

Property, plant and equipment includes the following amounts relating to leased assets:

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Leased assets		
Infrastructure	**4,361.0**	4,307.1
Corridor land	**25.8**	25.8
Buildings	**1.5**	1.6
	4,388.3	4,334.5

(ii) Amounts recognised in the consolidated income statement

The consolidated income statement includes the following amounts relating to leased assets:

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Depreciation of leased assets		
Infrastructure	**275.4**	264.8
Buildings	**0.2**	0.2
	275.6	265.0

6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(b) Accounting policies

(i) Property, plant and equipment

Carrying value
Property, plant and equipment (including leased infrastructure, corridor land and buildings) is stated at historical cost, less any accumulated depreciation or impairment. Costs include expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items and borrowing costs that are related to the acquisition or construction of an asset. Costs may also include transfers from equity of any gains or losses on qualifying cash flow hedges of foreign currency purchases of property, plant and equipment.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Group. All repairs and maintenance are charged to profit or loss during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Depreciation
Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis, except for motor vehicles included in plant and equipment for which depreciation is calculated on a diminishing value method. Straight-line allocates the cost of an item of property, plant and equipment net of residual values over the expected useful life of each asset. Estimates of remaining useful life and residual values are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, on an annual basis.

The useful lives applied for each class of assets are:

Class	Useful life
• Infrastructure, including:	
Tracks	7 - 50 years
Track turnouts	20 - 25 years
Ballast	8 - 20 years
Civil works	20 - 99 years
Bridges	30 - 99 years
Electrification	20 - 50 years
Field signals	15 - 40 years
• Buildings	10 - 40 years
• Rollingstock, including:	
Wagons	25 - 35 years
Wagon componentisation	10 - 17 years
• Plant and equipment	3 - 20 years

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

(ii) Leases

An asset and a corresponding liability, except for where the lease is prepaid, are recognised at the date at which the asset is available for use by the Group. Where the Group is a sub-lessor and the sub-lease is for the duration of the head lease, the asset recognised from the head lease is derecognised and a lease receivable equal to the present value of future lease payments receivable is recognised.

Assets and liabilities arising from a lease are initially measured on a present-value basis. Lease liabilities include the net present value of the following lease payments:

- fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable;
- variable lease payments that are based on an index or a rate; and
- payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the lessee exercising that option.

The lease payments are discounted using the Group's incremental borrowing rate, being the rate that the Group would have to pay to borrow the funds necessary to obtain an asset of similar value in a similar economic environment with similar terms and conditions.

Other leased assets are measured at cost comprising the following:

- the amount of the initial measurement of lease liability;
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received; and
- any initial direct costs.

6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(b) Accounting policies (continued)

(ii) Leases (continued)

Other leased assets are generally depreciated over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term on a straight-line basis. If the Group is reasonably certain to exercise a purchase option, the asset is depreciated over the underlying asset's useful life.

(iii) Impairment tests for property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment subject to depreciation is reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable.

In testing for impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated for an individual asset or, if it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount for the individual asset, the recoverable amount for the cash generating unit (CGU) to which the asset belongs. CGUs are the smallest identifiable group of assets that generate cash flows that are largely independent from the cash flows of other assets or group of assets. Each CGU is no larger than a reportable segment.

Assets are impaired if their carrying value exceeds their recoverable amount. The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is determined as the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal or value-in-use.

An impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the asset or a CGU exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses recognised in respect of CGUs are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to the CGU (group of CGUs) and then to reduce the carrying amount of other assets in the CGU (group of CGUs).

Where there is an indicator that previously recognised impairment losses may no longer exist or may have decreased, the asset is tested for impairment. The impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount of the asset and is reversed only to the extent that the carrying amount of the asset does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, had no impairment loss been recognised.

7 Intangible assets

	Software $m	Software under development $m	Total $m
2023			
Opening net book amount	**82.0**	**-**	**82.0**
Amortisation	**(12.5)**	**-**	**(12.5)**
Closing net book amount	**69.5**	**-**	**69.5**
At 30 June 2023			
Cost	**144.2**	**-**	**144.2**
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	**(74.7)**	**-**	**(74.7)**
Net book amount	**69.5**	**-**	**69.5**
2022			
Opening net book amount	86.8	3.7	90.5
Additions	-	3.8	3.8
Transfers between asset classes	7.5	(7.5)	-
Amortisation	(12.3)	-	(12.3)
Closing net book amount	82.0	-	82.0
At 30 June 2022			
Cost	144.2	-	144.2
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(62.2)	-	(62.2)
Net book amount	82.0	-	82.0

(a) Accounting policies

(i) Software

Costs incurred in developing products or systems, and costs incurred in acquiring software and licences that will contribute to future period financial benefits through revenue generation and/or cost reduction are capitalised to software and systems. Costs capitalised include external direct costs of materials and service, employee costs and an appropriate portion of relevant overheads. Software development costs include only those costs directly attributable to the development phase, and are only recognised following completion of technical feasibility and where the Group has an intention and ability to use the asset. No amounts were capitalised in the year.

Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) arrangements are service contracts which provide the right to access the cloud provider's application software over the contract period. Costs incurred to configure or customise, and the ongoing licence fees, are recognised as an expense in profit or loss. Some of these costs incurred are for the development of software code that enhances or creates additional capability to existing systems and are recognised as an intangible asset when the recognition criteria are met.

Software is stated at historical cost, less any accumulated amortisation or impairment. Amortisation is calculated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life which varies from three to 15 years (2022: three to 11 years).

8 Trade and other payables

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Current		
Trade payables	**118.3**	112.9
Other payables	**25.9**	23.5
	144.2	136.4

(a) Accounting policies

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Group prior to the end of financial year which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 45 days or within the terms agreed with the supplier.

9 Provisions

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Current		
Employee benefits (a)	**57.3**	58.7
Non-current		
Employee benefits (a)	**3.5**	3.0
Total provisions	**60.8**	61.7

(a) Employee benefits

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Annual leave	**14.5**	14.0
Long service leave	**30.7**	30.7
Other	**15.6**	17.0
	60.8	61.7

Long service leave includes all unconditional entitlements where employees have completed the required period of service and a provision for the probability that employees will reach the required period of service. The Group does not expect all employees to take the full amount of employee benefits or require payment within the next 12 months based on past experience. The current provision for employee benefits includes $28.7 million (2022: $28.1 million) that is not expected to be taken or paid within the next 12 months.

(b) Accounting policies

A provision is recognised when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and the amount has been reliably estimated. Provisions are measured at the present value of the best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date.

(i) Employee benefits

The provision for employee benefits includes accrued annual leave, leave loading, retirement allowances, long service leave, short-term incentive plans and termination benefits.

Liabilities for wages and salaries and accumulating non-monetary benefits expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date, are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting date. They are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

9 Provisions (continued)

(b) Accounting policies (continued)

(i) Employee benefits (continued)

Liabilities for annual leave and long service leave are measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting date. Expected future payments that are not expected to be settled within 12 months are discounted using market yield at the reporting date of Australian corporate bond rates and reflects the terms to maturity. Remeasurements as a result of adjustments and changes in actuarial assumptions are recognised in profit or loss.

A liability for short-term incentive plans is recognised based on a formula that takes into consideration the Group and individual key performance indicators. The Group recognises a provision where contractually obliged or where there is a past practice that has created a constructive obligation.

