

# The Link Real Estate Investment Trust

(a Hong Kong unit trust authorised under section 104 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong))

(stock code: 823)

# INTERIM RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2007

The board of directors (the "Board") of The Link Management Limited (the "Manager"), as Manager of The Link Real Estate Investment Trust ("The Link REIT") is pleased to report the unaudited interim results of The Link REIT and its subsidiaries (the "Group") for the six months ended 30 September 2007.

## **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

		Six months	Six months	
		ended	ended	
		30 September	30 September	Changes
		2007	2006	%
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
Revenue	HK\$M	2,056	1,956	5.11%
Net property income	HK\$M	1,243	1,164	6.79%
Distributable income	HK\$M	776	702	10.54%
Distribution per unit (DPU)				
Interim DPU for the period	HK cents	36.11	32.81	10.06%
Distribution yield (annualised)				
on listing price of HK\$10.30 per unit	%	7.01	6.37	10.05%
on market price as at period end	%	4.22	4.05	4.20%
Expenditure to income ratio for the				
period	%	39.53	40.50	(2.40%)
Expenditure to income ratio excluding				
estate common area costs for the				
period	%	37.55	39.16	(4.11%)
Occupancy rate at period end	%	90.5	92.3	(1.95%)
Composite reversion rate for the period	%	13.69	4.89	179.96%
Composite reversion rate for the period				
excluding education/welfare	%	13.92	5.22	166.67%

		Six months	Six months	
		ended	ended	
		30 September	30 September	Changes
		2007	2006	%
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
Average base unit rent excluding self				
use offices at period end (per square				
foot)	HK\$	24.4	23.0	6.09%
Average base unit rent excluding self use offices, education/welfare, HD office and ancillary at period end				
(per square foot)	HK\$	26.6	25.4	4.72%
Retention rate for the period	%	73.21	91.40	(19.90%)
Number of turnover rent tenants at				
period end		752	408	84.31%
Carpark income per bay per month	HK\$	955.1	912.7	4.65%
Carpark utilisation rate at period end	%	71.6	72.7	(1.51%)
		As at	As at	
		30 September	31 March	Changes
		2007	2007	%
Valuation of investment properties at				
period/year end	HK\$M	42,352	39,557	7.07%
Net asset value at period/year end	HK\$M	29,259	26,789	9.22%
Net asset value per unit at period/ year end	HK\$	13.62	12.53	8.70%
Market price per unit at period/	$m \psi$	15.02	12.55	0.7070
year end	HK\$	17.10	18.80	(9.04%)
Market capitalisation at period/	$\mu$	17010	10.00	().0170)
year end	HK\$M	36,738	40,184	(8.58%)
Premium of unit price to net asset value		00,100	,	(0,0,0,0,0)
per unit at period/year end	%	25.55	50.04	(48.94%)
Borrowings to total assets ratio at				
period/year end	%	25.23	26.92	(6.28%)

## TOTAL DISTRIBUTABLE INCOME

Total Distributable Income was HK\$776 million for the six months ended 30 September 2007 as compared to HK\$702 million for the same period last year. It is the Manager's current policy to distribute to unitholders 100% of The Link REIT's Total Distributable Income. The distribution per unit for the six months ended 30 September 2007 is HK36.11 cents (30 September 2006: HK32.81 cents) which represents an annualised distribution yield of 4.22% based on the last traded price of HK\$17.10 as of 30 September 2007.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### **Condensed Consolidated Interim Income Statement**

For the six months ended 30 September 2007

Property operating expenses5(813)(792)Net property income1,2431,164General and administrative expenses(47)(41)Change in fair values of investment properties $2,655$ 707Operating profit6 $3,851$ 1,830Interest income $39$ $28$ Finance costs on interest bearing liabilities7(310)Profit before taxation and transactions with unitholders $3,580$ 1,566Taxation9(602)(274)Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders $10$ $2,978$ 1,292Distribution paid to unitholders (Note (iii))(739)(467)Represented by: $825$ $825$		Note	Six months ended 30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	Six months ended 30 September 2006 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Net property income1,2431,164General and administrative expenses Change in fair values of investment properties(47) 2,655(41) 2,655Operating profit63,8511,830Interest income Finance costs on interest bearing liabilities7(310) (292)(292)Profit before taxation and transactions with unitholders3,5801,566Taxation9(602) (274)(274)Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders102,978Distribution paid to unitholders (Note (iii))(739) (467)(467) (2,239)Represented by: Change in net assets attributable to unitholders movement2,283825Mount arising from cash flow hedging reserve movement19(44)				1,956
General and administrative expenses(47)(41)Change in fair values of investment properties2,655707Operating profit63,8511,830Interest income3928Finance costs on interest bearing liabilities7(310)Profit before taxation and transactions with unitholders3,5801,566Taxation9(602)(274Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders102,9781,292Distribution paid to unitholders (Note (iii))(739)(467Change in net assets attributable to unitholders Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve movement19(44)	Property operating expenses	5	(813)	(792)
Change in fair values of investment properties2,655707Operating profit63,8511,830Interest income3928Finance costs on interest bearing liabilities7(310)(292Profit before taxation and transactions with unitholders3,5801,566Taxation9(602)(274Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders102,9781,292Distribution paid to unitholders (Note (iii))(739)(467Change in net assets attributable to unitholders Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve movement19(44)—	Net property income		1,243	1,164
Interest income3928Finance costs on interest bearing liabilities7(310)(292)Profit before taxation and transactions with unitholders3,5801,566Taxation9(602)(274)Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders102,9781,292Distribution paid to unitholders (Note (iii))(739)(467)Represented by: Change in net assets attributable to unitholders2,283825Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve movement19(44)				(41) 707
Finance costs on interest bearing liabilities7(310)(292)Profit before taxation and transactions with unitholders3,5801,566Taxation9(602)(274)Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders102,9781,292Distribution paid to unitholders (Note (iii))(739)(467)Represented by: Change in net assets attributable to unitholders movement2,283825Represented by: 	Operating profit	6	3,851	1,830
Taxation9(602)(274Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders102,9781,292Distribution paid to unitholders (Note (iii))(739)(4672,239825Represented by: Change in net assets attributable to unitholders Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve movement19(44)		7		28 (292)
Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders102,9781,292Distribution paid to unitholders (Note (iii))(739)(467)2,239825Represented by: Change in net assets attributable to unitholders Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve 	Profit before taxation and transactions with unitholders		3,580	1,566
unitholders102,9781,292Distribution paid to unitholders (Note (iii))(739)(467)2,239825Represented by: Change in net assets attributable to unitholders Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve movement2,28382519(44)-	Taxation	9	(602)	(274)
2,239825Represented by: Change in net assets attributable to unitholders Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve movement2,28382519(44)	Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders	10	2,978	1,292
Represented by: Change in net assets attributable to unitholders Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve movement2,28382519(44)—	Distribution paid to unitholders (Note (iii))		(739)	(467)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders2,283825Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve19(44)—			2,239	825
	Change in net assets attributable to unitholders Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve	19	,	825
Notes				825

#### Notes:

- (i) Total Distributable Income for the six months ended 30 September 2007 is determined in the Statement of Distributions. The distribution declared in respect of this financial period as set out in the Statement of Distributions will be paid out to unitholders on or about 15 January 2008.
- (ii) Earnings per unit, based upon profit after taxation and before transactions with unitholders and the average number of units in issue, is set out in note 10 to the condensed consolidated interim financial information.
- (iii) This represents the final distribution of HK\$739 million for the year ended 31 March 2007 (31 March 2006: HK\$467 million) paid during the period.

## **Statement of Distributions**

For the six months ended 30 September 2007

	Note	Six months ended 30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	Six months ended 30 September 2006 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders		2,978	1,292
Adjustments: Change in fair values of investment properties Deferred taxation on change in fair values of		(2,655)	(707)
investment properties Other non-cash income		465 (12)	124 (7)
Total Distributable Income		776	702
Interim distribution, to be paid to the unitholders		776	702
As a percentage of Total Distributable Income		100%	100%
Units in issue	18	2,148,434,317	2,137,454,000
Distribution per unit for the period		HK36.11 cents	HK32.81 cents

Notes:

- (i) Pursuant to the Trust Deed, The Link REIT is required to ensure that the total amount distributed to unitholders as distributions for each financial period shall be no less than 90% of "Total Distributable Income", plus at its discretion, any other additional amount that the Manager determines is distributable. The Manager intends to distribute 100% of Total Distributable Income as the distribution for the interim reporting period ended 30 September 2007. The distribution will be paid to unitholders on or about 15 January 2008.
- (ii) Under the terms of the Trust Deed, the Total Distributable Income is the consolidated profit after tax attributable to unitholders adjusted to eliminate the effects of certain non-cash adjustments which have been recorded in the income statement for the relevant period.

