

# Financial Results for the six months ended June 30 2014



## **Executive Summary (Grenville Turner)**

#### Market

- Constant newsflow on property market
  - London house price trends

- impact of MMR (Mortgage Market Review)
- BoE regulation of mortgage market
- uncertainty over interest rates

- Putting London into context
  - > 14% of transactions in London
  - > less than 1% of market transactions in Prime Central London
- Putting house prices into context
  - > 5% growth in last 12 months excluding London
- As expected, MMR has temporarily impacted on pace of growth:

	<u>Q1 2014</u>	Q2 2014	YTD 2014
BoE mortgage approvals	+33%	+11%	+22% (to June)
	Q1 2014	<u>April</u>	YTD 2014
Land Registry transactions	+35%	+30%	+34% (to April)

- Market broadly in line with our expectations
- Help to Buy achieving its objectives
- Continued measured approach to market expectations



## **Executive Summary**

#### 2014 H1 Results

- Strongest H1 financial result in last 7 years
- Progress across entire Group
- · Resilient market share in an expanding market
- Appointed as key partner for Barclays Bank on valuations
- Excellent progress from acquisitions including Tucker Gardner, Preston Bennett and Lambert Smith Hampton
- Lettings growth and investment continues
- Strategic investment continues
- New policy on capital returns:
  - increased normal dividend pay-out
  - > clear target on additional payments
  - > first special dividend £20m (Sept 2014)

#### **Outlook**

- Despite recent trends, market in line with our full year expectations (growth of 10 – 15%)
- Continued diversified investment underpins resilience of business
- Overall strategy remains robust
- Board composition now finalised
- Group in line to deliver our 2014 profit expectations
- Significant cash returns to shareholders now underway



## **Financial Summary (Jim Clarke)**

	2014 H1	2013 H1	Change
Income	£334.5m	£258.8m	+29%
EBITDA **	£45.0m	£26.4m	+70%
Profit before Tax*	£37.1m	£12.3m	+202%
Earnings per Share **	12.6p	5.3p	+138%
Interim Dividend	5.0p	2.0p	+150%
Special Dividend	9.0p	-	
Total Dividend	14.0p	2.0p	

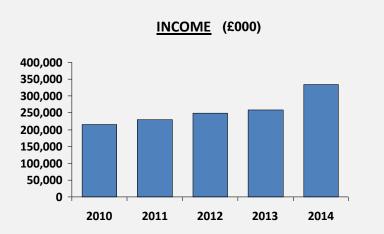
<sup>\*</sup> Before exceptional items, amortisation of intangibles and share-based payments

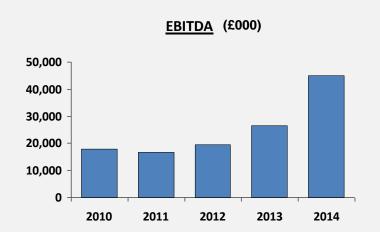
- Clear consistent strategy delivers strong financial performance
- Double digit underlying growth across all divisions
- EBITDA margin improvements across entire Group (13.5% v. LY 10.2%)
- PI trends in line with expectations



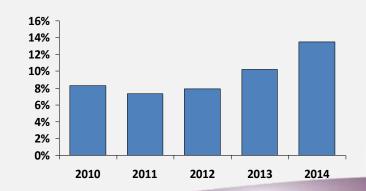
<sup>\*\*</sup> Before exceptional items, amortisation of intangibles and share-based payments and share of profit from JV

## **5 Year H1 Trends**





#### **EBITDA MARGIN**





## **Estate Agency (EA)**

	2014 H1		2013 H1	<ul> <li>+23% YoY increase on sales agreed with +20% increase on house exchanges</li> </ul>
• Income	<u>£m</u> 101.3	+17%	<u>£m</u> 86.9	<ul> <li>Pipe-line conversion taking longer</li> <li>June 2014 pipeline +£15m v. 2013</li> </ul>
• EBITDA	7.1	+264%	1.9	<ul> <li>Average cash fee broadly flat</li> <li>Q1 market share in line with full year 2013</li> </ul>
• EBITDA Margin	7.0%		2.2%	Continued investment in operations that improve service levels and reduce cost base