A termination benefit is payable when the Group decides to terminate the employment, or when an employee accepts redundancy in exchange for these benefits. A provision is recognised at the earlier of when the Group can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Group recognises costs for restructuring and is measured using the present value of the expected amounts to be paid to settle the obligation.

Employee benefits are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the Group does not have any unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

(ii) Superannuation

Aurizon Network Pty Ltd is a member of the State Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (QSuper) multi-employer defined benefit superannuation plan and is required to contribute a specific percentage of employee benefits expense to fund the retirement benefits of 109 employees (2022: 119).

In accordance with the requirements of AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*, given the lack of sufficient information available, the plan is accounted for as if it were a defined contribution plan. Defined contribution superannuation expense in note 2 includes $1.9 million (2022: $2.0 million) relating to the QSuper defined benefit plan.

(iii) Land rehabilitation

A provision is recognised for the present value of estimated costs of land rehabilitation and make good where the Group has a legal or constructive obligation to restore a site.

The Group is the below rail operator and economic owner of the 2,670km CQCN under long-term infrastructure and land leases as described in note 6. The CQCN is required to be managed and maintained in accordance with good operating practice. At expiry of the long-term leases, the Group has the right to remove the infrastructure (or parts of it) by agreement with the lessor or to be paid the fair market value of the infrastructure that is not removed. Therefore, no land rehabilitation provision is recognised in respect of the CQCN.

10 Other liabilities

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Current		
Contract liabilities	**55.0**	45.7
Tax loan payable to parent entity	**42.5**	78.1
	97.5	123.8
Non-current		
Contract liabilities	**81.4**	96.9
	81.4	96.9

Refer to note 1(b) for further information relating to contract liabilities.

Capital and financial risk management

IN THIS SECTION

Capital and financial risk management provides information about the capital management practices of the Group and shareholder returns for the year, and discusses the Group's exposure to various financial risks, explains how these affect the Group's financial position and performance, and what the Group does to manage these risks.

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11 Capital risk management

The Group's objective is to maintain a strong capital base so as to maintain investor, creditor and market confidence, and to sustain future development of the business. The Group monitors its capital structure by reference to gearing ratio, ability to generate free cash flows and credit rating.

Net debt consists of borrowings (both current and non-current) less cash and cash equivalents. Net gearing ratio is defined as Net debt divided by Net debt plus Equity. Net debt and Net gearing ratio are measures of the Group's indebtedness and provides an indicator of the balance sheet strength. The gearing ratio excludes derivative financial instruments used to hedge market risk on borrowings.

	Notes	**2023 $m**	2022 $m
Total borrowings	14	**3,632.1**	2,885.8
Less: cash and cash equivalents		**(30.2)**	(15.0)
Net debt		**3,601.9**	2,870.8
Total equity		**843.2**	1,439.4
Total capital		**4,445.1**	4,310.2
Net gearing ratio		**81.0%**	66.6%

12 Dividends

Declared and paid during the period	**$m**
For the year ended 30 June 2023	
Final dividend for 2022 (unfranked)	**109.0**
Interim dividend for 2023 (unfranked)	**84.0**
	193.0
For the year ended 30 June 2022	
Final dividend for 2021 (unfranked)	141.7
Interim dividend for 2022 (unfranked)	88.0
	229.7

Proposed and unrecognised at period end	
For the year ended 30 June 2023	
Final dividend for 2023 (unfranked)	**113.9**
For the year ended 30 June 2022	
Final dividend for 2022 (unfranked)	109.0

13 Equity

(a) Contributed equity

(i) Issued capital

	Number of shares	$m
At 1 July 2021	130	999.8
At 30 June 2022	130	999.8
Return of capital to the parent	**-**	**(350.0)**
Return of capital to the parent	**-**	**(250.0)**
Return of capital to the parent for share-based payments	**-**	**(0.1)**
At 30 June 2023	**130**	**399.7**

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. The Company does not have authorised capital or par value in respect of its issued shares. All issued shares are fully paid. Ordinary shares entitle the holder to participate in dividends. Contributed equity is reduced for payments made to the parent entity.

(ii) Other contributed equity

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Capital contribution from the parent for share-based payments	**3.9**	3.3
Aggregate deferred tax on related share-based payments	**0.9**	1.0
Total other contributed equity	**4.8**	4.3

The grant by Aurizon Holdings Limited of rights over its equity instruments to the employees of subsidiary companies in the Aurizon Group is treated as a capital contribution to that subsidiary company. The fair value of employee services received, measured by reference to the grant date fair value, is recognised over the vesting period by the Company as an employee benefits expense with a corresponding credit to equity. The difference between the market value of Aurizon Holdings Limited shares acquired by a subsidiary to settle vested share based payments schemes and the fair value expensed by the Company is treated as a distribution to the parent through a reduction in issued capital.

(b) Reserves

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Cash flow hedges		
Balance 1 July	**17.5**	(56.1)
Fair value gains/(losses) taken to equity	**7.1**	105.1
Fair value (gains)/losses taken to profit or loss	**(42.3)**	-
Fair value gains/(losses) transferred to property, plant and equipment	**0.2**	-
Tax expense/(benefit) relating to items of other comprehensive income	**10.5**	(31.5)
Balance 30 June	**(7.0)**	17.5

(i) Cash flow hedge reserve

The cash flow hedge reserve comprises the effective portion of the cumulative net change in the fair value of cash flow hedging instruments related to hedge transactions that have not yet occurred.

14 Borrowings

The Group borrows money through bank debt facilities, the issuance of debt securities in capital markets and from time to time advances from related parties.

The carrying amount of the Group's borrowings is as follows:

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Current - Unsecured		
Medium-Term Notes	**427.3**	-
Bank debt facilities	**33.0**	255.0
Loans from related parties	**-**	93.0
	460.3	348.0
Non-current - Unsecured		
Medium-Term Notes	**2,164.9**	2,422.5
US Private Placement Notes	**303.2**	-
Bank debt facilities	**710.0**	120.0
Capitalised borrowing costs	**(6.3)**	(4.7)
	3,171.8	2,537.8
Total borrowings	**3,632.1**	2,885.8

The Group's bank debt facilities contain financial covenants. The bank debt facilities, Medium-Term Notes and US Private Placement Notes contain general undertakings including negative pledge clauses which restrict the amount of security that the Group can provide over assets in certain circumstances. The Group has complied with all required covenants and undertakings throughout the reporting period.

The Group may also draw upon funds from Aurizon Operations Limited (related party) pursuant to the Intra Group Loan Agreement (refer to note 19).

The Group manages its exposure to interest rate risk as set out in note 15(a). Details of the Group's financing arrangements and exposure to risks arising from borrowings are set out in note 15(b).

(a) Accounting policies

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value of the consideration received, less directly attributable borrowing costs. Borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Directly attributable borrowing costs are capitalised and amortised over the expected term of the bank debt facilities, Medium-Term Notes and US Private Placement Notes.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities, except for those liabilities where the Group has an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period which are classified as non-current liabilities.

15 Financial risk management

Financial risks, including market risk, liquidity and funding risk and credit risk, are managed through policies that have been approved by the Board. The policies outline principles and procedures with respect to risk tolerance, delegated levels of authority on the type and use of derivative financial instruments and the reporting of these exposures. The policies are subject to periodic reviews. The Group typically uses derivative financial instruments to hedge underlying exposures arising from operational activities relating to changes in foreign exchange rates and interest rates.