# **Condensed Consolidated Interim Balance Sheet** As at 30 September 2007

	Note	30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	31 March 2007 (Audited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Non-current assets		2 000	2 0 9 9
Goodwill Investment properties	11	3,988 42,352	3,988 39,557
Property, plant and equipment	12	50	52
		46,390	43,597
Current assets			+3,397
Trade and other receivables	13	141	92
Deposits and prepayments	1.4	23	18
Short term bank deposits Cash and cash equivalents	14 14	1,672 49	1,475 53
1		1.005	1.(20)
		1,885	1,638
Total assets		48,275	45,235
Current liabilities			
Trade payable, receipts in advance and accruals Security deposits	15	715 345	738 318
Provision for taxation		545 77	
Interest bearing liabilities	16	2,198	
		3,335	1,056
Not auroant (lighiliting)/accests		(1.450)	592
Net current (liabilities)/assets		(1,450)	582
Total assets less current liabilities		44,940	44,179
Non-current liabilities, excluding net assets attributable to unitholders			
Interest bearing liabilities	16	9,983	12,177
Deferred tax liabilities		5,627	5,102
Other non-current liabilities	17	71	111
		15,681	17,390
Total liabilities, excluding net assets			
attributable to unitholders		19,016	18,446
Net assets attributable to unitholders		29,259	26,789
Units in issue	18	2,148,434,317	2,137,454,000
Net asset value per unit		HK\$13.62	HK\$12.53

## Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Changes in Equity and Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders

For the six months ended 30 September 2007

	Note	Total equity HK\$'M	Net assets attributable to unitholders <i>HK\$'M</i>	<b>Total</b> HK\$'M
Equity/net asset value attributable to unitholders at 1 April 2006		_	23,715	23,715
Profit for the period ended 30 September 2006, before transactions with unitholders		_	1,292	1,292
Distribution paid to unitholders		_	(467)	(467)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders for the period ended 30 September 2006			825	825
Equity/net asset value attributable to unitholders at 30 September 2006			24,540	24,540
Equity/net asset value attributable to unitholders at 1 April 2007		_	26,789	26,789
Issuance of units under distribution reinvestment scheme		_	187	187
Profit for the period ended 30 September 2007, before transactions with unitholders		_	2,978	2,978
Distribution paid to unitholders		—	(739)	(739)
Change in fair values of cash flow hedges	19	44	_	44
Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve movement	19	(44)	44	_
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders for the period ended 30 September 2007			2,283	2,283
Equity/net asset value attributable to unitholders at 30 September 2007			29,259	29,259

## **Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Cash Flows**

For the six months ended 30 September 2007

	Six months ended 30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	Six months ended 30 September 2006 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Operating activities Net cash generated from operating activities	1,160	1,491
Investing activities		
Additions to investment properties	(140)	(36)
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(6)	(8)
Interest income received	35	19
Increase in short term bank deposits with original maturity of		
more than three months	(197)	(777)
Net cash used in investing activities	(308)	(802)
Financing activities		
Proceeds from interest bearing liabilities, net of transaction costs	_	3,588
Repayment of interest bearing liabilities	_	(3,600)
Interest expenses paid on interest bearing liabilities	(304)	(273)
Distribution paid to unitholders	(552)	(467)
Net cash used in financing activities	(856)	(752)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(4)	(63)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	53	314
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	49	251

## NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### 1. Corporate Information

The Link REIT is an authorised unit trust under section 104 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (the "SFO"). The Link REIT is governed by a trust deed ("Trust Deed") entered into on 6 September 2005 (as amended and supplemented by the First Supplemental Deed dated 4 November 2005, the Second Supplemental Deed dated 8 November 2005, the Third Supplemental Deed dated 16 January 2006, the Fourth Supplemental Deed dated 21 November 2006, the Fifth Supplemental Deed dated 13 July 2007 and the Sixth Supplemental Deed dated 23 July 2007).

The principal activity of the Group is investment in retail and carpark operations ("RC Operations") in Hong Kong. The address of the registered office of the Manager and the Trustee, HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Asia) Limited, is 18th Floor, 8 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong, and 1 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong, respectively.

#### 2. Basis of preparation and accounting policies

The condensed consolidated interim financial information have been prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Accounting Standard 34 "Interim Financial Reporting" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA"). The condensed consolidated interim financial information should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2007.

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those set out in the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2007.

In the current interim period, the Group has applied the following new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations issued by the HKICPA, which are effective for the Group's accounting periods beginning on or after 1 April 2007.

HKAS 1 (Amendment)	Capital Disclosures
HKFRS 7	Financial Instruments: Disclosures
HK(IFRIC)-Int 8	Scope of HKFRS 2
HK(IFRIC)-Int 9	Reassessment of Embedded Derivatives
HK(IFRIC)-Int 10	Interim Financial Reporting and Impairment
HK(IFRIC)-Int 11	HKFRS 2 — Group and Treasury Share Transactions

The adoption of the above has no significant impact on these condensed consolidated interim financial information.

The following new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations which have been published but are not yet effective, have not been early adopted in these condensed consolidated interim financial information. These are effective for the Group's accounting periods beginning on or after 1 April 2008.

HKAS 23 (Revised)	Borrowing Costs, effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2009;
HKFRS 8	Operating Segments, effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2009;
HK(IFRIC)-Int 12	Service Concession Arrangements, effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2008;
HK(IFRIC)-Int 13	Customer Loyalty Programmes; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2008; and
HK(IFRIC)-Int 14	HKAS 19 — The Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding Requirements and their Interaction; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2008.

The Group will adopt the above when they become effective. The Manager does not expect the adoption of the above will have significant impact on the condensed consolidated interim financial information of the Group.

#### 3. Revenues

Revenues recognised during the period comprise:

	Six months ended 30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	Six months ended 30 September 2006 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Rental income from retail properties Gross rental receipts from carparks	1,477 456	1,401 435
	1,933	1,836
Other revenues Air conditioning service fees Other property related income	121 2	118 2
	123	120
Total revenues	2,056	1,956

Lease arrangements with tenants provide for base monthly rental charges and recovery of certain outgoings. Additional rents based on business turnover amounting to HK\$23 million (2006: HK\$12 million) have been included in the rental income.

## 4. Segment information

	Retail properties HK\$'M	Carparks HK\$'M	Head office HK\$'M	<b>Total</b> <i>HK\$'M</i>
For the six months ended 30 September 2007 (Unaudited)				
Revenues	1,600	456		2,056
Segment results	987	256	(47)	1,196
Change in fair values of investment properties Interest income	2,351	304	—	2,655 39
Finance costs on interest bearing liabilities				(310)
Profit before taxation and transactions with unitholders				3,580
Taxation				(602)
Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders				2,978
Capital expenditure	133	7	6	146
Depreciation			(6)	(6)
As at 30 September 2007 (Unaudited)				
Segment assets	34,810	7,654	102	42,566
Goodwill Short term hash denosite				3,988
Short term bank deposits Cash and cash equivalents				1,672 49
Cash and cash equivalents				49
Total assets				48,275
Segment liabilities	852	94	191	1,137
Interest bearing liabilities				12,181
Deferred tax liabilities				5,627
Other non-current liabilities				71
Total liabilities				19,016
Net assets attributable to unitholders				29,259

	Retail properties HK\$'M	Carparks HK\$'M	Head office HK\$`M	<b>Total</b> <i>HK\$`M</i>
For the six months ended 30 September 2006 (Unaudited)				
Revenues	1,521	435		1,956
Segment results Change in fair values of investment properties Interest income Finance costs on interest bearing liabilities	932 706	232 1	(41)	1,123 707 28 (292)
Profit before taxation and transactions with unitholders Taxation				1,566 (274)
Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders				1,292
Capital expenditure Depreciation	31	5	8 (4)	44 (4)
As at 31 March 2007 (Audited) Segment assets Goodwill Short term bank deposits Cash and cash equivalents	32,294	7,340	85	39,719 3,988 1,475 53
Total assets				45,235
Segment liabilities Interest bearing liabilities Deferred tax liabilities Other non-current liabilities	830	112	114	1,056 12,177 5,102 111
Total liabilities				18,446
Net assets attributable to unitholders				26,789

## 5. Property operating expenses

	Six months ended 30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	Six months ended 30 September 2006 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Property managers' fees, security and cleaning	278	302
Staff costs (Note 8)	61	48
Government rent and rates	50	54
Repairs and maintenance	106	101
Utilities	211	211
Promotion and marketing expenses	27	22
Estate common area costs	41	26
Other property operating expenses	39	28
	813	792