## **London & Premier (L&P)**

	2014 H1		2013 H1
	<u>£m</u>		<u>£m</u>
• Income	57.8	+15%	50.3
• EBITDA	10.4	+37%	7.6
• EBITDA Margin	18.1%		15.1%

- London becoming a more balanced market:
  - > Jan 2014 stock down / applicant numbers up v. last year
  - > June 2014 stock up / applicant numbers down v. last year
- Positive ripple effect into home counties
- Continued progress in residential development
- Hamptons London lettings
  - > income +10% in H1 2014
- Continued expansion
  - Stanmore / Greenwich / Blackheath/ Canary Wharf
  - new locations planned in Salisbury and Taunton



#### **Lettings**

		_	
	2014 H1		2013 H1
	<u>£m</u>		<u>£m</u>
• Income	64.3	+20%	53.5
• EBITDA	17.6	+44%	12.2
• EBITDA Margin	27.4%	-	22.9%

- Acquisitions Programme continues with 16 deals costing £25m (including Tucker Gardner) completed this year
- Organic expansion continues:
  - new Starts continue to mature, underlying profit up to £1.6m from a break-even position in H1 2013
  - > selective New Openings 6 in H1 2014
- Setting the benchmark for lettings
  - launch of industry leading Online Landlord Portal
  - won 22 Lettings Industry Awards YTD including 2, National Large Lettings Chain, Gold Awards



#### **Financial Services**

	2014 H1		2013 H1
	<u>£m</u>	•	<u>£m</u>
• Income	33.2	+13%	29.5
• EBITDA	5.4	+29%	4.2
• Underlying EBITDA*	5.9	+42%	4.9
Underlying EBITDA     Margin	17.9%		14.2%

Exchanged mortgages:

Q1	+34%
Q2	+17%

- Impact of MMR as expected:
  - > longer first appointments
  - longer service delivery times
  - will distort Q2 /Q3 trends
- Investment in core sales force consultants
  - > H1 2014 669 (H1 2013: 575)
  - now at optimum level
- H1 market share in line with full year 2013
- 2014 mortgage market
  - gross expected to be £200bn / +15% v. 2013
  - increased level of fixed rate mortgages means consumers now much better protected from any higher interest rate environment



<sup>\*</sup> Before investment in mortgage consultants

## **Surveying and Valuation**

	2014 H1		2013 H1
	<u>£m</u>	'	<u>£m</u>
• Income	28.1	+11%	25.4
• EBITDA	4.8	(-4%)	4.9
• Underlying EBITDA*	6.2	+25%	4.9
Underlying EBITDA     Margin	22.0%		19.5%

- Average fee rising year on year by 12%
- Significant tender success which sees the addition of Barclays Bank as a key business partner and launch of the contract from 1st July
- 90% pass rate on trainee development programme
- Mortgage Strategy Award for Best Panel
   Manager continues the award winning
   performance with a sharp focus on risk and
   audit



<sup>\*</sup> Before investment in surveyor graduate programme

# Conveyancing

	2014 H1		2013 H1
	<u>£m</u>	l	<u>£m</u>
• Income	13.5	+11%	12.1
• EBITDA	3.8	+11%	3.4
• Underlying EBITDA*	4.0	+16%	3.4
• Underlying EBITDA Margin	29.4%		28.3%

- In house pipelines up 34% at H1
- Acquired Bridgend office performing in line with expectations and now carrying almost 13% of in house Conveyancing pipelines
- Training school on plan with 23 trainee lawyers taken on since the beginning of the year
- Capacity build through Bridgend office and trainee schools totalling 21% in H1 2014



\* Before investment in conveyancing trainee programme

# **Lambert Smith Hampton**

			Pro-Forma	
	2014 H1		2013 H1	
	<u>£m</u>	'	<u>£m</u>	
• Income	33.7	+9%	30.9	
• EBITDA	3.2	+14%	2.8	
• EBITDA Margin	9.4%		9.0%	

- Investment in fee generating headcount
- Significant contract wins across a number of sectors and key clients, eg: Metropolitan Police, National Express, Homes & Community Agency
- Appointed as advisor to Cerberus on £5bn nonperforming loan portfolio
- Acquisition of BTW Shiells (largest property consultancy in N. Ireland)
- Continuing interaction with rest of Countrywide group to drive business opportunities



# **Conversion of Revenue to Profit**

	Revenue (£m)	EBITDA (£m)
• YOY increase	75.7	18.6
➤ Less: Lambert Smith Hampton	(33.7)	(3.2)
➤ Less: 2014 Acquisitions	(5.1)	(1.7)
➤ Less : Residential Investment Vehicle	(0.2)	0.2
Add : Non-recurring costs (Restructuring)	-	0.5
Add: Investment in graduate programme / customer care centres	-	3.1
	36.7	17.5
	L	48%