Under the QCA approved regulatory regime, the Company receives compensation for its cost of debt through the WACC. The risk-free rate and debt risk premium used to determine WACC are based on observed market data in the 20 business days prior to a WACC reset date. This interest rate risk is managed through the establishment of financial derivatives to fix the underlying interest rate of forecast debt over this period.

The Group's overall financial risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Group's financial performance as set out in the table below:

Risk	Exposure	Mitigation
Market risk		
- Interest rate risk	The Group is exposed to interest rate risk in respect to short and long-term borrowings where interest is charged at variable rates.	The Group mitigates interest rate risk primarily by maintaining an appropriate mix of fixed and floating rate borrowings. Where necessary, the Group hedges interest rates using derivative financial instruments - interest rate swaps to manage cash flows and interest rate exposure.
- Interest rate and foreign exchange risk	The Group is exposed to interest rate and foreign currency exchange risk in respect of the Euro (€) denominated Medium-Term Notes (EMTNs) and US dollar (US$) denominated Private Placement Notes (USPP).	To mitigate the risk of adverse movements in interest rates and foreign exchange in respect of foreign currency denominated borrowings, the Group enters into cross-currency interest rate swaps (CCIRS) to replace foreign currency principal and interest payments with Australian dollar repayments.
- Foreign exchange risk	The Group is exposed to foreign exchange risk in respect of purchases of inventory and property, plant and equipment denominated in a foreign currency.	The Group manages foreign currency risk on contractual commitments by entering into forward exchange contracts.
Liquidity and funding risk	The Group is exposed to liquidity and funding risk from operations and borrowings, where the risk is that the Group may not be able to refinance debt obligations or meet other cash outflow obligations when required.	The Group mitigates liquidity and funding risk by ensuring a sufficient range of funds are available to meet its cash flow obligations when due under both normal and stressed conditions without incurring unacceptable losses or damage to the Group's reputation.
Credit risk	The Group is exposed to credit risk from financial instrument contracts and trade and other receivables. The maximum exposure to credit risk at reporting date is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment.	The Group enters into financial instrument contracts with high credit quality financial institutions with a minimum long-term credit rating of A- or better by Standard & Poor's. The Board approved policies limit the amount of credit exposure to any one financial institution by credit rating band. The Group manages counterparty risk through approval, granting and renewal of credit limits, regularly monitoring exposures against credit limits, and assessing overall financial stability and strength of counterparties on an ongoing basis. Refer to note 4 for credit risk exposures relating to trade and other receivables.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk

(i) Interest rate risk

Exposure

The Group had the following variable rate borrowings and interest rate swap contracts outstanding at 30 June:

	Weighted average interest rate %	Balance $m
2023		
Variable rate exposure	**3.8**	**3,295.5**
Interest rate swaps (notional principal amount)	**1.0**	**(2,900.0)**
Net exposure to interest rate risk		**395.5**
2022		
Variable rate exposure	1.8	2,520.8
Interest rate swaps (notional principal amount)	1.0	(2,300.0)
Net exposure to interest rate risk		220.8

Interest rate derivatives used for hedging

The Group currently has interest rate swaps in place to cover 88% (2022: 91%) of the variable rate borrowings, including fixed rate borrowings converted to variable rate borrowings as a result of fair value hedge relationships outlined in note 15(a)(ii). The weighted average maturity of interest rate swaps is 4 years (2022: less than one year).

Sensitivity

The following table summarises the gain/(loss) impact of a 100 basis points (bps) increase or decrease in interest rates on net profit and equity before tax.

	Increase $m	Decrease $m
2023		
Effect on profit	**(4.0)**	**4.0**
Effect on equity	**80.3**	**(85.8)**
2022		
Effect on profit	(2.2)	2.2
Effect on equity	18.2	(18.5)

Amounts recognised in profit or loss

The Group recognised a net gain on interest rate swaps of $30.2 million (2022: loss of $19.0 million) as a result of market interest rates (i.e. floating rates) closing higher than the average interest rate hedged resulting in a gain on the floating-to-fixed interest rate swaps, partly offset by a loss on the fixed-to-floating interest rate swaps. The net gain represents the effective portion of hedges which have been recognised in interest expense.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(ii) Effects of hedge accounting

The table below summarises the hedging instruments used to manage market risk:

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Current assets		
Interest rate swaps	**-**	42.3
	-	42.3
Non-current assets		
Interest rate swaps	**11.5**	-
CCIRS - EMTN 1	**77.8**	37.9
	89.3	37.9
Total derivative financial instrument assets	**89.3**	80.2
Non-current liabilities		
Interest rate swaps	**0.6**	-
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 3	**12.0**	10.8
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 4	**103.7**	105.1
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 5	**13.5**	13.0
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 6	**2.6**	-
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 7	**0.9**	-
Interest rate swaps - USPP	**4.2**	-
CCIRS - EMTN 2	**38.5**	71.3
CCIRS – USPP	**5.5**	-
Total derivative financial instrument liabilities	**181.5**	200.2

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(ii) Effects of hedge accounting (continued)

The following table summarises the impact of hedging instruments designated in hedging relationships, recognised as derivative financial instruments in the consolidated balance sheet:

	Notional amount		**Carrying amount assets/(liabilities)**		**Favourable/(unfavourable) change in fair value used for measuring ineffectiveness for the year[1]**	
	2023	2022	**2023 $m**	2022 $m	**2023 $m**	2022 $m
Cash flow hedges						
Foreign exchange risk						
Forward contracts[2]	**€2.3m**	€2.3m	**-**	-	**-**	-
Interest rate risk						
Interest rate swaps (current)[3]	**A$2,330.0m**	A$2,300.0m	**9.0**	42.3	**(33.3)**	82.6
Interest rate swaps (forward dated)[3]	**A$570.0m**	-	**1.9**	-	**1.9**	-
Foreign exchange and interest rate risks						
CCIRS – EMTN 1[4]	**€500.0m**	€500.0m	**(0.3)**	(1.3)	**1.0**	(0.3)
CCIRS – EMTN 2[4]	**€500.0m**	€500.0m	**(5.6)**	(10.7)	**5.1**	0.1
CCIRS – USPP[6]	**US$132.0m**	-	**(5.3)**	-	**(5.3)**	-
Fair value hedges						
Interest rate risk						
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 3[5]	**A$82.0m**	A$82.0m	**(12.0)**	(10.8)	**(0.9)**	(10.7)
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 4[5]	**A$500.0m**	A$500.0m	**(103.7)**	(105.1)	**4.7**	(82.3)
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 5[5]	**A$75.0m**	A$75.0m	**(13.5)**	(13.0)	**-**	(13.7)
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 6[5]	**A$80.0m**	-	**(2.6)**	-	**(2.5)**	-
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 7[5]	**A$20.0m**	-	**(0.9)**	-	**(0.9)**	-
Interest rate swaps - USPP[6]	**A$111.0m**	-	**(4.2)**	-	**(3.2)**	-
Foreign exchange and interest rate risks						
CCIRS – EMTN 1[4]	**€500.0m**	€500.0m	**78.1**	39.2	**40.7**	(80.0)
CCIRS – EMTN 2[4]	**€500.0m**	€500.0m	**(32.9)**	(60.6)	**29.6**	(101.5)
CCIRS – USPP[6]	**US$132.0m**	-	**(0.2)**	-	**-**	-

[1] The change in fair value for fair value hedges excludes the impact of ineffectiveness.

