

TO ALL KNOWN CREDITORS

20 September 2019

Ref: R/CAL/SH/RK/HOF/PF16.4

Direct line: +44 20 7951 5156

Email: hofadministrations@uk.ey.com

Dear Sirs

**HFL Realisations Limited (formerly House of Fraser Limited) (in Administration) ('the Company')**

**Court of Session, Number P793/18**

**Registered office address: c/o Ernst & Young LLP, Atria One, 144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH3 8EX**

I write, in accordance with Rule 3.93 of the Insolvency (Scotland) (Company Voluntary Arrangements and Administration) Rules 2018, to provide creditors with a report on the progress of the administration. This report covers the period from 10 February 2019 to 9 August 2019 ("Period") and should be read in conjunction with our previous report dated 6 March 2019. Statutory information about the Company, the administration and the office holders is given at Appendix 1.

The Company, registered number SC021928, entered administration on 10 August 2018 ('the Date of Appointment') and A M Hudson, R H Kelly, C P Dempster and I were appointed to act as Joint Administrators ('Joint Administrators'). The appointment was made by The Court of Session under the provisions of paragraph 12 of Schedule B1 to the Insolvency Act 1986. Under the terms of the appointment, any act required or authorised to be done by the Joint Administrators can be done by any one of them.

**Summary of progress since last report**

**Extension of the administration**

The Joint Administrators sought consent of the secured creditor, under paragraph 78(2) of Schedule B1 to the Insolvency Act 1986, to extend the period of the administration by a period of 12 months, ending on 10 August 2020. The reasons for the extension of the administration are set out below:

- 1) To pursue the inter-company debt due from another company within the House of Fraser group as the administration of this company progresses;
- 2) Settle or reclaim any VAT amounts from Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs ("HMRC"); and
- 3) There are a small number of property leases remaining to be dealt with.

The approval of the extension for 12 months to 10 August 2020 was granted by the secured creditor on 17 July 2019.

### **Creditors**

The Joint Administrators continue to receive claims from unsecured creditors of the Company.

At this stage, the Joint Administrators and their staff have not taken steps to adjudicate the received unsecured claims until further clarity on the quantum, if any, of the prescribed part is available - more detail further below in this report.

### **Intercompany claims**

In due course, we will submit a claim in the administration of Jam B Realisations Limited (in Administration) ('JBL') in the sum of £155,263.56 for the inter-company balance due to the Company as at the Date of Appointment. We expect this to rank for dividend purposes as an unsecured creditor in the administration of JBL, but the timing and quantum of any dividend is currently uncertain, as JBL will first need to be placed into creditors' voluntary liquidation before a distribution can take place.

### **VAT**

We have submitted nil returns for the first and second post-administration VAT returns for the periods 10 August 2018 to 30 April 2019 and the 3 months to 31 July 2019 respectively.

### **Corporation tax**

We have instructed EY tax specialists to prepare the corporation tax returns for the Company, as required.

The first post-administration corporation tax return for the Company was for a one-day accounting period starting and ending on 10 August 2018, being the date the Company entered administration and prepared on the basis that the Company ceased to trade on that date. This has now been submitted to HMRC in the Period of this report. To date HMRC has not raised an enquiry but the enquiry window remains open.

Tax returns for subsequent post-administration periods will be required and will be prepared by EY tax specialists.

In regards to the pre-appointment corporation tax returns, the Joint Administrators had no responsibility to submit or agree the position, nor are they in the position to comment further on such returns, as these were submitted by management prior to their appointment.

Tax work is ongoing and all Corporation tax and other tax related time costs are included within the Joint Administrators' total time costs, set out in detail at Appendix 3.

### **Bank interest / charges**

In the Period, the Company received a refund on bank charges of \$27.66 and €21.78 and interest of £0.01. The Company also incurred bank charges of £0.75 and had to pay a refund of bank interest of \$1.49 in the Period.

### **Leasehold properties**

The Company held several head leases in the name of the Company, all of which were subject to underleases to HF Stores Realisations Limited (formerly House of Fraser (Stores) Limited) (in Administration) ('HOFS'), which operated the business and traded from these sites. Following the sale to the Purchaser, a number of these leases have now been surrendered for £nil value as part of the wider rationalisation of the leasehold estate. There are a small number of property leases remaining to be dealt with.