#### Residential Property Vehicle

- In advanced discussions with major institutional investors with a view to launching a Residential Property Investment Vehicle in H2 2014
- Seed capital investments continue, with a third property due for completion soon to bring total seed investments to circa £13m.
   Return on these investments is ahead of expectations to date

Medlock Place, Manchester



- A self-contained block of 30 apartments located in East Manchester in an area recently connected to the city's tram system and earmarked for regeneration investment
- Acquired for ~£2m at an unlevered gross yield of 8.5%

Mica Point, Birmingham



- 62 apartments in a series of low rise buildings located near central Birmingham, 5 minute walk from the city centre
- Acquired for ~£8m at an unlevered gross yield of 7.4%

Heathcoat House, Nottingham



- A self-contained block of 46 apartments located in Nottingham city centre close to rail and tram station, Broadmarsh Centre and Lace Market
- Acquired in July 2014 for ~£3.5m at an unlevered gross yield of 8.6%



## **Capital Structure and Leverage**

•	June 2014	-	Term loan	100.0	
		-	RCF	10.0	
		-	Cash	(43.5)	
		-	Other	7.6	
		-	Net debt	£74.1m	
•	Leverage (ti	mes	)	0.7	
•	Undrawn fa	cility	/	£40m	
•	Total facility <b>£150m</b> / matures 2017				

		H1 2014 £m
•	Cash from operations	43.8 *
•	Movement in working capital and provisions	(16.4)
•	Interest and tax	(8.3)
•	Acquisitions	(29.5)
•	Capex	(10.0)
•	Purchase of assets / investments	(11.4)
•	Zoopla proceeds	19.3
•	Dividends paid	(13.2)
•	Increase in net debt	£25.7m

forward

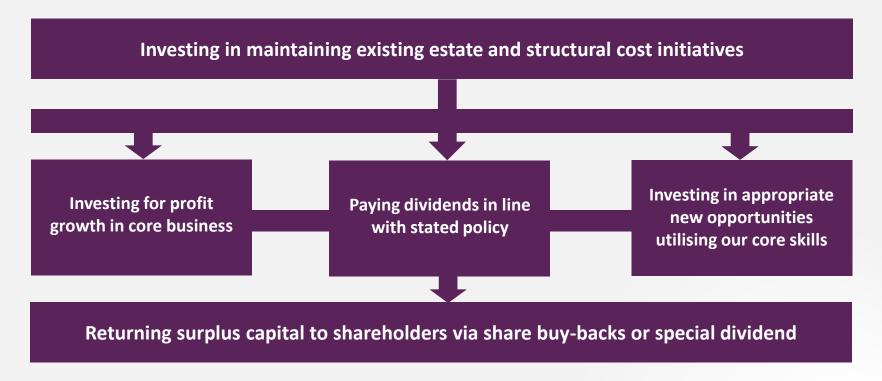


Targeting modest leverage going

<sup>\* 97%</sup> of EBITDA

#### **Capital Allocation**

- Strong cash flow generation / minimal cost of servicing debt
- No change to capital allocation priorities





#### **Dividend Policy – Capital Returns**

Underlying Dividends

 Target return increased from 25-35% of earnings to 35 – 45% from 2014

Supplemental Returns

- Assuming continuation of market recovery and in the absence of any major acquisition
- Target an additional 25% of earnings from 2015

Plus One-offs

- £20m Zoopla proceeds distributed 2014
- Monitor on-going options



## **Financial Summary**

- Strong growth in income, profits and margins
- Continuing investment in value creating acquisitions
- Healthy cash generation / modest debt levels
- Increased underlying dividend target
- Further opportunity for shareholder returns

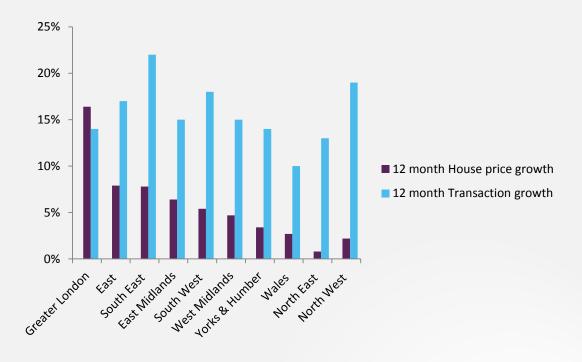


#### **Grenville Turner – Group CEO**

#### **The Last 12 Months – Transactions and Prices**

- House price growth in London running at 16.4%, compared to 6.4% nationally (or 5.3% stripping out London)
- 35% rise in transactions over last 12 months.
   Strongest growth in areas outside London