[2] Forward contracts have an average AUD:EUR exchange rate of 0.6175 (2022 0.6566) related to capital commitments.

[3] Floating-to-fixed interest rate swaps have an average fixed interest rate of 3.97% (2022: 0.96%) and receive floating BBSW. Forward dated interest rate swaps entered include $145.0 million commencing July 2023 and $425.0 million commencing June 2024.

[4] CCIRS have an average fixed EUR interest rate of 2.56% (2022: 2.56%), an average floating AUD interest rate of BBSW + 2.93% spread (2022: BBSW + 2.93% spread), and an average AUD:EUR exchange rate of 0.6730 (2022: 0.6730), over the same term as the EMTNs.

[5] Fixed-to-floating interest rate swaps have an average floating BBSW + 1.99% spread (2022: BBSW + 1.91% spread) and an average fixed interest rate of 3.40% (2022: 2.94%), over the same term as the AMTNs.

[6] The USPP has four tranches maturing June 2033 and maturing June 2035. The CCIRS have an average fixed USD interest rate of 6.56%, an average floating AUD interest rate of BBSW + 3.68% spread, and an average AUD:USD exchange rate of 0.6748. The two fixed-to-floating interest rate swaps have an average floating BBSW + 3.79% spread and an average fixed rate of 7.66%.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(ii) Effects of hedge accounting (continued)

The following table summarises the impact of hedged items designated in cash flow hedging relationships on the consolidated balance sheet and the effect of the hedge relationships on other comprehensive income:

	Cash flow hedge reserve[1]		**(Favourable)/unfavourable change in fair value used for measuring ineffectiveness for the year**		**Hedging gain/(loss) recognised in comprehensive income[1]**	
	2023 $m	2022 $m	**2023 $m**	2022 $m	**2023 $m**	2022 $m
Cash flow hedges (before tax)						
Interest rate risk						
Forecast floating interest payments	**(10.3)**	(42.3)	**31.4**	(82.6)	**(32.1)**	82.6
Foreign exchange and interest rate risks						
EMTN 1	**4.3**	3.3	**(1.0)**	0.3	**(1.1)**	8.6
EMTN 2	**10.6**	14.1	**(5.0)**	(0.1)	**3.5**	13.9
USPP	**5.5**	-	**5.3**	-	**(5.5)**	-

[1] Cash flow hedge reserve includes the cumulative impact of cross-currency basis relating to EMTN 1 and EMTN 2 of $8.8 million (2022: $33.2 million) and relating to the USPP of $6.0 million (2022:$nil). The hedging loss recognised in other comprehensive income includes the cross-currency basis relating to EMTN 1 and EMTN 2 of $3.8 million (2022: hedging gain of $22.3 million) and relating to the USPP of $6.0 million (2022: $nil).

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(ii) Effects of hedge accounting (continued)

The following table summarises the impact of hedged items designated in fair value hedging relationships, recognised as borrowings in the consolidated balance sheet:

	Carrying amount[1]		**Accumulated fair value adjustment**		**(Favourable)/unfavourable change in fair value used for measuring ineffectiveness for the year**	
	2023 $m	2022 $m	**2023 $m**	2022 $m	**2023 $m**	2022 $m
Fair value hedges (before tax)						
Interest rate risk						
AMTN 2[2]	**-**	-	**(2.3)**	(4.7)	**-**	-
AMTN 3	**(69.9)**	(70.8)	**12.1**	11.2	**0.9**	10.7
AMTN 4	**(395.1)**	(390.4)	**104.9**	109.6	**(4.7)**	82.3
AMTN 5	**(61.3)**	(61.3)	**13.7**	13.7	**-**	13.7
AMTN 6	**(77.5)**	-	**2.5**	-	**2.5**	-
AMTN 7	**(19.1)**	-	**0.9**	-	**0.9**	-
USPP	**(107.8)**	-	**3.2**	-	**3.2**	-
	(730.7)	(522.5)	**135.0**	129.8	**2.8**	106.7
Foreign exchange and interest rate risks						
EMTN 1	**(793.3)**	(752.9)	**(82.7)**	(42.3)	**(40.5)**	79.7
EMTN 2	**(752.2)**	(722.4)	**26.0**	55.8	**(29.8)**	101.9
USPP	**(195.4)**	-	**0.2**	-	**-**	-
	(1,740.9)	(1,475.3)	**(56.5)**	13.5	**(70.3)**	181.6
Total borrowings subject to fair value hedges	**(2,471.6)**	(1,997.8)	**78.5**	143.3	**(67.5)**	288.3

[1] Carrying amount excludes the effects of discounts on the face value of AMTNs and EMTNs issued.

[2] Hedge accounting for AMTN 2 was discontinued in FY2019. During FY2023, an amount of $2.4 million (2022: $2.4 million) has been recognised in profit or loss in finance costs.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(b) Liquidity and funding risk

(i) Financing arrangements

The table below summarises the financing arrangements the Group had access to at the end of the period. The facilities are unsecured.

The Group has access to working capital facilities totalling $75.0 million (2022: $75.0 million) which can be utilised for short-term working capital and financial bank guarantees. At 30 June, the Group utilised $3.5 million (2022: $2.5 million) for financial bank guarantees.

Under limited circumstances, the Group may also draw upon funds from Aurizon Operations Limited (related party) pursuant to the Intra Group Loan Agreement (refer note 19).

Refer to key events and transactions for the reporting period for further information on the Group's debt financing activities, including the repayment of AMTN 2.

		Utilised[1]		**Facility limit**	
	Maturity	**2023 $m**	2022 $m	**2023 $m**	2022 $m
Working capital facility	Jun-24	**36.5**	2.5	**75.0**	75.0
Bilateral facility[3]	Jun-23	**-**	255.0	**-**	750.0
Bilateral facility[3]	Jun-24	**-**	60.0	**-**	300.0
Bilateral facility[3]	Jun-25	**-**	60.0	**-**	150.0
Bilateral facility[3]	Jan-26	**575.0**	-	**575.0**	-
Bilateral facility[3]	Jan-27	**135.0**	-	**310.0**	-
Bilateral facility[3]	Jan-28	**-**	-	**205.0**	-
AMTN 2[2]	Jun-24	**425.0**	425.0	**425.0**	425.0
AMTN 3[2]	Mar-30	**82.0**	82.0	**82.0**	82.0
AMTN 4[2]	Sep-30	**500.0**	500.0	**500.0**	500.0
AMTN 5[2]	Dec-31	**75.0**	75.0	**75.0**	75.0
AMTN 6[2]	Dec-32	**80.0**	-	**80.0**	-
AMTN 7[2]	Dec-34	**20.0**	-	**20.0**	-
EMTN 1[2]	Sep-24	**710.6**	710.6	**710.6**	710.6
EMTN 2[2]	Jun-26	**778.2**	778.2	**778.2**	778.2
USPP[2]	Jun-33	**184.4**	-	**184.4**	-
USPP[2]	Jun-35	**122.2**	-	**122.2**	-
		3,723.9	2,948.3	**4,142.4**	3,845.8

[1] Amount utilised includes bank guarantees of $3.5 million (2022: $2.5 million) and excludes capitalised borrowing costs of $6.3 million (2022: $4.7 million) and discounts on Medium Term Notes of $3.7 million (2022: $5.0 million).