### **Other income**

During the Period, the Company received income relating to prepayments and other debtors of £35.41 as well as rates refunds of £24,795.32.

### **Supplier overpayment**

The Receipts & Payments account (Appendix 2) shows a payment in the sum of \$15,644.33 from a supplier who had incorrectly paid the Company, but this has subsequently been transferred to HOFS. The interest associated with this payment has also been returned to HOFS.

### **Remaining assets**

The Joint Administrators will continue to pursue the debt due from another member of the House of Fraser group, JBL, as the administration process progresses.

### **Receipts and payments account**

A summary of our receipts and payments for the Period from 10 February 2019 to 9 August 2019 is attached at Appendix 2. It does not reflect estimated future realisations or costs.

### **Investigations**

The Joint Administrators have previously undertaken an investigation into the Company's affairs following their appointment pursuant to Statement of Insolvency Practice Number 2 (Investigations by Office Holders) and the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986.

We have submitted our confidential return on the conduct of all persons who have been directors, shadow or de-facto directors of the Company during the three years prior to our appointments, to the Insolvency Service.

No further investigation work was undertaken in the Period and our work is now complete in this regard.

### **Joint Administrators' remuneration**

The statutory provisions relating to remuneration are set out in Rules 3.95 to 3.101 of the Insolvency (Scotland) (Company Voluntary Arrangements and Administration) Rules 2018.

In certain circumstances, creditors are entitled to request further information about our remuneration or outlays, or to apply to court if they consider the costs to be excessive (Rule 3.100, Insolvency (Scotland) (Company Voluntary Arrangements and Administration) Rules 2018. Further information is given in 'A Creditors' Guide to Administrators' Fees', a copy of which may be accessed from the web site of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland at <https://www.icas.com/technical-resources/creditor-guides-to-office-holder-remuneration> or is available in hard copy upon written request to the Joint Administrators.

No steps have currently been taken to agree the basis of remuneration, but in due course, the Joint Administrators will be seeking approval from the secured creditors to the basis of our remuneration and the payment of Category 2 disbursements in accordance with Rule 3.97 (6) (a) of the Insolvency (Scotland) (Company Voluntary Arrangements and Administration) Rules 2018.

During the Period, the Joint Administrators have incurred time costs of £129,857.00 and a total of £290,678.50 of time costs to date, against which nothing has been drawn. Appendix 3 of this report provides an analysis of the time spent.

To date, the Joint Administrators have incurred disbursements of £179.70, against which nothing has been drawn. An analysis of Category 2 disbursements (i.e. charges made by the office holders' firm that include elements of shared or overhead costs) are set out in Appendix 3 and 5 of this report.

### **Joint Administrators' outlays**

During the Period covered by this report, we have incurred no outlays. There is a breakdown of outlays incurred to date at Appendix 5 of this report.

### **Secured creditors**

On entering administration, the House of Fraser Group's secured funding broadly fell into two categories:

- Super senior secured working capital facility, senior secured revolving credit facility, senior overdraft and senior secured term loan lenders ('Banks'); and
- Holders of senior secured floating rate notes, due 2020 ('Bondholders')

The senior secured revolving credit facility, senior secured term loan and senior secured floating rate notes are all subordinate to the super senior working capital facility.

The table below summarises the facilities provided:

	<b>£m</b>
Super senior facilities	10.0
Senior facilities	225.0
Bondholders	<u>165.0</u>
	<b>400.0</b>

Other than the super senior facility, which has priority ranking, the senior facilities and bondholders indebtedness ranks pari passu with each other.

Please note that the confirmed indebtedness arising from these facilities at the Date of Appointment of the Joint Administrators, in particular the usage of the senior revolving credit facility and any post appointment interest and charges, is still subject to final confirmation.

### **Preferential creditors**

There are no preferential creditors of the Company.

### **Non-preferential creditors**

We continue to receive claim forms from non-preferential creditors in the Period.