#### 12 month house price and transaction growth



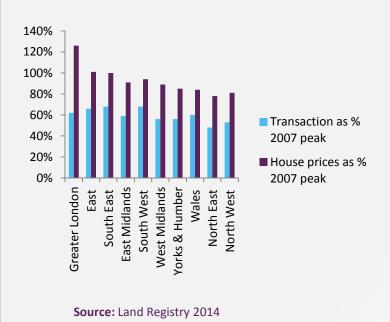
Source: Land Registry 2014



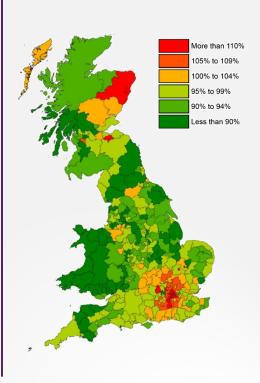
## **Against 2007 Peak**

- Average home in England and Wales worth 97% of its 2007 value, or 94% excluding London
- HPI in London means a home is now worth 126% of 2007 price, more than 150% Kensington and Chelsea
- Transactions remain well below 2007 (and long term average)

#### House prices and transactions vs 2007 levels

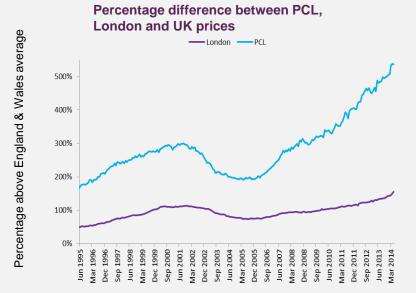


#### Prices May 2014 v. 2007 Peak





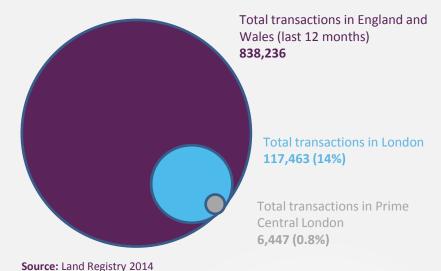
#### **The London Premium**



Source: Land Registry 2014

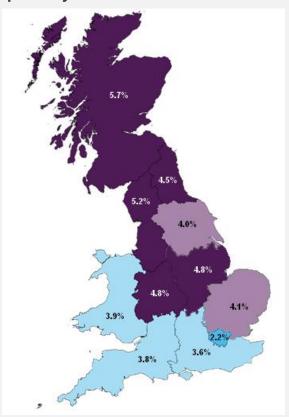
- The average PCL London home is now worth 547% more than the average house in the UK. London as a whole stands 156%, or £268,000 above the UK average
- Largest gap (in both percentage of cash terms) after a period of rebalancing between 2002 and 2006

## **Putting London into Context**

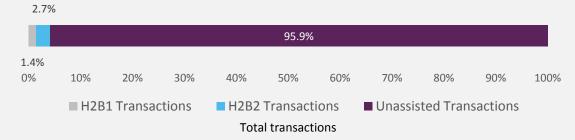


#### **Projected size of Help to Buy market (2014)**

It is important not to over estimate the impact of Help to Buy. In 2014 nearly 96% of the market (99% in London) will not involve Help to Buy



Source: Countrywide plc 2014



	H2B1 % of total mortgages	H2B2 % of total mortgages	Total H2B as a % of total mortgages
London	0.6%	1.6%	2.2%
South East	1.3%	2.3%	3.6%
South West	1.4%	2.4%	3.8%
Wales	1.4%	2.5%	3.9%
Yorkshire & Humber	1.5%	2.5%	4.0%
East of England	1.5%	2.6%	4.1%
North East	1.8%	2.7%	4.5%
East Midlands	2.2%	2.6%	4.8%
West Midlands	1.7%	3.1%	4.8%
North West	1.8%	3.4%	5.2%
Scotland	0.7%	5.0%	5.7%



## **Further Expansion - Acquisitions**

- Preston Bennett an EA and Land and New Homes business based in Stanmore, North London
- Humphreys Skitt & Co a two branch EA business in Blackheath and Greenwich
- The country lettings portfolio of Humberts Ltd seven portfolios in areas including Taunton, Chichester, Marlborough and Salisbury
- Runnett & Co a conveyancing firm based in Bridgend, Wales
- BTW Shiells a commercial property consultancy based in Northern Ireland