[2] Amounts utilised on EMTNs, AMTNs and USPPs excludes accumulated fair value adjustments of $78.5 million (2022: $143.3 million). EMTN 1 and EMTN 2 have a notional amount of €500.0 million converted to AUD at an exchange rate of 0.7036 and 0.6425 respectively. The USD tranches of the USPP have a notional amount of US$132 million, converted to AUD at an exchange rate of 0.6748.

[3] In January 2023, the Company re-financed the existing bilateral facility, reducing the combined facility limit from $1,200.0 million to $1,090.0 million. The maturity of the bilateral facility tranches were extended to January 2026 ($575.0 million), January 2027 ($310.0 million) and January 2028 ($205.0 million).

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(b) Liquidity and funding risk (continued)

(ii) Maturities of financial liabilities

The table below analyses the Group's financial liabilities, including derivatives, into relevant maturity groupings based on the period remaining until the contractual maturity date. The amounts disclosed in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows (including interest) so will not reconcile with the amounts disclosed in the consolidated balance sheet:

	1 year or less $m	1 - 5 years $m	More than 5 years $m	Total contractual cash flows $m	Carrying amount (assets)/ liabilities $m
2023					
Non-derivative financial instruments					
Trade and other payables	**144.2**	**-**	**-**	**144.2**	**144.2**
Other liabilities	**42.5**	**-**	**-**	**42.5**	**42.5**
Borrowings (excluding the effect of CCIRS)[1]	**606.2**	**2,676.1**	**1,272.3**	**4,554.6**	**3,632.1**
Financial guarantees	**3.5**	**-**	**-**	**3.5**	**-**
Total non-derivative financial instruments	**796.4**	**2,676.1**	**1,272.3**	**4,744.8**	**3,818.8**
Derivatives					
Interest rate swaps	**(10.4)**	**0.5**	**-**	**(9.9)**	**(10.9)**
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 3	**2.9**	**9.0**	**3.6**	**15.5**	**12.0**
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 4	**18.9**	**72.0**	**39.3**	**130.2**	**103.7**
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 5	**2.3**	**8.2**	**7.8**	**18.3**	**13.5**
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 6	**0.6**	**1.6**	**2.8**	**5.0**	**2.6**
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 7	**0.2**	**0.4**	**1.1**	**1.7**	**0.9**
Interest rate swaps - USPP	**0.8**	**2.0**	**4.8**	**7.6**	**4.2**
CCIRS - EMTN 1	**29.0**	**(115.0)**	**-**	**(86.0)**	**(77.8)**
CCIRS - EMTN 2	**40.0**	**33.0**	**-**	**73.0**	**38.5**
CCIRS - USPP	**3.0**	**8.3**	**12.6**	**23.9**	**5.5**
Total derivatives	**87.3**	**20.0**	**72.0**	**179.3**	**92.2**
2022					
Non-derivative financial instruments					
Trade and other payables	136.4	-	-	136.4	136.4
Other liabilities	78.1	-	-	78.1	78.1
Borrowings (excluding the effect of CCIRS)[1]	439.4	2,268.0	724.8	3,432.2	2,885.8
Financial guarantees	2.5	-	-	2.5	-
Total non-derivative financial instruments	656.4	2,268.0	724.8	3,649.2	3,100.3
Derivatives					
Interest rate swaps	(43.0)	-	-	(43.0)	(42.3)
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 3	-	1.8	4.9	6.7	10.8
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 4	9.7	15.0	49.8	74.5	105.1
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 5	0.9	1.6	8.3	10.8	13.0
CCIRS - EMTN 1	19.8	(27.8)	-	(8.0)	(37.9)
CCIRS - EMTN 2	29.1	132.0	-	161.1	71.3
Total derivatives	16.5	122.6	63.0	202.1	120.0

[1] Includes loans from related parties of $nil (2022: $93.0 million).

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Hedging instruments

(i) Accounting policies

Derivative financial instruments are recognised initially at fair value on the date the instrument is entered into and are subsequently remeasured at fair value or 'mark-to-market' at each reporting date. The gain or loss on remeasurement is recognised immediately in profit or loss unless the derivative is designated as a hedging instrument, in which case the remeasurement is recognised in equity.

A derivative is presented as a non-current asset or a non-current liability if the remaining maturity of the instrument is more than 12 months and it is not due to be realised or settled within 12 months. Other derivatives are presented as current assets or current liabilities.

Hedge accounting

At inception of the hedge relationship, the Group formally designated the relationship between hedging instruments and hedged items, as well as its risk management objective for undertaking various hedge transactions. The Group also documents its assessment at hedge inception date and on an ongoing basis as to whether the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions have been and will continue to be highly effective in offsetting changes in fair values or cash flows of hedged items.

The Group enters into hedge relationships where the critical terms of the hedging instrument match exactly with the terms of the hedged item and a qualitative assessment is performed to assess effectiveness. If changes in circumstances affect the terms of the hedged item, such as the terms no longer match exactly with the critical terms of the hedged instrument, a hypothetical derivative method is used to assess effectiveness.

The main source of hedge ineffectiveness is the effect of the credit risk differential between the Group and its respective counterparties (i.e. credit curves) on the fair value of interest rate swaps and CCIRS, which is not reflected in the fair value of the hedged item. Ineffectiveness may be due to differences in the critical terms between the interest rate swaps and loans, in the timing of forecast transactions or any off-market derivatives. Hedge ineffectiveness is recognised against the mark-to-market position of the derivative financial instrument and in profit or loss in finance costs.

Rebalancing

If the hedge ratio for risk management purposes is no longer optimal but the risk management objective remains unchanged and the hedge continues to qualify for hedge accounting, the hedge relationship will be rebalanced by adjusting either the volume of the hedging instrument or the volume of the hedged item so that the hedge ratio aligns with the ratio used for risk management purposes. Any hedge ineffectiveness is calculated and accounted for at the time of the hedge relationship rebalancing.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Hedging instruments (continued)

(i) Accounting policies (continued)

For the purpose of hedge accounting, hedges are classified as fair value hedges or cash flow hedges and are accounted for as set out in the table below.

	Fair value hedge	**Cash flow hedge**
What is it?	A derivative or financial instrument designated as hedging the changes in fair value of a recognised asset or liability or firm commitment. A fair value hedge is used to swap fixed interest payments to variable interest payments in order to manage the Group's exposure to interest rate risk.	A derivative or financial instrument hedging the exposure to variability in cash flow attributable to a particular risk associated with an asset, liability or forecasted transaction. A cash flow hedge is used to swap variable interest rate payments to fixed interest rate payments, or to lock in foreign currency rates in order to manage the Group's exposure to interest rate risk and foreign exchange risk.
Movement in fair value	Changes in the fair value of the derivative are recognised in profit or loss, together with the changes in fair value of the hedged asset or liability attributable to the hedged risk. The gain or loss relating to the effective portion of interest rate swaps hedging fixed rate borrowings are recognised in profit or loss within finance expenses, together with the changes in fair value of the hedged fixed rate borrowing attributable to interest rate risk. The gain or loss relating to the ineffective portion is recognised separately to the effective portion in profit or loss within finance expenses.	The effective part of any gain or loss on the derivative financial instrument is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity in the cash flow hedge reserve. The change in the fair value that is identified as ineffective is recognised immediately in profit or loss within other income or other expenses. Amounts accumulated in equity are transferred to profit or loss when the hedged item affects profit or loss. When the forecast transaction results in the recognition of a non-financial asset (property, plant and equipment), the gains or losses previously deferred in equity are transferred from equity and included in the measurement of the initial cost or carrying amount of the asset.
Discontinuation of hedge accounting	If the hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, the adjustment to the carrying amount of a hedged item for which the effective interest method is used is amortised to the profit or loss in finance income over the period to maturity using a recalculated effective interest rate.	When a hedging instrument expires or is sold or terminated, or when a hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, any cumulative gain or loss existing in equity at that time remains in equity and is recognised when the forecast transaction is ultimately recognised in profit or loss. When a forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, the cumulative gain or loss that was reported in equity is immediately transferred to profit or loss.