If there are unsecured, creditors who wish to submit a claim form but have yet to do so, I would request that they return Form 4.7 (Scot) (enclosed at Appendix 6) or can be accessed at: [www.ey.com/uk/houseoffraseradministration](http://www.ey.com/uk/houseoffraseradministration), together with all supporting documentary evidence in support of their claim.

### **The Prescribed Part**

The Prescribed Part is a proportion of floating charge assets set aside for unsecured creditors pursuant to section 176A of the Act. The Prescribed Part applies to floating charges created on or after 15 September 2003.

The Joint Administrators currently estimate, to the best of their knowledge and belief, that the value of the net property is nil. This is subject to the assessment of any residual assets in the Company, including potential dividends from the insolvency of other group companies.

### **Distributions to creditors**

Whilst we continue to receive claim forms, we have yet to begin the adjudication of claims for the Company and no distributions have taken place.

### **Remaining work**

We will continue to undertake work as set out in the Joint Administrators' Statement of Proposals, which will include:

- Complying with our statutory reporting obligations;
- Seeking to fix the basis of the administrators' remuneration;
- Dealing with ongoing creditors claims as they arise; and
- Pursuing the intercompany claim against JBL.

### **The end of the administration**

It is proposed that if, at the end of the administration, the Company has no property which might permit a distribution to its creditors; the Joint Administrators will send a notice to that effect to the Registrar of Companies. On registration of the notice, the Joint Administrators' appointment in respect of the Company will come to an end. In accordance with the provision of paragraph 84(6) of Schedule B1 to the Act, the Company will be deemed to be dissolved three months after the registration of the notice.

## Other matters

If there are any matters concerning the Company's affairs which you consider may require investigation, and consequently should be brought to our attention, please forward the details to me in writing as soon as possible.

## Next report

We will report to you again at the conclusion of the administration or in six months' time, whichever is the sooner.

Yours faithfully  
for the Company



C A Lewis  
Joint Administrator

Enc: Appendix 1 – Statutory information about the Company, the administration and the office holders  
Appendix 2 - Joint Administrators' Receipts and Payments Account  
Appendix 3 - Summary of the Joint Administrators' time costs and category 2 disbursements  
Appendix 4 - Joint Administrators' policy on remuneration and disbursements  
Appendix 5 - Breakdown of outlays incurred in this Period and to date  
Appendix 6 – Form 4.7 (Scot) – Statement of Claim Form

The affairs, business and property of the Company are being managed by the Joint Administrators, A M Hudson, R H Kelly, C P Dempster and C A Lewis, who act as agents of the Company only and without personal liability.

A M Hudson is licensed in the United Kingdom to act as an insolvency practitioner by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants. R H Kelly and C P Dempster are licensed in the United Kingdom to act as insolvency practitioners by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland. C A Lewis is licensed in the United Kingdom to act as an insolvency practitioner by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

The Joint Administrators may act as data controllers of personal data as defined by the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679, depending upon the specific processing activities undertaken. Ernst & Young LLP and/or the Company may act as a data processor on the instructions of the Joint Administrators. Personal data will be kept secure and processed only for matters relating to the Joint Administrators' appointments. The Office Holder Data Privacy Notice can be found at [www.ey.com/uk/officeholderprivacy](http://www.ey.com/uk/officeholderprivacy).

## Appendix 1

### Information about the proceedings, the Company and the office holders, as required by Rule 3.94 of the Insolvency (Scotland) (Company Voluntary Arrangements and Administration) Rules 2018

Name of court:	Court of Session, Parliament House, Parliament Square, Edinburgh, EH1 1RQ
Court reference:	P793/18
Registered name of the company:	HFL Realisations Limited
Registered office address of the company:	c/o Ernst & Young LLP, Atria One, 144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH3 8EX
Registered number:	SC021928
Country of incorporation (for a company incorporated outside the United Kingdom):	N/A
Details of any changes of administrator:	None
Date of Appointment of Joint Administrators:	10 August 2018