## 6. Operating profit before finance costs, taxation and transactions with unitholders

	Six months ended 30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	Six months ended 30 September 2006 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Operating profit before finance costs, taxation and transactions		
with unitholders is stated after charging:		
Staff costs (Note 8)	84	64
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	6	4
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	2	_
Strategic partner fee	1	1
Trustee's remuneration	2	1
Valuation fee	1	_
Auditor's remuneration	1	1
Operating lease charges	2	2
Other legal and professional fees	3	8

#### 7. Finance costs on interest bearing liabilities

	Six months ended 30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	Six months ended 30 September 2006 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Interest expenses on interest bearing liabilities wholly repayable within five years ( <i>Note 16</i> )	310	292
8. Staff costs		
	Six months ended 30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	Six months ended 30 September 2006 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Wages and salaries	78	63
Contributions to Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme Long-term incentive plan (Note a)	2 4	
	84	64
Staff costs can be further analysed as below:		
	Six months ended 30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	Six months ended 30 September 2006 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Included under property operating expenses (Note 5)	61	48
Included under general and administrative expenses	23	16
	84	64

#### Note:

#### (a) Long-term incentive plan

During the period, the Group adopted the Long-term Incentive Plan (the "Plan"), which was approved by an ordinary resolution on 23 July 2007 at the annual general meeting of the unitholders. The Plan shall be valid and effective for 10 years commencing on the adoption date.

Under the Plan, the Manager may grant three types of awards, the Restricted Unit Awards, Unit Option and Conditional Cash Awards (the "Awards") to eligible employees of the Group.

During the period, certain employees were granted the Restricted Unit Awards at nil consideration. The Restricted Unit Awards granted under the related plan, in general, are fully vested in three years from the date of grant and the eventual units to be issued under the Restricted Unit Awards are linked to the performance of The Link REIT.

The Group recognises the employee services received in exchange for the grant of the Awards as an expense, with a corresponding increase in the liability incurred, at fair value as the employees render services. This expense is to be charged to the income statement over the vesting period. Until the liability is settled, the fair value of the liability is re-measured at each balance sheet date and at the date of settlement, with any changes in fair value recognised in the income statement for the period. The expense arising from the above Awards for the interim period ended 30 September 2007, which was charged to the income statement for the current period, amounts to HK\$4 million.

#### 9. Taxation

Hong Kong profits tax has been provided for at the rate of 17.5% on the estimated assessable profit for the period. For the period ended 30 September 2006, no current taxation has been provided for as the Group has no estimated assessable profit.

The amount of taxation charged to the condensed consolidated interim income statement represents:

	Six months ended 30 September	Six months ended 30 September
	2007	2006
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	HK\$'M	HK\$`M
Current taxation Deferred taxation	525	274
	602	274

#### 10. Earnings per unit based upon profit after taxation and before transactions with unitholders

	Six months ended	Six months ended
	30 September	30 September
	2007	2006
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Profit for the period, before transactions with unitholders	HK\$2,978 million	HK\$1,292 million
Weighted average number of units for the period	2,139,854,069	2,137,454,000
to general average number of antis for the period	2,107,004,007	2,137,131,000
Earnings per unit based on profit after taxation, before transactions with		
unitholders, basic and diluted	HK\$1.39	HK\$0.60

#### 11. Investment properties

(a) Details of the movements of investment properties are as follows:

	Retail properties HK\$'M	Carparks HK\$'M	Total HK\$M
At 1 April 2006	29,098	6,674	35,772
Additions	239	32	271
Change in fair values	2,914	600	3,514
At 31 March 2007	32,251	7,306	39,557
At 1 April 2007	32,251	7,306	39,557
Additions	133	7	140
Change in fair values	2,351	304	2,655
At 30 September 2007	34,735	7,617	42,352

#### (b) Government leases

The properties included as investment properties on the balance sheet comprise properties where the Group has legal title under government leases for a fixed number of years (with renewal rights in one case), and other properties where the granting of the government leases and legal title is in progress. The remaining lease periods of the government lease profile of these properties with government leases granted range from 36 to 50 years.

By virtue of the Property Agreement with the Hong Kong Housing Authority in respect of the acquisition of the RC Operations, the Group as the beneficial owner, is legally entitled to operate all these properties as if it was the legal owner.

(c) Fair values

The investment properties were revalued on an open market value basis as at 30 September 2007 by CB Richard Ellis Limited ("CBRE"), an independent firm of professional qualified valuers. In arriving at the market values, CBRE has assumed, inter alia, that legal titles to the properties are in place as of the property valuation date, notwithstanding that legal titles to certain of the properties have not been granted as of the balance sheet date (see note (b) above).

(d) REIT Code restrictions

In accordance with the Code on Real Estate Investment Trusts issued by the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong ("REIT Code"), the Group is prohibited from disposing of its properties for at least two years from the time such properties are acquired, unless unitholders have passed a special resolution consenting to the proposed disposal.

(e) Security for the Group's loan facilities

As at 30 September 2007, certain of the Group's investment properties, amounting to approximately HK\$4.8 billion (31 March 2007: HK\$4.4 billion), were mortgaged to secure the Group's loan facilities.

## 12. Property, plant and equipment

13.

	Leasehold improvements HK\$'M	Motor vehicles HK\$'M	Equipment HK\$'M	<b>Total</b> HK\$'M
At 1 April 2006	4	2	26	32
Additions	16	2	11	29
Depreciation charge for the year	(1)	(1)	(7)	(9)
At 31 March 2007	19	3	30	52
At 31 March 2007				
Cost	21	4	39	64
Accumulated depreciation	(2)	(1)	(9)	(12)
Net book value		3	30	52
At 1 April 2007	19	3	30	52
Additions	2	—	4	6
Disposals	—	—	(3)	(3)
Depreciation charge for the period	(2)	—	(4)	(6)
Accumulated depreciation written back upon disposal			1	1
At 30 September 2007	19	3	28	50
At 30 September 2007				
Cost	23	4	40	67
Accumulated depreciation	(4)	(1)	(12)	(17)
Net book value	19	3	28	50
. Trade and other receivables				
		30 Sej	ptember	31 March
			2007	2007
		(Una	audited)	(Audited)
			HK\$'M	HK\$'M
Trade receivable (Note)			64	51
Other receivables			77	41

*Note:* Receivables are denominated in Hong Kong dollars and the carrying amounts of these receivables approximate their fair values.

92

141

A majority of the Group's rental income is received in cash and there are no specific credit terms given to the tenants. The trade receivable are generally fully covered by the rental deposits from corresponding tenants. The ageing analysis of trade receivable is as follows:

	30 September	31 March
	2007	2007
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	HK\$'M	HK\$'M
0–30 days	54	47
31-90 days	7	2
Over 90 days	3	2
	64	51

Monthly base rental in respect of retail properties are payable in advance by tenants in accordance with the leasing agreements while daily gross receipts from carparks are received from the carpark operators in arrears.

#### 14. Cash and cash equivalents and short term bank deposits

	30 September 2007	31 March 2007
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	HK\$'M	HK\$'M
Cash in hand	2	2
Cash at bank	13	22
Short term bank deposits with original maturity of		
less than three months	34	29
Cash and cash equivalents	49	53
Short term bank deposits with original maturity of		=-
more than three months	1,672	1,475
	1,721	1,528

Short term bank deposits at the balance sheet date mature approximately 74 days (31 March 2007: 96 days) from the balance sheet date. The effective interest rate at the balance sheet date was 4.54% (31 March 2007: 4.09%) per annum.