Netting of payments

Derivative transactions are administered under International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA) Master Agreements. Where certain credit events occur, such as default, the net position owing/receivable to a single counterparty in the same currency will be taken as owing and all the relevant arrangements terminated. The Group does not currently have legally enforceable right of set-off between transaction types and therefore these amounts are presented separately in the consolidated balance sheet.

ISDA Master Agreements held with counterparties allow for the netting of payments and receipts for the settlement of interest rate swap transactions.

The following table presents the recognised financial instruments that are offset, or subject to enforceable master netting arrangements. The net amount shows the impact on the Group's balance sheet if all set-off rights were exercised.

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Hedging instruments (continued)

Netting of payments (continued)

	Effects of offsetting on the balance sheet			Related amounts not offset	
2023	**Gross amounts $m**	**Gross amounts set off in the balance sheet $m**	**Net amounts presented in the balance sheet $m**	**Amounts subject to master netting arrange-ments $m**	**Net amount[1] $m**
Financial assets					
Derivative financial instruments	**89.3**	**-**	**89.3**	**(135.5)**	**(46.2)**
Financial liabilities					
Derivative financial instruments	**(181.5)**	**-**	**(181.5)**	**135.5**	**(46.0)**
2022					
Financial assets					
Derivative financial instruments	80.2	-	80.2	(143.1)	(62.9)
Financial liabilities					
Derivative financial instruments	(200.2)	-	(200.2)	143.1	(57.1)

[1] No financial instrument collateral

(d) Fair value measurements

The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents, and non-interest bearing financial assets and liabilities approximates fair value due to their short maturity.

The fair value of borrowings is estimated by discounting future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rates that are available to the Group for similar financial instruments. The market interest rates were determined to be between 5.1% and 7.1% (2022: 1.0% and 6.6%) depending on the type of facility.

The Group measures the fair value of financial instruments using market observable data where possible. Fair values are categorised into three levels with each of these levels indicating the reliability of the inputs used in determining fair value. The levels of the fair value hierarchy are:

Level 1: Quoted prices for an identical asset or liability in an active market
Level 2: Directly or indirectly observable market data
Level 3: Unobservable market data

The fair value of forward foreign exchange contracts is determined as the unrealised gain/(loss) with reference to market rates. The fair value of interest rate swaps is determined as the net present value of contracted cash flows. The existing exposure method, which estimates future cash flows to present value using credit adjusted discount factors after counterparty netting arrangements, has been adopted for both forward foreign exchange contracts and interest rate swaps.

The fair value of CCIRS is determined as the net present value of contract cash flows. The future probable exposure method is applied to the estimated future cash flows to reflect the credit risk of the Group and relevant counterparties.

The Group's derivative financial instruments are classified as Level 2 (2022: Level 2). During the period, there were no transfers between Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy (2022: nil).

15 Financial risk management (continued)

(d) Fair value measurements (continued)

The table below summarises the carrying amount and fair value of the Group's financial assets and liabilities:

		Carrying amount		Fair value	
		2023	2022	**2023**	2022
	Notes	**$m**	$m	**$m**	$m
Financial assets carried at fair value					
Interest rate swaps		**11.5**	42.3	**11.5**	42.3
CCIRS - EMTN 1		**77.8**	37.9	**77.8**	37.9
		89.3	80.2	**89.3**	80.2
Financial assets carried at amortised cost					
Cash and cash equivalents		**30.2**	15.0	**30.2**	15.0
Trade and other receivables	4	**272.3**	194.7	**272.3**	194.7
		302.5	209.7	**302.5**	209.7
Financial liabilities carried at fair value					
Interest rate swaps		**(0.6)**	-	**(0.6)**	-
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 3		**(12.0)**	(10.8)	**(12.0)**	(10.8)
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 4		**(103.7)**	(105.1)	**(103.7)**	(105.1)
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 5		**(13.5)**	(13.0)	**(13.5)**	(13.0)
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 6		**(2.6)**	-	**(2.6)**	-
Interest rate swaps - AMTN 7		**(0.9)**	-	**(0.9)**	-
Interest rate swaps - USPP		**(4.2)**	-	**(4.2)**	-
CCIRS - EMTN 2		**(38.5)**	(71.3)	**(38.5)**	(71.3)
CCIRS - USPP		**(5.5)**	-	**(5.5)**	-
		(181.5)	(200.2)	**(181.5)**	(200.2)
Financial liabilities carried at amortised cost					
Trade and other payables		**(144.2)**	(136.4)	**(144.2)**	(136.4)
Borrowings[1]		**(3,632.1)**	(2,885.8)	**(3,663.1)**	(2,914.0)
Other liabilities		**(42.5)**	(78.1)	**(42.5)**	(78.1)
		(3,818.8)	(3,100.3)	**(3,849.8)**	(3,128.5)
Off-balance sheet					
Unrecognised financial assets					
Third party guarantees		**-**	-	**19.1**	19.1
Bank guarantees		**-**	-	**203.0**	202.7
Unrecognised financial liabilities					
Bank guarantees		**-**	-	**(3.5)**	(2.5)
		-	-	**218.6**	219.3

[1] Borrowings includes $2,471.6 million (2022: $1,997.8 million) subject to fair value hedges.

Group structure

IN THIS SECTION

Group structure provides information about particular subsidiaries and associates, and how changes have affected the financial position and performance of the Group.

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16 Subsidiaries

The ultimate parent of this consolidated Group is Aurizon Network Pty Ltd. The companies listed below are those whose results, in addition to the Company, principally affect the amounts shown in the financial report:

Controlled entities	Country of incorporation	Ownership interest 2023 %	2022 %
Aurizon Surat Basin Pty Ltd	Australia	**100**	100

Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of all subsidiaries of the Group as at reporting date and the results of all subsidiaries for the financial year.

Subsidiaries are all entities over which the Group has control. The Group controls an entity when the Group is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power to direct the activities of the entity.

Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Group and de-consolidated from the date that control ceases. Transactions between continuing and discontinued operations are treated as external from the date that the operation was discontinued. Where arrangements between the continuing and discontinued operations will continue subsequent to disposal, transactions including revenue and expenses are included in the continuing operations profit or loss with elimination entries recognised in profit or loss of the discontinued operation.

Inter-company transactions and balances are eliminated on consolidation.

17 Parent entity disclosures

The financial information for the parent entity Aurizon Network Pty Ltd has been prepared on the same basis as the consolidated financial statements, except for investments in subsidiaries which are carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

(a) Summary financial information

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Current assets	**375.4**	316.4
Non-current assets	**5,386.3**	5,343.9
Total assets	**5,761.7**	5,660.3
Current liabilities	**759.3**	666.9
Non-current liabilities	**4,159.2**	3,554.0
Total liabilities	**4,918.5**	4,220.9
Net assets	**843.2**	1,439.4
Equity		
Contributed equity	**404.5**	1,004.1
Reserves	**(7.0)**	17.5
Retained earnings	**445.7**	417.8
Total equity	**843.2**	1,439.4
Profit for the year	**220.9**	241.9
Other comprehensive income	**(24.5)**	73.6
Total comprehensive income	**196.4**	315.5

(b) Guarantees entered into by the parent entity

Financial guarantees given by the parent entity are disclosed in note 15(d).