#### Details of the Joint Administrators

Name	Office Holder Number
Alan Michael Hudson Ernst & Young LLP, 1 More London Place, London, SE1 2AF	9200
Craig Anthony Lewis Ernst & Young LLP, 1 More London Place, London, SE1 2AF	9356
Robert Hunter Kelly Ernst & Young LLP, 1 Bridgewater Place, Water Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS11 5QR	8582
Colin Peter Dempster Ernst & Young LLP, Atria One, 144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8EX	8908

Telephone number:	0207 951 1372
Name of alternative person to contact with enquiries about the case:	Ali Walji

## Appendix 2

<b>HFL Realisations Limited (formerly House of Fraser Limited) (In Administration)</b>				
<b>Joint Administrators' Abstract of Receipts and Payments - GBP</b>				
<b>From 10/02/2019 to 09/08/2019</b>				
	<b>Statement of affairs GBP</b>	<b>10/08/2018 to 09/02/2019 GBP</b>	<b>10/02/2019 to 09/08/2019 GBP</b>	<b>Cumulative Total GBP</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Property	-	0.24	-	0.24
Bank Interest	-	-	0.01	0.01
Rent and Rates Refund	-	-	24,795.32	24,795.32
Other Debtors	-	-	35.41	35.41
Supplier Overpayments	-	-	-	-
	-	0.24	24,830.74	24,830.98
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Bank Charges	-	0.99	0.75	1.74
	-	0.99	0.75	1.74
Net Receipts/(Payments)	-	(0.75)	24,829.99	24,829.24
<b>MADE UP AS FOLLOWS</b>				
RBS-GBP-Current-29480187	-	-	24,830.74	24,830.74
HSBC-GBP-Current-71434012	-	(0.75)	(0.75)	1.50
HSBC-EUR-Current-83948991	-	-	-	-
HSBC-USD-Current-83949008	-	-	-	-

  

<b>HFL Realisations Limited (formerly House of Fraser Limited) (In Administration)</b>				
<b>Joint Administrators' Abstract of Receipts and Payments - EUR</b>				
<b>From 10/02/2019 to 09/08/2019</b>				
	<b>Statement of affairs GBP</b>	<b>10/08/2018 to 09/02/2019 EUR</b>	<b>10/02/2019 to 09/08/2019 EUR</b>	<b>Cumulative Total EUR</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Property	-	-	-	-
Bank Interest	-	-	-	-
Rent and Rates Refund	-	-	-	-
Other Debtors	-	-	-	-
Refund of Bank Charges	-	-	21.78	21.78
Supplier Overpayments	-	-	-	-
	-	-	21.78	21.78
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Bank Charges	-	21.78	-	21.78
	-	21.78	-	21.78
Net Receipts/(Payments)	-	(21.78)	21.78	-
<b>MADE UP AS FOLLOWS</b>				
RBS-GBP-Current-29480187	-	-	-	-
HSBC-GBP-Current-71434012	-	-	-	-
HSBC-EUR-Current-83948991	-	(21.78)	21.78	-
HSBC-USD-Current-83949008	-	-	-	-



<b>HFL Realisations Limited (formerly House of Fraser Limited) (In Administration)</b>				
<b>Joint Administrators' Abstract of Receipts and Payments - USD</b>				
<b>From 10/02/2019 to 09/08/2019</b>				
	<b>Statement of affairs</b>	<b>10/08/2018 to 09/02/2019</b>	<b>10/02/2019 to 09/08/2019</b>	<b>Cumulative Total</b>
	<b>GBP</b>	<b>USD</b>	<b>USD</b>	<b>USD</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Property	-	-	-	-
Bank Interest	-	1.49	-	1.49
Rent and Rates Refund	-	-	-	-
Other Debtors	-	-	-	-
Refund of Bank Charges	-	-	27.66	27.66
Supplier Overpayments	-	15,644.33	-	15,644.33
	-	15,645.82	27.66	15,673.48
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Bank Charges	-	27.66	-	27.66
Refund of Bank Interest	-	-	1.49	1.49
Supplier Overpayments	-	-	15,644.33	15,644.33
	-	27.66	15,645.82	15,673.48
Net Receipts/(Payments)	-	15,618.16	(15,618.16)	-
<b>MADE UP AS FOLLOWS</b>				
RBS-GBP-Current-29480187		-	-	-
HSBC-GBP-Current-71434012		-	-	-
HSBC-EUR-Current-83948991		-	-	-
HSBC-USD-Current-83949008		15,618.16	(15,618.16)	-