## 15. Trade payable, receipts in advance and accruals

Trade payable       103       64         Receipts in advance       58       59         Accruals       554       615         715       738         The ageing analysis of trade payable is as follows:       30 September       31 March         2007       2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)         HKS'M       HKS'M         0-30 days       86       60         31-90 days       14       3         Over 90 days       3       1         103       64         16.       Interest bearing liabilities       30 September       31 March         2007       2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)       HKS'M         HKS'M       HKS'M       HKS'M         4587       4,586       3,591			30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	31 March 2007 (Audited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Accruals         554         615           715         738           The ageing analysis of trade payable is as follows:         30 September         31 March           2007         2007         (Audited)           (Haudited)         (Audited)         (Audited)           HK\$'M         HK\$'M         HK\$'M           0-30 days         86         60           31-90 days         14         3           Over 90 days         3         1           103         64           16.         Interest bearing liabilities         30 September         31 March           2007         2007         2007         2007           (Unaudited)         (Audited)         HK\$'M           HK\$'M         HK\$'M         HK\$'M           Guaranteed notes         3,594         3,591		Trade payable	103	64
715       738         The ageing analysis of trade payable is as follows:       30 September       31 March         2007       2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)       (Audited)         HK\$'M       HK\$'M       HK\$'M         0-30 days       86       60         31-90 days       3       11         Over 90 days       3       1         103       64         16. Interest bearing liabilities       30 September       31 March         2007       2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)         HK\$'M       HK\$'M         Guaranteed notes       3,594       3,591		-		
The ageing analysis of trade payable is as follows:       30 September 31 March 2007 2007 (Unaudited) (Audited) HK\$'M         0-30 days       86       60         31-90 days       86       60         31-90 days       14       3         Over 90 days       3       1         103       64         16. Interest bearing liabilities       30 September 31 March 2007 2007 (Unaudited) (Audited) HK\$'M         Guaranteed notes       3,594       3,591		Accruals	554	615
30 September       31 March         2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)         HK\$'M       HK\$'M         0-30 days       86       60         31-90 days       14       3         Over 90 days       3       1         103       64         16. Interest bearing liabilities       30 September       31 March         2007       2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)       4         HK\$'M       HK\$'M       HK\$'M         Guaranteed notes       3,594       3,591			715	738
2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)         HK\$'M       HK\$'M         0-30 days       86       60         31-90 days       14       3         Over 90 days       3       1         103       64         16. Interest bearing liabilities       30 September       31 March         2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)         HK\$'M       HK\$'M         Guaranteed notes       3,594       3,591		The ageing analysis of trade payable is as follows:		
2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)         HK\$'M       HK\$'M         0-30 days       86       60         31-90 days       14       3         Over 90 days       3       1         103       64         16. Interest bearing liabilities       30 September       31 March         2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)         HK\$'M       HK\$'M         Guaranteed notes       3,594       3,591			30 September	31 March
HK\$'M       HK\$'M         0-30 days       86       60         31-90 days       14       3         Over 90 days       3       1         103       64         16. Interest bearing liabilities       30 September       31 March         2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)         HK\$'M       HK\$'M         Guaranteed notes       3,594       3,591			2007	2007
0-30 days       86       60         31-90 days       14       3         Over 90 days       3       1         103       64         16. Interest bearing liabilities       30 September       31 March         2007       2007         (Unaudited)       HK\$'M       HK\$'M         Guaranteed notes       3,594       3,591			(Unaudited)	(Audited)
31-90 days       14       3         Over 90 days       3       1         103       64         16. Interest bearing liabilities       30 September       31 March         2007       2007         (Unaudited)       HK\$'M       HK\$'M         Guaranteed notes       3,594       3,591			HK\$'M	HK\$`M
Over 90 days         3         1           103         64           16. Interest bearing liabilities         30 September         31 March           2007         2007           (Unaudited)         (Audited)           HK\$'M         HK\$'M           Guaranteed notes         3,594         3,591		-		60
1036416. Interest bearing liabilities30 September31 March200720072007(Unaudited)(Audited)HK\$'MHK\$'MHK\$'MGuaranteed notes3,5943,591				3
16. Interest bearing liabilities30 September31 March200720072007(Unaudited)(Audited)HK\$'MHK\$'MGuaranteed notes3,5943,591		Over 90 days	3	1
30 September       31 March         2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)         HK\$'M       HK\$'M         Guaranteed notes       3,594       3,591			103	64
2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)         HK\$'M       HK\$'M         Guaranteed notes       3,594       3,591	16.	Interest bearing liabilities		
2007       2007         (Unaudited)       (Audited)         HK\$'M       HK\$'M         Guaranteed notes       3,594       3,591			30 September	31 March
HK\$'M         HK\$'M           Guaranteed notes         3,594         3,591				
Guaranteed notes 3,594 3,591			(Unaudited)	(Audited)
			HK\$'M	HK\$'M
		Guaranteed notes	3,594	3,591
		Syndicated loan		

Other loan (secured)	4,000	4,000
Less: Current portion of interest bearing liabilities	12,181 (2,198)	12,177
Non-current portion of interest bearing liabilities	9,983	12,177

Interest bearing liabilities are repayable as follows:

	30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	31 March 2007 (Audited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Due in the first year		
Guaranteed notes	2,198	
Due in the second year		
Guaranteed notes	1,396	2,196
Due in the third year		
Guaranteed notes	—	1,395
Other loan (secured)	4,000	4,000
	4,000	5,395
Due in the fifth year		
Syndicated loan	4,587	4,586
	12,181	12,177

The effective interest rate of the interest bearing liabilities at the balance sheet date was 5.16% (31 March 2007: 4.66%). The carrying amounts of the interest bearing liabilities approximate their fair values.

#### 17. Other non-current liabilities

	30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	31 March 2007 (Audited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Long-term incentive plan payable (Note 8) Interest rate swaps — cash flow hedges (Note)	<b>6</b> 7	
	71	111

#### Note:

The Group uses interest rate swaps to minimise its exposure to movements in interest rates in relation to its floating rates interest bearing liabilities by swapping from floating rates to fixed rates. The full fair value of these cash flow hedges are classified as non-current items as the remaining maturities of the hedged items extend for more than 12 months. Any change in fair value of the effective portion of the cash flow hedges is recognised in hedging reserve. An amount of HK\$44 million has been credited to the hedging reserve during the period (Year ended 31 March 2007: HK\$111 million had been debited to the hedging reserve).

Derivative financial instruments qualifying as cash flow hedges as at 30 September 2007 have an average maturity of 4.1 years (31 March 2007: 4.6 years) from the balance sheet date. The notional principal amount and the average fixed interest rate of the outstanding interest rate swap contracts at 30 September 2007 were HK\$4 billion (31 March 2007: HK\$4 billion) and 5.05% (31 March 2007: 5.05%) respectively.

#### 18. Units in issue

	Number of units
At 1 April 2006 and 1 April 2007	2,137,454,000
Units issued under distribution reinvestment scheme	10,980,317

#### At 30 September 2007

2,148,434,317

Traded market value of the units as of 30 September 2007 was HK\$17.10 (31 March 2007: HK\$18.80) per unit. Based on 2,148,434,317 units in issue as at 30 September 2007 (31 March 2007: 2,137,454,000 units), market capitalisation was HK\$36,738 million (31 March 2007: HK\$40,184 million).

#### 19. Reserves

	Hedging reserve HK\$'M	Earnings retained for cash flow hedge adjustments HK\$'M	Total reserves HK\$'M
At 1 April 2006	_	_	_
Change in fair values of cash flow hedges Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve movement	(111)	111	(111)
At 31 March 2007	(111)	111	
At 1 April 2007	(111)	111	_
Change in fair values of cash flow hedges Amount arising from cash flow hedging reserve movement	44	( <u>44</u> )	44 (44)
At 30 September 2007	(67)	67	

#### 20. Capital commitments

	30 September 2007	31 March 2007
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	HK\$'M	HK\$'M
Improvement projects to existing investment properties		
Authorised but not contracted for	894	752
Contracted but not provided for	339	422
	1,233	1,174

#### 21. Connected party transactions and significant related party transactions and balances

Information required to be disclosed concerning related party transactions is set out in this note unless disclosed elsewhere in these condensed consolidated interim financial information.

(a) Nature of relationship with connected/related parties

The table set forth below summarises the names of the connected/related parties, as defined in the REIT Code/ HKAS 24 "Related Party Disclosures", and nature of their relationship with The Link REIT as at 30 September 2007:

Connected/related party	Relationship with the Group
HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Asia) Limited (the "Trustee")*	The Trustee of The Link REIT
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited and its associates (the "HSBC Group")*	Related parties of the Trustee
CapitaLand Limited (the "Strategic Partner")*	The Strategic Partner of The Link REIT and common director
CB Richard Ellis Limited (the "Principal Valuer")	The Principal Valuer of The Link REIT
The Children's Investment Master Fund	A significant unitholder of The Link REIT
The Wing Hang Bank Limited*	Common director
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (Asia) Limited ("ICBC")*	Common director
Aedas Limited*	Common director

\* These connected parties are also considered as related parties of the Group.

