

### **ISSUER PROFILE**

5 July 2018



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#### Contacts

Charles Isselin-+44.20.7772.5573 Pontet Associate Analyst charles.isselin-pontet@moodys.com

Dominic Simpson +44.20.7772.1647 VP-Sr Credit Officer

dominic.simpson@moodys.com

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Americas 1-212-553-1653 Asia Pacific 852-3551-3077 81-3-5408-4100 Japan **EMEA** 44-20-7772-5454

# Direct Line Insurance Group plc

Key Facts and Statistics - FY December 2017

### Company overview

Direct Line Insurance Group Plc (DLG) is a UK-based insurer that provides personal and small and medium-size enterprise (SME) commercial insurance. The company's primary general insurance underwriting subsidiary is U K Insurance Limited.

DLG sells insurance policies directly using phone and the internet, as well as through price comparison websites (PCWs), brokers and partnerships.

In the financial year ended 31 December 2017 (2017), the company reported gross premiums written of £3.4 billion and net income of £434.0 million. As of 31 December 2017, it had total assets of £9.9 billion and shareholders' equity of £2.7 billion.

Source: Company reports (annual report Dec 2017 and Dec 2012), Company data, London Stock Exchange, Moody's research

# Financial highlights

### Overview

Note: The financials presented below are those reported by the Group and are not adjusted for Moody's analytic purposes. For Moody's generated ratios on Direct Line Insurance Group Plc, please see < <u>Direct Line Insurance Group Plc</u> page on moodys.com>.

Exhibit 1

Latest full-year results<sup>1</sup>

Direct Line Insurance Group Plc

(in £ Million)	31-Dec-17	31-Dec-16	31-Dec-15	31-Dec-14	31-Dec-13
Gross Premiums Written	3,392	3,274	3,153	3,099	3,230
Net Premiums Written <sup>2</sup>	3,187	3,072	2,963	2,942	3,070
Net Income	434	279	580	373	313
Loss Ratio (%)	57.4	60.9	59.5	59.6	60.9
Commission Ratio (%)	9.1	11.5	10.9	11.8	10.6
Expense Ratio (%)	25.3	25.3	23.6	23.6	23.7
Combined Ratio (%)	91.8	97.7	94.0	95.0	95.2
Total Assets	9,948	10,122	9,957	11,226	11,788
Total Debt <sup>3</sup>	665	595	582	596	542
Shareholders' Equity	2,715	2,522	2,630	2,811	2,790

Notes:1) Based on consolidated figures

### **Business description**

DLG provides personal insurance and SME commercial insurance. It operates through four key segments: Motor; Home; Rescue and Other Personal Lines; and Commercial. It also has a portfolio, which is in run-off, consisting of policies previously written through the personal broker channel and the Tesco business. In 2017, the largest contributor to the company's gross premiums written was the Motor segment.

**Motor:** This segment provides personal car insurance in the UK against third-party liability, fire, theft and accidental damage. Additionally, it provides motor legal protection, guaranteed hire car and protection for no-claims discount. These products are sold directly under the Direct Line, Churchill, Privilege and partnerships brands, as well as PCWs. This segment is the largest contributor to the company's gross premiums written, equating to 49.2% in 2017.

**Home:** This segment provides home insurance in the UK. It provides cover for buildings, accidental damage, contents and personal possessions. Additionally, it provides family legal and home emergency protection. These products are also sold directly under the Direct Line, Churchill, Privilege and partnerships brands, as well as PCWs. This segment is the second-largest contributor to the company's gross premiums written, equating to 23.6% in 2017.

**Rescue and Other Personal Lines:** This segment comprises rescue and recovery insurance products and other personal lines business, including travel, pet and creditor insurance. The rescue insurance policies include basic roadside rescue. The insurance policies are sold either as standalone products under the Green Flag brand, as insurance add-ons to all DLG brands and certain partner motor policies, or as components of packaged bank accounts sold through the company's bank partnership channel. The other personal insurance lines are sold under the Direct Line, Churchill, and partnership brands. This segment accounted for 12.4% of the company's gross premiums written in 2017 and includes products such as pet and travel offered through Churchill and Direct Line.

**Commercial:** This segment provides commercial insurance for SMEs in the UK. Its products include commercial property, general liability, business interruption, personal accident and commercial motor insurance. These products are sold under both the Group's own

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<sup>2)</sup> Net Premiums Written has been calculated by deducting Reinsurance Premiums from Gross Premiums Written.

<sup>3)</sup> Total Debt includes Subordinated Liabilities, Borrowings, and Tier 1 notes issued in 2017.

Source: Company reports (annual report Dec 2017, Dec 2016, Dec 2015 and Dec 2014)

brands – NIG and Direct Line for Business – and through its partnerships with Royal Bank of Scotland and National Westminster Bank Plc (NatWest). This segment accounted for 14.8% of the company's gross premiums written in 2017.

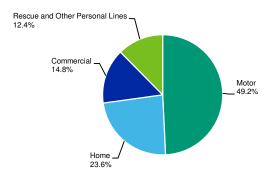
Run-Off: This segment comprises residual claims reserves.