**Notes**

1. Receipts and payments are stated net of VAT.
2. No allowance has been made for future receipts or payments.





## Appendix 4

### HFL Realisations Limited (formerly House of Fraser Limited)

#### Office Holders' charging policy for fees

The Administrators have engaged managers and other staff to work on the cases. The work required is delegated to the most appropriate level of staff taking account of the nature of the work and the individual's experience. Additional assistance is provided by an Accounting and Treasury Executive dealing with the Company's bank accounts and statutory compliance issues. Work carried out by all staff is subject to the overall supervision of the Administrators.

All time spent by staff working directly on case-related matters is charged to a separate time code established for each case. Time is charged in units of six minutes. Each member of staff has a specific hourly rate, which is subject to change over time. The hourly rate for each category of staff over the period is shown below:

Grade description	Restructuring hourly rates (£/hour)		Tax / VAT hourly rates (£/hour)	
	03/11/18 to 30/06/19	01/07/19 to 09/08/19	03/11/18 to 30/06/19	01/07/19 to 09/08/19
Partner	1,140	1,195	1,570	1,650
Executive Director	1,090	1,145	1,570	1,650
Director	930	975	1,295	1,360
Assistant Director	775	815	1,145	1,200 – 1,335
Senior Executive	590	620	945	990
Executive	435	455	695	615 - 730
Assistant Executive	395	415	N/A	N/A
Analyst	280-395	295-415	220-430	230 – 450
Business Trainee	240	250	N/A	N/A

**HFL Realisations Limited (formerly House of Fraser Limited) (in Administration)**

**Summary of Joint Administrators' outlays incurred**

Type of Outlay	Paid as at 09/02/2019	Paid in Period 10/02/2019 to 09/08/2019	Outstanding	Total (£)
<b>Category 1 disbursements (see Note 1)</b>				
Specific penalty bond	-	-	£40.00	£40.00
Statutory advertising	-	-	£84.60	£84.60
Filing fees	-	-	£15.00	£15.00
Travel	-	-	£10.10	£10.10
Land title searches	-	-	£30.00	£30.00
<b>Totals</b>	-	-	£179.70	<b>£179.70</b>

**Notes**

- 1 Statement of Insolvency Practice 9 (SIP 9) defines disbursements as a type of expense which is met by, and reimbursed to, an office holder in connection with an insolvency appointment. Disbursements fall into two categories: Category 1 and Category 2.
- Category 1 disbursements are payments to independent third parties where there is specific expenditure directly referable to the appointment
  - Category 2 disbursements are expenses which are directly referable to the appointment but not a payment to an independent third party. They may include shared and allocated costs.

It is our policy, in accordance with SIP 9, to disclose Category 1 and Category 2 disbursements but only to seek approval for Category 2 disbursements before they are drawn.

**The Insolvency Act 1986 and the Insolvency (Scotland) (Company Voluntary Arrangements and Administration) Rules 2018**

**Administration Notice of Claim for Voting Purposes**

Convocatoria para la presentación de créditos. Plazos aplicables.  
 Výzva k přihlášení pohledávky. Závazné lhůty  
 Opfordring til anmeldelse af fordringer. Vær opmærksom på fristerne  
 Aufforderung zur Anmeldung einer Forderung. Etwaige Fristen beachten!  
 Nōude esitamise kutse. Järgitavad tähtajad  
 Προσκληση για αναγγελία απαιτήσεως. Προσοχή στις προθεσμίες  
 Invitation to lodge a claim. Time limits to be observed  
 Invitation à produire une créance. Délais à respecter  
 Invito all'insinuazione di un credito. Termine da osservare  
 Uzaicinājums iesniegt prasījumu. Terminī, kas jāievēro  
 Kvietimas pateikti reikalavimą. Privalomieji terminai  
 Felhívás követelés bejelentésére. Betartandó határidők  
 Stedina għal preżentazzjoni ta' talba. Limiti taż-żmien li għandhom jiġu osservati  
 Oproep tot indiening van schuldvorderingen. In acht te nemen termijnen  
 Wezwanie do zgłoszenia wierzytelności. Przestrzegać terminów  
 Aviso de reclamação de créditos. Prazos legais a observar  
 Výzva na přihlásenie pohľadávky. Je potrebné dodržat' stanovené termíny  
 Poziv k prijavi terjatve. Roki, ki jih je treba upoštevati!  
 Kehotus saatavan ilmoittamiseen. Noudatettavat määräajat  
 Anmodan att anmäla fordran. Tidsfrister att iaktta