Contingent liabilities of the parent entity are the same as those disclosed in note 23.

Other notes

IN THIS SECTION

Other notes provides information on other items which require disclosure to comply with Australian Accounting Standards and other regulatory pronouncements, however are not considered critical in understanding the financial performance or position of the Group.

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18 Notes to the consolidated statement of cash flows

(a) Reconciliation of profit after income tax to net cash inflow from operating activities

	2023 $m	2022 $m
Profit for the year	**220.9**	241.9
Depreciation and amortisation	**341.1**	332.6
Impairment of non-current assets	**0.2**	1.2
Finance expenses	**139.4**	109.8
Share-based payment expense	**1.3**	1.2
Net loss on disposal of assets	**5.0**	1.8
Net exchange differences	**(0.7)**	0.2
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/Decrease in trade and other receivables	**(77.6)**	47.3
(Increase)/Decrease in inventories	**(3.1)**	(28.8)
(Increase)/Decrease in other operating assets	**0.1**	(1.3)
Increase/(Decrease) in trade and other payables	**1.6**	22.7
Increase/(Decrease) in other liabilities	**(6.2)**	(32.3)
Increase/(Decrease) in other operating liabilities	**(35.6)**	18.6
Increase/(Decrease) in deferred tax liabilities	**15.4**	3.4
Increase/(Decrease) in provisions	**(0.9)**	(6.6)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	**600.9**	711.7

(b) Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities to financing cash flows

	Current borrowings $m	Non-current borrowings $m	Liabilities held to hedge borrowings[1] $m	Assets held to hedge borrowings[1] $m	Total $m
Balance as at 1 July 2022	**(348.0)**	**(2,537.8)**	**(200.2)**	**80.2**	**(3,005.8)**
Reclassification	**(172.3)**	**172.3**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Financing cash flows[2]	**60.0**	**(736.7)**	**-**	**-**	**(676.7)**
Changes in fair value (including foreign exchange rates)	**-**	**(67.5)**	**18.7**	**9.1**	**(39.7)**
Other non-cash movements[3]	**-**	**(2.1)**	**-**	**-**	**(2.1)**
Balance as at 30 June 2023	**(460.3)**	**(3,171.8)**	**(181.5)**	**89.3**	**(3,724.3)**
Balance as at 1 July 2021	(59.0)	(3,183.6)	(66.7)	123.1	(3,186.2)
Reclassification	(255.0)	255.0	-	-	-
Financing cash flows[2]	(34.0)	105.1	-	-	71.1
Changes in fair value (including foreign exchange rates)	-	288.3	(133.5)	(42.9)	111.9
Other non-cash movements[3]	-	(2.6)	-	-	(2.6)
Balance as at 30 June 2022	(348.0)	(2,537.8)	(200.2)	80.2	(3,005.8)

[1] Assets and liabilities held to hedge borrowings exclude foreign exchange contracts included in note 15(a).

[2] Financing cash flows includes the net amount of proceeds from borrowings, repayment of borrowings, payments of transaction costs related to borrowings and repayment to/proceeds from related parties under the Intra Group Loan Agreement.

[3] Other non-cash movements includes the amortisation of the AMTN 2 fair value adjustments, amortisation of borrowing costs and amortisation of discounts on the face value of the AMTNs and EMTNs issued.

19 Related party transactions

Related parties include other entities in the Aurizon Group and Key Management Personnel. There were no Key Management Personnel related party transactions during the financial year (2022: $nil). The following transactions occurred and balances are recognised with other entities in the Aurizon Group:

	2023 $'000	2022[1] $'000
Trade and other receivables from related parties	**86,472**	52,668
Trade and other payables to related parties	**15,357**	11,173
Tax loan payable to the parent entity	**42,523**	78,065
Loans payable to related parties	**-**	93,000
Access revenue received from related parties	**405,504**	381,719
Other revenue received from related parties	**9,534**	10,588
Interest revenue received from related parties	**102**	-
Expense paid to related parties	**81,701**	70,512
Interest expense paid to related parties	**1,386**	806

[1] Amounts for FY2022 have been updated.

Expenses paid to other entities in the Aurizon Group include maintenance, facilities charges and general corporate overhead.

For details on dividends paid and changes in contributed equity, refer to notes 12 and 13 respectively.

Terms and conditions of transactions with related parties other than Key Management Personnel or entities related to them and intragroup transactions

A number of service agreements are in place between the Company and other entities within the Aurizon Group for the provision of services. These costs include shared services such as payroll, IT, accounts payable and HR operations. All other transactions are made on normal commercial terms and conditions and at market rates.

The Company enters into unsecured loans and advances with Aurizon Operations Limited (subsidiary of Aurizon Holdings Limited) at floating rates of interest pursuant to an Intra Group Loan Agreement maturing in August 2024, which allows up to $100.0 million to be advanced or loaned subject to certain limited conditions. Hence, the Company incurs interest expense and earns interest income on these loans and advances.

For details on tax loans, refer to note 3.

Economic dependency

The Company is dependent on other entities in the Aurizon Group for approximately 32% (2022: 34%) of access revenue derived.

20 Key Management Personnel

Key Management Personnel (KMP) include the Directors and those Executives who have the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Group.

	2023 **$'000**	2022 $'000
Short-term employee benefits	**5,121**	5,960
Long-term employee benefits	**134**	53
Post-employment benefits	**141**	149
Share-based payment expense	**3,566**	3,583
	8,962	9,745

KMP of the Company are employed by other entities in the Aurizon Group. Compensation of KMP is also determined by related parties. It is not practical to allocate KMP compensation paid by related parties, therefore the full amount of compensation paid to KMP by related parties is included in the disclosure above.

21 Auditor's remuneration

During the year, the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by the auditor of the parent entity and its related practices.

	2023 **$'000**	2022 $'000
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu		
Audit and review of financial statements	**302**	302
Other assurance services	**6**	-
Other advisory services	**-**	59
Total remuneration of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu	**308**	361

22 Summary of other significant accounting policies

Other significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements are set out below.

(a) Basis of preparation

(i) New and amended standards adopted by the Group

The Group has applied the following amendments for the first time for the reporting period commencing 1 July 2022:

- AASB 2020-3 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Annual Improvements 2018-2020 and Other Amendments*
- AASB 2021-7 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128 and Editorial Corrections*.

The amendments listed above did not have any impact on the amounts recognised in prior periods and are not expected to significantly affect the current or future reporting periods.

In FY2022, the Group adopted AASB 2020-8 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Interest Rate Benchmark Reform - Phase 2*. From 1 July 2023, the treasury management system has been updated to transition to an alternative benchmark rate of Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) and Euro Short-Term Rate (ESTR). There was no significant impact on the fair value amounts.

(ii) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

Certain new accounting standards and amendments to standards have been published that are not mandatory for reporting periods commencing 1 July 2022 and have not been early adopted by the Group. These standards are not expected to have a material impact on the Group in the current or future reporting periods and on foreseeable future transactions.

The Group is currently assessing the impact of AASB 17 *Insurance Contracts* on self-insurance arrangements that is effective for the Group from 1 July 2023.