#### (b) Transactions with connected/related parties

The following transactions were carried out with connected/related parties:

	Six months ended 30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	Six months ended 30 September 2006 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Trustee fee paid and payable to the Trustee (ii)	(2)	(1)
Fee paid and payable to the Strategic Partner (iii)	(1)	(1)
Valuation fee paid and payable to the Principal Valuer	(1)	—
Transactions with the HSBC Group (iv)		
Interest expense to the HSBC Group on interest bearing liabilities	(14)	(263)
Staff expense to the HSBC Group on medical/group life insurance	(1)	_
Rental income from the HSBC Group on leasing of retail units	6	7
Interest income from the HSBC Group on short term bank deposits	4	28
Transactions with ICBC (iv)		
Interest expense to ICBC on interest bearing liabilities	(4)	_
Rental income from ICBC on leasing of retail units	2	_
Architectural/renovation consultancy services fees paid and payable		
to Aedas Limited	(1)	

#### Notes:

- (i) All connected party transactions were carried out in accordance with the terms of the relevant agreement governing the transactions and in the ordinary course of business.
- (ii) The Trustee is entitled to receive an annual trustee fee (calculated and paid monthly) at a rate of 0.008% per annum of the latest property value as determined in the latest annual valuation report of an independent property valuer recommended by the Manager and appointed by the Trustee for and on behalf of The Link REIT from time to time, subject to a minimum of HK\$150,000 per month.
- (iii) The Strategic Partner is entitled to receive a base fee equal to the costs and expenses reasonably incurred by the Strategic Partner in the performance of its duties and obligations and also a performance fee under the Co-operation Agreement from the listing date until the termination of its appointment under the Cooperation Agreement.
- (iv) The transactions with the HSBC Group and ICBC were in accordance with market rates.

#### (c) Balances with related parties

Balances with related parties are set out below:

	30 September 2007 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'M</i>	31 March 2007 (Audited) <i>HK\$'M</i>
Interest bearing liabilities with the HSBC Group	(598)	(598)
Short term bank deposits and savings placed with the HSBC Group	185	497
Net interest receivable from the HSBC Group	1	6
Interest bearing liabilities with ICBC	(184)	_
Strategic Partner fee payable to CapitaLand Limited (Note)	(1)	(1)
Architectural/renovation consultancy services fees payable to Aedas		
Limited	(1)	

#### Note:

The balance is unsecured, interest-free and repayable on demand.

#### (d) Key management compensation

The aggregate amounts of emoluments of the directors of the Group are as follows:

	Six months ended	Six months ended
	30 September	30 September
	2007	2006
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	HK\$'M	HK\$`M
Fees	3	2
Basic salaries, allowances and other benefits	7	3
Long-term incentive plan (Note 8a)	1	
	11	5

#### 22. Contingent liabilities

The Link Holdings Limited, a subsidiary, and the Trustee have jointly and severally executed guarantees in favour of a bank in respect of a facility granted to a subsidiary for issuance of bank guarantees to utilities companies. The facility amounts to HK\$70 million (31 March 2007: HK\$70 million), of which HK\$52 million has been utilised as at 30 September 2007 (31 March 2007: HK\$52 million).

#### 23. Subsidiaries

The Link REIT held the following wholly owned subsidiaries as at 30 September 2007:

Name	Place of establishment and kind of legal entity/ place of operations	Principal activities	Particulars of issued share capital	Interest held
Directly held: The Link Holdings Limited	Cayman Islands, limited liability company/Hong Kong	Investment holding	US\$1	100%
The Link Management Limited	Hong Kong, limited liability company/Hong Kong	Asset management	HK\$5,000,001	100%
Indirectly held:				
The Link Properties Limited	Cayman Islands, limited liability company/Hong Kong	Property holding	US\$1	100%
The Link Finance Limited	Hong Kong, limited liability company/Hong Kong	Financing	HK\$1	100%
The Link Finance (Cayman) 2006 Limited	Cayman Islands, limited liability company/Hong Kong	Financing	US\$1	100%

## MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

## **Operational Review**

The Link REIT was the first and is the largest Hong Kong REIT with a geographically diverse portfolio of 180 properties, comprising 149 integrated retail and carpark facilities, two standalone retail facilities and 29 standalone carpark facilities. As at 30 September 2007, the portfolio provided an internal floor area ("IFA") of approximately 1,015,000 square metres of retail space and around 80,000 carpark spaces. Approximately 8%, 33% and 59% of the total IFA are located on Hong Kong Island, in Kowloon and the New Territories, respectively.

The Link Management Limited, acting as the Manager of The Link REIT is licensed by the Securities and Futures Commission ("SFC") to conduct the regulated activity of asset management and is responsible for managing The Link REIT's portfolio of 180 properties.

## Leasing

During the period under review, the Manager has continued with adopting a flexible leasing strategy in order to attract and retain tenants but also in keeping with asset enhancement plans, aligning tenancies for phased refurbishment/renovation work. In many such instances, tenancies have been renewed on terms of less than three years which is the usual term for commercial leases. Trade mix upgrading and planning is carried out on a continual basis and is done in line with planned expiry of tenancies as well as asset enhancement projects.

The occupancy rate of the retail facilities was 90.5% as at 30 September 2007 (30 September 2006: 92.3%). The utilisation rate for the carpark facilities, calculated as a percentage of total monthly tickets sold compared with the total number of monthly carpark spaces available as at 30 September 2007 was 71.6% (30 September 2006: 72.7%).

		Total IFA		]	Leased IFA		V	acant IFA	
	30 September	31 March	30 September	30 September	31 March	30 September	30 September	31 March	30 September
Category	2007	2007	2006	2007	2007	2006	2007	2007	2006
	(sqm)	(sqm)	(sqm)	(sqm)	(sqm)	(sqm)	(sqm)	(sqm)	(sqm)
Retail	797,499	795,405	782,054	737,642	733,782	734,274	59,857	61,623	47,780
Market	81,726	82,354	82,790	64,413	63,864	66,787	17,313	18,490	16,003
Cooked Food Stalls	14,238	14,193	14,238	8,789	9,213	9,395	5,449	4,980	4,843
Education/Welfare	85,819	85,379	86,234	79,579	80,414	80,883	6,240	4,965	5,351
HD office and									
ancillary	26,532	27,612	39,101	19,585	19,852	36,185	6,947	7,760	2,916
Total excluding Self									
use offices	1,005,814	1,004,943	1,004,417	910,008	907,125	927,524	95,806	97,818	76,893
0.10 00	0.150	10.225	11 221						
Self use offices	9,158	10,335	11,321						
Total including Self									
use offices	1,014,972	1,015,278	1,015,738						
Excluding Self use									
offices,									
Education/Welfare									
only	919,995	919,564	918,183	830,429	826,711	846,641	89,566	92,853	71,542
Excluding Self use									
offices,									
Education/									
Welfare, HD									
office and									
ancillary	893,463	891,952	879,082	810,844	806,859	810,456	82,619	85,093	68,626
ancinary	075,705	071,752	077,002	010,044	000,009	010,450	02,019	05,095	00,020

00	cupancy rate	e	V	acancy rate		Average bas	se rent per	leased IFA
30 September	31 March	30 September	30 September	31 March	30 September	30 September	31 March	30 September
2007	2007	2006	2007	2007	2006	2007	2007	2006
(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(HK\$psf)	(HK\$psf)	(HK\$psf)
92.5%	92.3%	93.9%	7.5%	7.7%	6.1%	24.0	23.3	22.8
78.8%	77.5%	80.7%	21.2%	22.5%	19.3%	56.1	54.3	53.8
61.7%	64.9%	66.0%	38.3%	35.1%	34.0%	31.5	30.7	30.3
92.7%	94.2%	93.8%	7.3%	5.8%	6.2%	4.4	4.3	4.3
73.8%	71.9%	92.5%	26.2%	28.1%	7.5%	11.5	11.5	10.2
90.5%	90.3%	92.3%	9.5%	9.7%	7.7%	24.4	23.6	23.0
90.3%	89.9%	92.2%	9.7%	10.1%	7.8%	26.3	25.5	24.8
00.07	00.5%	02.25	0.25	0.5%	7.96		25.0	25.4
	30 September 2007 (%) 92.5% 78.8% 61.7% 92.7% 73.8% 90.5%	30 September         31 March           2007         2007           (%)         (%)           92.5%         92.3%           78.8%         77.5%           61.7%         64.9%           92.7%         94.2%           73.8%         71.9%           90.5%         90.3%           90.3%         89.9%	2007       2007       2006         (%)       (%)       (%)         92.5%       92.3%       93.9%         78.8%       77.5%       80.7%         61.7%       64.9%       66.0%         92.7%       94.2%       93.8%         73.8%       71.9%       92.5%         90.5%       90.3%       92.3%	30 September         31 March         30 September         30 September           2007         2007         2006         2007           (%)         (%)         (%)         (%)           92.5%         92.3%         93.9%         7.5%           78.8%         77.5%         80.7%         21.2%           61.7%         64.9%         66.0%         38.3%           92.7%         94.2%         93.8%         7.3%           73.8%         71.9%         92.5%         26.2%           90.5%         90.3%         92.3%         9.5%           90.3%         89.9%         92.2%         9.7%	30 September         31 March         30 September         30 September         31 March           2007         2007         2006         2007         2007         2007           (%)         (%)         (%)         (%)         (%)         2007         2007           92.5%         92.3%         93.9%         7.5%         7.7%           78.8%         77.5%         80.7%         21.2%         22.5%           61.7%         64.9%         66.0%         38.3%         35.1%           92.7%         94.2%         93.8%         7.3%         5.8%           73.8%         71.9%         92.5%         26.2%         28.1%           90.5%         90.3%         92.3%         9.5%         9.7%         10.1%	30 September         31 March         30 September         30 September         31 March         30 September         31 March         30 September         30 September         31 March         34 March	30 September         31 March         30 September         30 September         31 March         30 September         31 September	30 September         31 March         30 September         31 March         30 September         31 March         30 September         31 March         2007         (%)         <

During the six months ended 30 September 2007, the portfolio's average rent reversion rate was 13.69% (30 September 2006: 4.89%) and that for the retail shopping space was 15.44% (30 September 2006: 5.36%). The reversion rate at individual shopping centres showed a large variance as rental levels were affected by the local operating business environment and the quality of the individual centres. Short term extensions also affected the reversion rate as they were granted at minimal adjustments to tie in with the planned and phased re-alignment of trade mix and asset enhancement projects.