**HFL Realisations Limited (formerly House of Fraser Limited) (in Administration) ('the Company')**

Date of Administration: 10 August 2018

PLEASE NOTE: Once completed, this form will be used by the Joint Administrators ONLY for the purposes of voting in a creditors' decision procedure or a requisitioned meeting of creditors. The form will not constitute admission of the claim to rank for dividend in this or any subsequent procedure. For further information see Rules 5.26 to 15.32 of the Insolvency (Scotland) (Company Voluntary Arrangements and Administration) Rules 2018.

Name of creditor

Address

Amount claimed, after deductions for payments made post-administration or adjustments for set off (see notes overleaf)


Is the claim preferential or secured?

If secured, value of security

If you have made a retention of title claim against the company please attach details (see over)

Signature on behalf of creditor

Date


File with Sophie Hyde

Reviewed by

## **Notes to Administration Notice of Claim for Voting Purposes:**

1. Please attach a detailed statement of your account as at the date on which the company entered administration.
2. If you have claimed retention of title please provide details, including the value of any payments made, or goods returned, to you in respect of your claim.
3. If your claim is preferential (e.g. for wages, holiday pay or certain pension arrears) or secured please give details and attach supporting documentation.
4. VAT bad debt relief may usually be claimed six months after the date of supply.

## **Extracts from the Insolvency (Scotland) (Company Voluntary Arrangements and Administration) Rules 2018:**

### **5.28 Calculation of voting rights**

- (1) Votes are calculated according to the amount of each creditor's claim -
  - (a) in an administration, as at the date on which the company entered administration, less -
    - (i) any payments that have been made to the creditor after that date in respect of the claim, and
    - (ii) any adjustment by way of set-off which has been made in accordance with that principle or would have been made if that principle were applied on the date on which the votes are counted; ...
  - (2) A creditor may vote in respect of a debt of an unliquidated or unascertained amount if the convenor or chair decides to put upon it an estimated minimum value for the purpose of entitlement to vote and admits the claim for that purpose.
  - (4) Where a debt is wholly secured its value for voting purposes is nil.
  - (5) Where a debt is partly secured its value for voting purposes is the value of the unsecured part.
  - (6) However, the value of the debt for voting purposes is its full value without deduction of the value of the security in the following cases -
    - (a) where the administrator has made a statement under paragraph 52(1)(b) of Schedule B1 and the administrator has been requested to seek a decision under paragraph 52(2); ...
- (7) No vote may be cast in respect of a claim more than once on any resolution put to the meeting; and for this purpose (where relevant), the claim of a creditor and of any member State liquidator in relation to the same debt are a single claim.
- (8) A vote cast in a decision procedure which is not a meeting may not be changed.
- (9) Paragraph (7) does not prevent a creditor or member State liquidator from -
  - (a) voting in respect of less than the full value of an entitlement to vote; or
  - (b) casting a vote one way in respect of part of the value of an entitlement and another way in respect of some or all of the balance of that value.

### **5.29 Calculation of voting rights: hire-purchase agreements**

- (1) In an administration, a creditor under a hire-purchase agreement is entitled to vote in respect of the amount of the debt due and payable by the company on the date on which the company entered administration.
- (2) In calculating the amount of any debt for the purpose of paragraph (1), no account is to be taken of any amount attributable to the exercise of any right under the relevant agreement so far as the right has become exercisable solely by virtue of -
  - (a) the making of an administration application;
  - (b) a notice of intention to appoint an administrator or any matter arising as a consequence of the notice; or
  - (c) the company entering administration.