22 Summary of other significant accounting policies (continued)

(b) Segment reporting

Operating segments are reported in a manner consistent with the internal reporting provided to the chief operating decision maker. The Group operates in one business and geographical segment (Queensland, Australia).

The nature of the Group's business is that it enters into long-term contracts with key customers. Access contracts with related parties, as disclosed in note 19, represent a significant component of the Group's revenue. Three other customers each contribute more than 10% of the Group's total revenue as detailed below:

	2023 $m	2022[1] $m	**2023 Credit Rating**	2022 Credit Rating
Customer 1	**206.9**	208.6	**BBB+**	BBB+
Customer 2	**203.4**	205.6	**A-**	A-
Customer 3	**126.4**	121.1	**BBB-**	BBB-
Total	**536.7**	535.3		

[1] Amounts for FY2022 have been updated.

(c) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at-bank and on-hand, and short-term money market investments with an original maturity of three months or less and are classified as financial assets held at amortised cost.

Cash at-bank earns interest at floating rates based on daily bank deposits. Short-term deposits are made for varying periods, depending on the immediate cash requirements of the Group and earn interest at the respective short-term deposit rates.

(d) Foreign currency transactions

Items included in the financial statements of each of the entities included within the Group are measured using the currency of the economic environment in which the entity primarily generates and expends cash. These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the functional and presentation currency of the Company.

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded in the functional currency of the entity using the exchange rate prevailing at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Foreign exchange gains and losses arising from the translation of the monetary assets and liabilities, or from the settlement of foreign currency translations, are recognised in profit or loss, except when deferred in equity as qualifying cash flow hedges. The amounts deferred in equity in respect of cash flow hedges are recognised in profit or loss when the hedged item affects profit or loss.

(e) Financial instruments

(i) Non-derivative financial assets

The Group initially recognises financial assets on the trade date at which the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred, and the Group has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

Financial assets are initially measured at fair value. If the financial asset is not subsequently accounted for at fair value through profit or loss, then the initial measurement includes transaction costs that are directly attributable to the asset's acquisition or origination. On initial recognition, the Group classifies its financial assets as subsequently measured at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on its business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets.

(ii) Financial assets measured at amortised cost

A financial asset is subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method and net of any impairment loss, if:

- the asset is held within the business model whose objective is to hold assets in order to collect contractual cash flows; and

22 Summary of other significant accounting policies (continued)

(e) Financial instruments (continued)

(ii) Financial assets measured at amortised cost (continued)

- the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise, on specified dates, to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest.

The Group assesses at each reporting date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset (or group of financial assets) is impaired.

(iii) Non-derivative liabilities

The Group initially recognises loans and debt securities issued on the date when they originate. Other financial liabilities are initially recognised on the trade date. The Group derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged or cancelled or expire.

Non-derivative financial liabilities are initially recognised at fair value less any directly distributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, these liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

(f) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In this case, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the ATO, are presented as operating cash flows.

The Aurizon Group is grouped for GST purposes. Therefore, any inter-company transactions within the Group do not attract GST.

Unrecognised items and events after reporting date

IN THIS SECTION

Unrecognised items provides information about items that are not recognised in the financial statements but could potentially have a significant impact on the Group's financial position and performance. This section also includes events occurring after the reporting period.

23	Commitments and contingencies	Page 62
24	Events occurring after the reporting period	Page 62

23 Commitments and contingencies

(a) Contingent liabilities

Issues relating to common law claims, product warranties and regulatory breaches are dealt with as they arise. There were no material contingent liabilities requiring disclosure in the financial statements, other than as set out below.

Guarantees and letters of credit

For information about guarantees and letters of credit given by the Group, refer to note 15(d).

(b) Contingent assets

Guarantees and letters of credit

For information about guarantees and letters of credit given to the Group, refer to note 15(d).

(c) Capital commitments

As at 30 June 2023, the Group has capital commitments contracted but not provided for in respect of the acquisition of property, plant and equipment of $83.8 million (2022: $75.6 million) which are due within one year and $1.1 million (2022: $nil) which are due between one and five years.

24 Events occurring after the reporting period

No matter or circumstance, other than the matters disclosed in key events and transactions for the reporting period, has occurred subsequent to the financial period that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Group or economic entity in subsequent financial periods.

Directors' Declaration

In accordance with a resolution of the Directors of the Company, I state that:

In the opinion of the Directors of the Company:

(a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 8 to 62 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

(i) complying with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements as detailed above, and the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and

(ii) giving a true and fair view of the consolidated entity's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date, and

(b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Page 13 confirms that the financial statements also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

L Strambi
Chairman

Brisbane
14 August 2023

Deloitte.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Aurizon Network Pty Ltd (the Company) and its subsidiaries (the Group) which comprises the consolidated balance sheet as at 30 June 2023, the consolidated income statement, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Group is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- Giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001.*

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

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

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial report for the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial report as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Key Audit Matter	How the scope of our audit responded to the Key Audit Matter
Useful life of Network infrastructure assets At 30 June 2023, the carrying value of the Central Queensland Coal Network infrastructure assets (Network infrastructure assets) was $4,906.5m. As disclosed in note 6, the Group estimates the useful lives of the Network infrastructure assets based on	To assess the useful economic lives adopted by the Group for the Network infrastructure assets, we performed the following procedures amongst others: • Obtained and evaluated relevant information which estimates the future demand for, and supply of, coal from Queensland. This included

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Key Audit Matter	How the scope of our audit responded to the Key Audit Matter
the expected engineering life of these assets, capped at the remaining term of the applicable leases. In adopting this basis, the Group assumes that the Network infrastructure assets will remain economically viable throughout the lease term. These assets are primarily used to transport coal from mines to port for subsequent export. There is uncertainty as to the future demand for coal with climate change widely considered to be one of the key issues facing the global community and increasing pressure on governments and industry to seek lower carbon solutions. Any change in the export market demand for Queensland coal or restrictions on the supply of that coal may indicate that the useful lives of the Network infrastructure assets should be reduced resulting in an increase in the future depreciation expense. Given the significant carrying value of the Network infrastructure assets and the uncertainty associated with the impact of climate change, the estimate of useful economic lives of the Network infrastructure assets is considered to be a key audit matter.	publicly available global and regional energy and coal forecasts and outlooks from industry specialists • As metallurgical coal is expected to be in demand longer than thermal coal, evaluated the period over which metallurgical coal demand could be supplied by Queensland mines, with reference to publicly available metallurgical coal reserves and production estimates • Obtained publicly available information on the current regulatory environment of the coal industry in Queensland including mine approvals and government policy statements to assess future supply of coal • As most publicly available information does not forecast coal demand beyond 2050, management undertook an analysis to assess the economic viability of the Network infrastructure assets beyond 2050. Our procedures on management's analysis included: o Understanding the methodology adopted o Together with our internal specialists, testing the integrity and mechanical accuracy of management's calculations o Comparing key assumptions used by management to existing benchmarks and publicly available information. • Evaluated the disclosures in the financial statements including the sensitivity analysis outlining the impact on depreciation expense of changes in useful lives of assets (see note 6).

Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Group's annual financial report for the year ended 30 June 2023, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

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

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal

control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

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

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

We also provide the directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

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From the matters communicated with the directors, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial report of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU

Matthew Donaldson
Partner
Chartered Accountants

Brisbane, 14 August 2023