We have also achieved good progress in increasing tenancies with turnover rent clauses so that we can share in the upside with our tenants as their businesses improve. As at 30 September 2007, the number of tenancies with such clauses has increased to 752 (30 September 2006: 408) with turnover rent for the six months period ended 30 September 2007 amounting to HK\$23 million (30 September 2006: HK\$12 million). Carpark income per bay per month for the period ended 30 September 2007 was approximately HK\$955 (30 September 2006: HK\$913).

Composite Reversion Rate	Six months ended 30 September 2007 %	Year endec 31 March 2007 %	a 30 September 2006
Retail	15.44	11.09	5.36
Market	7.60	6.38	5.10
Cooked Food Stalls	17.67	7.21	7.61
Education/Welfare	0.58	0.82	2 1.14
Ancillary	11.67	11.22	9.12
Overall	13.69	9.87	4.89
Overall excluding Education/Welfare	13.92	10.28	3 5.22
Revenue		nths ended September 2007	Six months ended 30 September 2006
		HK\$'M	HK\$'M
Retail		1,147	1,067
Market		231	230
Cooked Food Stalls		18	20
Education/Welfare		23	23
HD offices and ancillary		37	45
Promotional venue		21	16
Carparks		456	435
Other revenues		123	120
Total		2,056	1,956

## Portfolio Management

The Manager has continued with its efforts in reducing operating costs. Expenditure to income ratio for the period was 39.5%, an improvement since the last interim results of 40.5%. Excluding estate common area costs, the expenditure to income ratio for our portfolio for the period was 37.6% (30 September 2006: 39.2%). The Manager will endeavour to control costs but it is inevitable, as more List 2 property titles are transferred to us, that government rent will increase. It is presently envisaged that all the property titles will be transferred by the end of 2008.

The installation of the carpark management information and automation system is progressing well and is expected to be completed by mid 2008. This new system, together with the upgrading and standardisation of CCTV systems, will further enhance operational efficiency, customer services and reduce operating costs.

## Marketing and Promotion

On 17 October 2007, the Manager and Chong Hing Bank together launched "The Link Credit Card" (the "Card"), the first credit card with "The Link" branding. Public response to the Card has been overwhelming with over three thousand applications received on the first three days of the launch. The Card will serve to bring the public more shopping and dining benefits as well as to help tenants promote their products and services to The Link's broad customer base.

The dynamic marketing and promotional endeavours of the Manager have continued to enliven the business ambience of our shopping centres. Not only have our tenants benefited from the increased footfall brought about by these exciting events and multi-dimensional activities, further improvements in customer satisfaction with our shopping centres help strengthen the corporate image of The Link.

## Asset Enhancements

Asset enhancement continues to be one of the Manager's main drivers to improve the quality of the portfolio in tandem with re-aligning existing tenancies and introducing new trade and tenant mix to improve rental income.

During the six months ended 30 September 2007, four phases of certain asset enhancement projects were completed to the Manager's satisfaction, namely Phase 2 of Lung Cheung Mall, Phase 1 of Lok Fu Shopping Centre, Phase 1 of Chung On Shopping Centre and the conversion of the vacant market into retail shops at Ming Tak Shopping Centre.

Good progress is being achieved at other shopping centres undergoing asset enhancement. Short term extensions to existing tenancies or temporary tenancies, where practicable, are let to reduce rental void periods prior to renovations. The Manager expects to also complete Phase 3 of Tsz Wan Shan and Phase 3 of Hau Tak before the financial year end.

Feasibility studies are still in progress by the Manager to identify additional asset enhancement opportunities in the future.

## Master Programme for Twenty Six Asset Enhancement Projects

Announced in 2005/IPO	Announced in 2006	Announced in 2007	Internal Floor Area (sqm)
<ol> <li>Tsz Wan Shan</li> <li>Hau Tak</li> <li>Lung Cheung</li> <li>Lok Fu</li> <li>Choi Ming</li> <li>Tai Wo</li> <li>Stanley</li> <li>Chung On</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Tsz Wan Shan</li> <li>Hau Tak</li> <li>Lung Cheung</li> <li>Lok Fu</li> <li>Choi Ming</li> <li>Tai Wo</li> <li>Stanley</li> <li>Chung On</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Tsz Wan Shan</li> <li>Hau Tak</li> <li>Lung Cheung</li> <li>Lok Fu</li> <li>Choi Ming</li> <li>Tai Wo</li> <li>Stanley</li> <li>Chung On</li> </ol>	19,500 15,540 14,198 38,468 8,703 13,492 8,615 7,488
	<ul> <li>(9) Chung Fu</li> <li>(10) Wong Tai Sin</li> <li>(11) Butterfly</li> <li>(12) Cheung Fat</li> <li>(13) Wo Che</li> <li>(14) Lek Yuen</li> <li>(15) Ming Tak</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>(9) Chung Fu</li> <li>(10) Wong Tai Sin</li> <li>(11) Butterfly</li> <li>(12) Cheung Fat</li> <li>(13) Wo Che</li> <li>(14) Lek Yuen</li> <li>(15) Ming Tak</li> </ul>	21,395 14,123 15,290 13,741 17,333 11,029 3,620
		<ul> <li>(16) Leung King</li> <li>(17) Siu Sai Wan</li> <li>(18) Oi Man</li> <li>(19) Kwai Fong</li> <li>(20) Fu Tung</li> <li>(21) Kai Tin</li> <li>(22) Tin Yiu</li> <li>(23) Choi Yuen</li> <li>(24) Tak Tin</li> <li>(25) Hing Wah</li> <li>(26) Wan Tsui</li> </ul>	18,327 8,988 18,912 5,450 9,261 17,161 7,844 12,120 8,399 7,222 7,508
		TOTAL	343,727

## **Completed Asset Enhancement Phases/Projects**

Announced in 2005/IPO	Announced in 2006	Announced in 2007	Internal Floor Area* (sqm)
<ol> <li>Tsz Wan Shan Phases 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>Hau Tak Phases 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>Lung Cheung Phases 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>Lok Fu Phase 1</li> <li>Chung On Phase 1</li> </ol>	(15) Ming Tak	(21) Kai Tin — see note below	14,400 6,980 14,198 2,450 6,223 3,620 17,161
		TOTAL	65,032

*Note:* Asset enhancement work deferred due to improvement in trade mix generating higher rental income.

\* Completed and unaffected area.

## Master Programme for Twenty Six Asset Enhancement Projects

Project	Commencement	Target Completion	Capital Expenditure <i>HK\$M</i>
(1) Tsz Wan Shan Phases 1 & 2	August 2005	Completed	see below
Phase 3	August 2006	1st Quarter 2008	29.8
(2) Hau Tak Phases 1 & 2	October 2005	Completed	see below
Phase 3	December 2006	1st Quarter 2008	40.0
Phase 4	December 2006	2nd Quarter 2009	6.0
(3) Lung Cheung Phase 1	November 2005	Completed	see below
Phase 2	November 2006	Completed	see below
(4) Lok Fu Phase 1	August 2006	Completed	see below
Phase 2	June 2007	2nd Quarter 2010	120.0
(5) Choi Ming	April 2007	4th Quarter 2007	10.0
(6) Tai Wo	January 2007	1st Quarter 2009	46.0
(7) Stanley	August 2006	4th Quarter 2008	100.0
(8) Chung On Phase 1	October 2006	Completed	see below
Phase 2	October 2006	4th Quarter 2008	6.0
(9) Chung Fu	May 2008	4th Quarter 2009	72.0
(10) Wong Tai Sin	August 2006	2nd Quarter 2009	31.0
(11) Butterfly	August 2007	1st Quarter 2009	35.0
(12) Cheung Fat	October 2006	1st Quarter 2010	80.0
(13) Wo Che	May 2007	1st Quarter 2009	50.0
(14) Lek Yuen	March 2007	3rd Quarter 2009	29.0
(15) Ming Tak	September 2006	Completed	see below
(16) Leung King	September 2006	1st Quarter 2010	58.0
(17) Siu Sai Wan	October 2007	4th Quarter 2009	49.0
(18) Oi Man	October 2007	4th Quarter 2009	75.0
(19) Kwai Fong	March 2008	4th Quarter 2010	29.0
(20) Fu Tung	November 2007	4th Quarter 2008	28.0
(21) Kai Tin	see below	see below	see below
(22) Tin Yiu	March 2007	2nd Quarter 2009	32.0
(23) Choi Yuen	December 2007	3rd Quarter 2009	77.5
(24) Tak Tin	April 2008	3rd Quarter 2010	31.0 **
(25) Hing Wah	April 2008	3rd Quarter 2010	53.0
(26) Wan Tsui	April 2008	4th Quarter 2009	66.0
Total			1,153.3

