

APPENDIX 4.6
(referred to in paragraphs 4.3 and 4.52)

Arla UK: profit and loss accounts for the five years to 30 September 2002

	<i>Period/years to end of September</i>					<i>£ million</i>
	1998*	1999* (53 weeks)	2000	2001	2002	
Turnover	339.5	458.3	463.9	484.0	555.9	
Cost of sales	-270.9	-372.3	-372.7	-393.7	-465.5	
Gross profit	68.6	86.0	91.2	90.3	90.4	
Operating expenses†	-62.5	-73.6	-83.0	-80.3	-79.4	
Operating profit	6.1	12.4	8.2	10.0	11.0	
Net interest payable	-1.9	-4.3	-2.0	-1.5	-1.6	
Profit before taxation	4.2	8.1	6.2	8.5	9.4	
Taxation	-	-	-	-1.3	-2.7	
Profit after taxation	4.2	8.1	6.2	7.2	6.7	
Dividends	-	-4.0	-3.0	-	-	
Retained profit	4.2	4.1	3.2	7.2	6.7	
Net cash flow from operations	12	17	20	22	‡	
						<i>per cent</i>
Return on turnover§	1.8	2.7	1.8	2.1	2.0	
Interest cover¶	3.3	2.9	4.2	6.5	7.1	
Dividend cover#	N/A	2.0	2.1	N/A	N/A	

Source: Arla UK.

*Formerly MD Foods plc.

†Arla UK had annual exceptional costs of up to £2 million, which were included in operating expenses.

‡Information not provided.

§Operating profit divided by turnover.

¶Profit before interest and tax divided by net interest payable.

#Profit after taxation and minority interests divided by dividends.

Notes:

1. Calculations are based on figures before rounding to £ million.

2. N/A = not applicable.