Source: Company report (annual report Dec 2017), Company data, Moody's research

Exhibit 2

### **Business segment**

(% of gross premiums written, consolidated, for 2017)



Source: Company report (annual report Dec 2017, Pg: 139)

Exhibit 3

Direct Line Insurance Group Plc
Segment details

Segment details			
Gross Premiums Written (in £ Million)	2017	2016	2015
Motor	1,670.4	1,539.1	1,406.7
Home	799.1	834.4	866.3
Rescue and Other Personal Lines	421.1	400.8	394.1
Commercial	501.5	499.8	485.3
Consolidated*	3,392.1	3,274.1	3,152.4
Operating Profit/(Loss) (in £ Million)	2017	2016	2015
Motor	364.5	149.1	338.0
Home	128.8	166.7	109.9
Rescue and Other Personal Lines	43.6	45.9	52.0
Commercial	74.0	41.8	20.8
Consolidated*	610.9	403.5	520.7
Combined Ratio (in %)	2017	2016	2015
Motor	91.9	106.3	92.4
Home	89.4	85.0	92.2
Rescue and Other Personal Lines	94.3	93.3	91.2
Commercial	93.4	98.7	104.5
Consolidated	91.8	97.7	94.0

<sup>\*</sup>Excluding the Run-Off segment

Source: Company reports (annual report Dec 2017 and Dec 2016)

### Distribution channels

DLG offers its products and services to retail customers and businesses through a multi-brand and multi-distribution model.

The company's key brands include Direct Line, Churchill, Privilege and Green Flag for personal insurance products; and NIG and Direct Line for Business for commercial products.

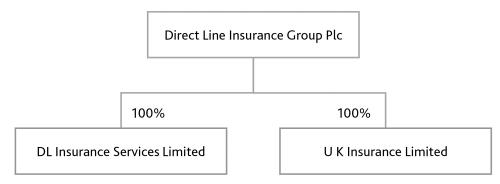
It sells personal line products directly using phone and internet, as well as PCWs and partnerships, including those with the Royal Bank of Scotland, NatWest and Prudential. Its commercial line products are sourced mainly through brokers.

Source: Company report (annual report Dec 2017), Moody's research

### Ownership structure

#### Exhibit 4

Organisational Structure as of 31 December 2017



Source: Company Report (annual report Dec 2017)

Until October 2012, DLG operated as a wholly owned subsidiary of RBS Group. In 2009, RBS Group committed to sell its insurance business, as a condition imposed by the European Commission for receiving state aid. Consequently, in October 2012, DLG was listed on the London Stock Exchange, following the IPO of 35.0% of its share capital that had been held by RBS Group.

In 2013, RBS Group divested a further 36.8% of DLG's share capital and, in February 2014, it sold its remaining interest in DLG.

As of 31 December 2017, DLG had 1,375 million shares outstanding. As of 26 February 2018, the company's major shareholders (owning more than 5.0% of its share capital) were as follows:

Exhibit 5

#### Direct Line Insurance Group Plc

Shareholder	% Held
BlackRock, Inc.	9.30
Standard Life Aberdeen plc	8.49
Artemis Investment Management LLP	5.32

Source: Company reports (annual report Dec 2017, Dec 2013 and Dec 2012), Company data

## Company management

Exhibit 6

### Direct Line Insurance Group Plc

Company Management	Current Title
Michael N Biggs	Chairman
Paul Geddes	Chief Executive Officer and Director
Penny James	Chief Financial Officer and Director
Steve Maddock	Chief Operating Officer
José Vazquez	Chief Risk Officer

As of 4 Apr 2018 Source: Company data

# **Company history**

Direct Line was launched in 1985 in partnership with RBS Group. In 2003 the Group acquired Churchill Insurance PLC and the Group became RBS Insurance. In 2008, as a condition to its receipt of State Aid, RBS Group committed to the European Commission to dispose of its interest in the Group. To comply with this requirement, RBS Group was required to cede control of the RBS Insurance by the end of 2013 and fully divest its entire interest by the end of 2014. In February 2012 RBS Insurance was rebranded as Direct Line Group and was listed on the LSE in 2012.

Source: Company reports (annual report Dec 2015, Dec 2013 and Dec 2012, RBS annual report Dec 2011 and Dec 2009, historical financial information Dec 2011), Company data, Moody's research

### Peer group

- » Aviva Insurance Limited
- » IF P&C Insurance Company Ltd.
- » Lansforsakringar Sak Forsakrings AB
- » The Progressive Corporation
- » RSA Insurance Group

### Subsidiaries rated by Moody's

» UK Insurance Limited

### Related websites and information sources

For additional information, please see:

### The company's website

» www.directlinegroup.com

MOODY'S has provided links or references to third party World Wide Websites or URLs ("Links or References") solely for your convenience in locating related information and services. The websites reached through these Links or References have not necessarily been reviewed by MOODY'S, and are maintained by a third party over which MOODY'S exercises no control. Accordingly, MOODY'S expressly disclaims any responsibility or liability for the content, the accuracy of the information, and/or quality of products or services provided by or advertised on any third party web site accessed via a Link or Reference. Moreover, a Link or Reference does not imply an endorsement of any third party, any website, or the products or services provided by any third party.

# Moody's related research

### Issuer page on Moodys.com

» Direct Line Insurance Group plc

### **Credit opinion**

» Direct Line Insurance Group plc, June 2018

### **Industry outlook**

- » P&C Insurance Global: 2018 Outlook stable as further premium growth offsets investment and reserving headwinds (slides), December 2017
- » UK Property & Casualty Outlook Presentation, October 2017

### **Sector comment**

- » Property & Casualty Insurers UK: Proposed personal injury and whiplash reforms are credit positive for UK insurers, March 2018
- » Proposed Discount Rate Reforms Are Credit Positive for UK Motor Insurers and Reinsurers, September 2017

» Brexit Impact on Insurance Sector: Moderate and Manageable Risks, May 2017

## **Rating methodology**

» Global Property and Casualty Insurers, May 2017

To access any of these reports, click on the entry above. Note that these references are current as of the date of publication of this report and that more recent reports may be available on the issuer's page. All research may not be available to all clients.

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