\*\* Amount of capital expenditure subject to approval

#### **Completed Asset Enhancement Phases/Projects**

Project	Commencement	Completion Date	Capital Expenditure <i>HK\$M</i>
<ol> <li>Tsz Wan Shan Phases 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>Hau Tak Phases 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>Lung Cheung Phase 1 Phase 2</li> <li>Lok Fu Phase 1</li> <li>Chung On Phase 1</li> <li>Ming Tak</li> <li>Kai Tin</li> </ol>	August 2005 October 2005 November 2005 November 2006 August 2006 October 2006 September 2006 see note below	May 2006 March 2006 May 2006 June 2007 June 2007 September 2007 June 2007 see note below	29.0 22.0 9.1 10.0 10.0 9.6 8.0 see note below
Total			97.7

Note: Asset enhancement work deferred due to improvement in trade mix generating higher rental income.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

## **Revenue and Net Property Income**

Revenue and net property income from the properties portfolio for the six months ended 30 September 2007 were HK\$2,056 million (30 September 2006: HK\$1,956 million) and HK\$1,243 million (30 September 2006: HK\$1,164 million), respectively. Total retail revenue for the six months period amounted to HK\$1,477 million (30 September 2006: HK\$1,401 million) with HK\$456 million (30 September 2006: HK\$123 million) of carpark income and HK\$123 million (30 September 2006: HK\$120 million) of other income. Net property income represented approximately 60% of total revenue after the deduction of property management costs and other property operating expenses resulting in an expenditure to income ratio of approximately 40%.

Six months ended 30 September 2007		Six months ended 30 September 2006	
% of		% of	
HK\$'M	Revenue	HK\$'M	Revenue
220	1707	250	1007
			18%
474	23%	442	22%
813	40%	792	40%
1,243	60%	1,164	60%
	30 Septemb <i>HK\$'M</i> 339 474 813	30 September 2007           % of           HK\$'M         Revenue           339         17%           474         23%           813         40%	30 September 2007       30 September         % of       %         HK\$'M       Revenue         339       17%         474       23%         813       40%

## **Property Valuation**

As at 30 September 2007, CBRE performed an interim valuation of The Link REIT's property portfolio and a revaluation gain of HK\$2,655 million was recorded when compared with the valuation as at 31 March 2007.

The movements of fair values are tabulated below:

	Retail properties HK\$'M	Carparks HK\$'M	<b>Total</b> HK\$'M
At 1 April 2007 Additions	32,251 133	7,306 7	39,557 140
Change in fair values	2,351	304	2,655
At 30 September 2007	34,735	7,617	42,352
% change	+7.7%	+4.3%	+7.1%

## **Financial Position**

As at 30 September 2007, certain of the Group's investment properties, amounting to approximately HK\$4.8 billion (31 March 2007: HK\$4.4 billion) were mortgaged to secure the Group's loan facilities. As at 30 September 2007, the maturity profile of the Group's borrowings is as follows:

	<b>30 September 2007</b>		31 March 2007	
	HK\$'M	% of total	HK\$'M	% of total
Due in the first year	2,198	18%		0%
Due in the second year	1,396	11%	2,196	18%
Due in the third year	4,000	33%	5,395	44%
Due in the fourth year		0%		0%
Due in the fifth year	4,587	38%	4,586	38%
Total	12,181	100%	12,177	100%

The average outstanding life of the Group's loan facilities as at 30 September 2007 was 32 months.

As at 30 September 2007, the Group had outstanding interest rate swap contracts which amounted to HK\$4 billion in total, enabling the Group to hedge its interest rate exposure and to have a more stable interest rate profile in the next few years. Accordingly, approximately 54% of the total available facilities are at fixed rates. In terms of the Group's available financial resources as at 30 September 2007, the Group had total undrawn bank loan facilities of HK\$400 million and net cash at bank and in hand of HK\$1,721 million. The deposits are with maturities that have been well planned to satisfy the financial commitments and working capital requirements of the Group. The Manager has adopted a principal preservation approach in its cash management to ensure flexibility to meet the operational needs of the Group. In addition, the generation of strong recurrent cashflows from the Group's investment property portfolio provides the Group with a strong financial position and enables the Group to finance any capital expenditure that The Link REIT may incur in relation to major renovations, improvement works and other value-enhancing strategic initiatives. Fluctuations in exchange rates pose minimal exposure to the Group as majority of the Group's assets and liabilities are dominated in Hong Kong dollars.

## **Gearing Ratio**

As at 30 September 2007, the loan to asset ratio for the Group was 25.2% (31 March 2007: 26.9%), based on total borrowings of HK\$12,181 million (31 March 2007: HK\$12,177 million) and total gross asset value of HK\$48,275 million (31 March 2007: HK\$45,235 million), after the revaluation conducted by CBRE for the properties portfolio, the result of which has been reflected in the interim financial information. The Group continued to maintain most of its borrowings on an unsecured basis, with unsecured debt accounting for approximately 68.3% of total available facilities as at 30 September 2007. The Group will continue to obtain financing on an unsecured basis whenever possible.

## **Credit Ratings**

On 23 October 2007, Moody's Investors Service changed the outlook of the A3 corporate family and senior unsecured debt ratings of The Link REIT from stable to positive. The improvement in outlook is a recognition of the progress undertaken by The Link REIT in its asset enhancement projects as well as the strong and prudent financial management strategy undertaken.

## **Gross Liabilities and Net Assets**

As at 30 September 2007, gross liabilities (excluding net assets attributable to unitholders) accounted for HK\$19,016 million (31 March 2007: HK\$18,446 million), or 39.4% (31 March 2007: 40.8%) of total gross asset value. As at 30 September 2007, net assets attributable to unitholders amounted to HK\$29,259 million or HK\$13.62 per unit (31 March 2007: HK\$26,789 million or HK\$12.53 per unit).

## UNITS IN ISSUE

A distribution reinvestment scheme was adopted by The Link REIT in respect of the final distribution for the year ended 31 March 2007. Pursuant to the distribution reinvestment scheme, unitholders can elect to receive the distribution in the form of cash, or in the form of new units of The Link REIT, or a combination of both. On 22 August 2007, 10,980,317 units were issued at a price of HK\$17.09 per unit pursuant to the said distribution reinvestment scheme, resulting in a total of 2,148,434,317 units in issue as at 30 September 2007. The units have been actively traded during the period under review. The closing price of the units as at 30 September 2007 was HK\$17.10 (31 March 2007: HK\$18.80) with total market capitalisation amounting to HK\$36,738 million (31 March 2007: HK\$40,184 million). The closing price reflected a premium of 25.6% (31 March 2007: 50.0%) over the net asset value of HK\$13.62 (31 March 2007: HK\$12.53) per unit.

## HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

The Manager's remuneration policy is built upon the principles of providing an equitable, motivating and competitive remuneration package with a view to attracting, motivating and retaining high performing staff. As an on-going practice of adhering to these principles, the Manager reviews the remuneration policies and practices in line with market practices and with assistance provided by an independent consultant. All full-time and permanent staff are eligible for a discretionary bonus, the payment of which is based on both the individual staff's performance and the performance of The Link REIT. Staff benefits, amongst others, include the mandatory provident fund, annual leave, sick leave, maternity leave, medical insurance, life and personal accident insurance, employee compensation, club membership, etc. As at 30 September 2007, the Manager had 391 (31 March 2007: 340) staff. Key activities of the Manager include leasing, property management, enhancement and maintenance works, investment, fund management and associated corporate services.

## AWARDS

In October 2007, The Link Management Limited was presented the "Outstanding Corporate Strategy Award 2007" by East Week. This Award was organised by East Week to commend enterprises with outstanding business strategies. The panel of judges selected the outstanding enterprises from various business sectors according to their business development strategy, leadership and quality of management, corporate culture, corporate mission and creativity.

## APPRECIATION

On 23 July 2007, Dr Harry LEE Nai Shee and Mr Patrick SUN ceased to be Independent Non-Executive Directors ("INED") of the Manager upon their retirement by rotation from the Board at the 2007 annual general meeting of The Link REIT.

On 3 September 2007, Mr LIEW Mun Leong, a nominee of the Manager's strategic partner CapitaLand Limited ("CapitaLand"), resigned as a Non-Executive Director of the Manager. Mr KEE Teck Koon was nominated by CapitaLand to replace Mr Liew on the same date.

The Board would like to thank Dr Lee, Messrs Sun and Liew for their invaluable contributions to the Manager and The Link REIT during their tenure of service.

In addition on 3 September 2007, Professor Richard WONG Yue Chim and Mr Ian Keith GRIFFITHS were appointed as an INED and Non-Executive Director of the Manager respectively.

On 2 November 2007, the Board announced that Mr Victor SO Hing Woh will resign as Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of the Manager and a member of the Disclosures Committee, Finance and Investment Committee, Human Resources and Compensation Committee ("HRC") and Nomination Committee of the Manager, and will cease to be a Responsible Officer of the Manager with effect from 30 November 2007. On the same day, the Board also announced that Mr Ian David Murray ROBINS will succeed Mr Victor SO Hing Woh as Chief Executive Officer of the Manager upon his satisfying the requirements for and obtaining approval as a Responsible Officer from the SFC. During the interim period, Mr CHEW Fook Aun, Chief Financial Officer, Executive Director and Responsible Officer of the Manager.

The Board would like to acknowledge and thank Mr So for his outstanding contribution in building up and laying a strong foundation for the Manager to continue its long term sustainable growth. The Board offers its best wishes to him.

## PROSPECTS

We continue to remain optimistic and challenged by our future prospects. We have made continuing progress with our asset enhancement projects and we can see the results of our work bearing fruit in respect of the projects which have been completed. We are encouraged by the good results achieved

and we will continue with the programme to ensure that the other continuing projects achieve similar results. We will endeavour to ensure that the work continues with minimal disruption to tenants and customers.

Changes and upgrades to trade and tenant mix is very much part of the continuing evolution of our shopping centres and together with asset enhancement work will help us progressively increase rental income through rental reversion as the leasing cycle reverts.

We remain committed and focused and will continue to strive to work for the benefit of all our unitholders, tenants and the community in which we serve.

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

With the objectives of establishing and maintaining high standards of corporate governance, the Manager is committed to certain policies and procedures to ensure that The Link REIT is well-managed and operates in a transparent manner. Set out below is a summary of the key components of the corporate governance policies that have been adopted by the Manager and The Link REIT.

## **Authorisation Structure**

The Link REIT is a collective investment scheme authorised by the SFC under section 104 of the SFO and regulated by the provisions of the REIT Code. The Manager which was established to manage the portfolio of The Link REIT is licensed under the SFO to carry on regulated activity of asset management. HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Asia) Limited, the Trustee is a registered trust company in Hong Kong and responsible for the safe custody of the assets of The Link REIT. The Link REIT has adopted an internalized management structure whereby the Trustee is the registered owner of all the issued shares of the Manager. The Link REIT as the first real estate investment trust in Hong Kong is committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance in the interest of its unitholders.

## Compliance

During the period ended 30 September 2007, the Manager and The Link REIT has complied with the provisions of the REIT Code published by the SFC, the relevant provisions of the SFO, the relevant sections of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules"), the Trust Deed and the requirements and procedures laid down in the compliance manual (except as stated in the paragraph below) of the Manager adopted for use in relation to the management of The Link REIT.

Upon the retirement of Mr Patrick SUN as a member of the HRC on 23 July 2007, there was a short departure from the Manager's corporate governance policy which requires at least half of the members of the HRC as INEDs. On 3 September 2007, Professor Richard WONG Yue Chim was appointed as a member of the HRC.

The Manager has adopted a code governing dealings in the securities of The Link REIT by Directors equivalent to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers contained in the Listing Rules. Following a specific enquiry, each director has confirmed that he has complied with the required standard set out in the code adopted by the Manager throughout the period.

The Board has reviewed and accepted the quarterly compliance reports which were examined and endorsed by the Audit Committee. The Manager and The Link REIT have also met the code provisions as set out in the Code on Corporate Governance Practices contained in Appendix 14 to the Listing Rules, where appropriate.

## **Board of Directors**

The Board principally oversees the management of the Manager's affairs and the conduct of its business and is responsible for the overall governance of the Manager. It leads and guides the Manager's corporate strategy and direction and is functioning separately from, and independent of, the executive management. Pursuant to the Manager's corporate governance policy, at least half of the Directors of the Board are required to be INEDs. At present, the Board comprises 14 members, eight of whom are INEDs, four are Non-Executive Directors and the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer are Executive Directors. The positions of Chairman who has to be an INED and Chief Executive Officer are held by two different persons in order to maintain an effective segregation of duties.

## **Review of Financial Results**

The interim results of The Link REIT for the six months ended 30 September 2007 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee of the Manager, and approved by the Board at its meeting on 15 November 2007. The interim financial information have also been reviewed by The Link REIT's auditors in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410, "Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

## **Investor Relations**

In promoting good corporate governance and transparency, The Link REIT has continuously communicated with both the stakeholders and the unitholders during the period under review. Since 1 April 2007, the Manager has participated in the following investors' conferences:

Month	Event	Organiser	Venue
May 2007	Asian and Australian Property Conference	Deutsche Bank	Hong Kong
June 2007	Hong Kong Post Results Roadshow	Goldman Sachs	Hong Kong
June 2007	Best of Asia Conference	UBS	Boston, New York, London
June 2007	Regional Property Corporate Day	Morgan Stanley	Hong Kong
July 2007	Tokyo Post Results Roadshow	Daiwa Securities SMBC	Tokyo
October 2007	Greater China Investor Conference 2007	Citigroup	Macau

The Manager will continue to participate in roadshows and investors' conferences to enhance The Link REIT's relationship with the investor community and investors' understanding of The Link REIT's operations and developments.

Further details of the corporate governance policies and practices that are adopted by the Manager and The Link REIT are set out on pages 53 to 68 of The Link REIT's 2007 Annual Report.

## PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE LINK REIT'S LISTED UNITS

Neither the Manager nor any of The Link REIT's subsidiaries had purchased, sold or redeemed any of The Link REIT's listed units during the period. The Manager has agreed not to repurchase any unit of The Link REIT unless permitted to do so by the relevant codes and guidelines issued by the SFC from time to time.

## **CLOSURE OF REGISTER**

The record date for the interim distribution will be 3 December 2007. For the purpose of the distribution, the register of unitholders will be closed from 29 November 2007 to 3 December 2007, both dates inclusive. In order to qualify for the distribution, all transfers, accompanied by the relevant unit certificates, must be lodged with The Link REIT's unit registrar, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited at Shops 1712–1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong for registration not later than 4:30 pm on 28 November 2007. The distribution will be paid to the unitholders on or about 15 January 2008.

## DISTRIBUTION REINVESTMENT SCHEME

A distribution reinvestment scheme is available to unitholders and unitholders can elect to receive the distribution in respect of the period ended 30 September 2007 in the form of cash, or in the form of new units of The Link REIT, or a combination of both. An announcement explaining further information of the distribution reinvestment scheme will be released on or about 3 December 2007 and a circular containing the details together with the relevant election form or entitlement advice will be sent to unitholders on or about 7 December 2007.

#### **ISSUANCE OF THE INTERIM REPORT**

The interim report for the six months ended 30 September 2007 will be despatched to unitholders on or about 26 November 2007.

By order of the board of directors of **The Link Management Limited** (as Manager of The Link Real Estate Investment Trust) Nicholas Robert SALLNOW-SMITH Chairman of the Manager

Hong Kong, 15 November 2007

As at the date of this announcement, the board of directors of the Manager is comprised as follows: The Chairman (who is also an Independent Non-Executive Director) is Mr Nicholas Robert SALLNOW-SMITH. The Executive Directors are Mr Victor SO Hing Woh and Mr CHEW Fook Aun. The Non-Executive Directors are Mr Ian Keith GRIFFITHS, Mr John HO Chi On, Mr KEE Teck Koon and Mr PUA Seck Guan. The Independent Non-Executive Directors are Mr Michael Ian ARNOLD, Mr Leslie CHAO Tse Hou, Mr Anthony CHOW Wing Kin, Dr Patrick FUNG Yuk Bun, Mr Stanley KO Kam Chuen, Professor Richard WONG Yue Chim and Dr Allan ZEMAN.