#### Further Expansion - Lettings Deals - 16 Completed









Jan 14 – Cambridge

Jan 14 - Winchester

Feb 14 – Manchester

Mar 14 - Penzance









Apr 14 – Romsey

Apr 14 - Paignton

Apr 14 - Sunninghill

Apr 14 – Nottingham









Apr 14 – Cheltenham

May 14 – Rochester

May 14 - Worcester

Jun 14 - Clapham









Jun 14 - Banbury

Jun 14 - Ramsgate

Jun 14 - Basildon

Jun 14 - Nottingham



# <u>Leading the industry – Marketing</u> <u>Balancing New With Trusted Channels</u>

Interim Results 30 June 2014

#### Radio





#### 2014 National Marketing Campaigns

They work......

- OPEN House Weekend 17th - 18th May

campaign overview.....

- 3 versions of creative to tie in with Ten Ticks - offline & online options.
- · Nearly 10,000 properties featured
- Over 40,000 viewings of these properties during the campaign
- Over 1,900 properties featured sold (STC) during the campaign





#### **Targeted TV**







## **Leading the Industry – Online**

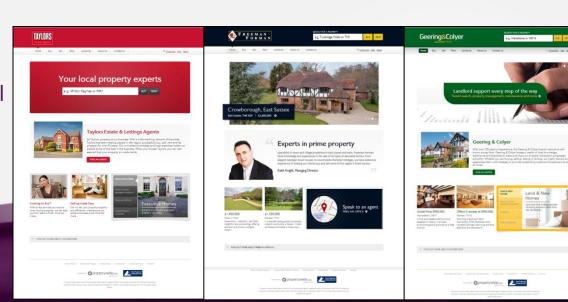
- Online traffic & leads
  - Own site visits over 17 million during H1 2014
    - Use of PPC, Display & Retargeting as well as investment in SEO have driven >20% YoY growth
  - 4 million leads driven into the business during H1 2014 > 30% growth
    - Own leads including Google+ = 42% of leads generated
    - 57% from Rightmove & Zoopla Property Group
    - 1% of leads from other sources







- Balancing own capabilities with trusted suppliers to drive interest for our customers
- Mobile development
  - Traffic levels continue to rise
  - Half of our customers interacting with us online are using a mobile platform
- Other online developments
  - Launch of Content Managed websites with "new" look & feel
  - Hamptons site developments including International search and digital marketing focus





#### **Investing in our People**

- The organisation has continued to grow both organically and by acquisition and there are now around 12,000 employees in the Group
- 700 new roles were created between January and June 2014



- Continued investment has been made in training, development and talent management programmes
- A key focus on recruitment:
  - over 100 graduates, apprentices and trainees taken on in Lettings, Estate Agents,
     Conveyancing and Surveying roles across the Group
  - a new Group recruitment software system being prepared for phased launch commencing Q3
- Our 2<sup>nd</sup> year Share Incentive Plan in Q2, with 30% take up (an increase on 2013 levels)
- Our second Group Employee Survey nearly 8,000 colleagues responded



## **Award Winning Teams**

>180 high-profile industry awards since 2008

A quality team to trust & rely on .... your trusted property partner

Other prestigious awards won during 2014;

- ESTAS 2014
  - Best Large Chain Estate Agent (Gold)
  - Best Large Chain Letting Agent (Gold)
  - Best Estate and Letting Agency Group (Winner)
- RESI Awards 2014
  - Letting Agency of the Year Award (Winner)
- Sunday Times Lettings Agency of the Year 2014
  - Best Property Management Agency 1001+ (Silver)
  - Best Large Lettings Agency (Bronze)
- Mortgage Strategy Awards 2014
  - Best Surveyor/Valuer Panel Managers (Winner)
- The British Mortgage Awards 2014
  - Business Leaders Broker, Conveyancer

#### **AWARD WINNING SERVICES**









THE SUNDAY TIMES

THE TIMES









of the Year

Winner 2014



THE ANTIMES









#### **Summary and Outlook**

#### Market

- continued measured approach to market expectations
- market is recovering as we expected
- sensible recovery in transactions and prices
- providing a solid platform for future growth

#### **Strategy**

- validation of our strategy based on broad based business across product lines and geographic spread
- four key areas of strategy remain consistent:
- Distribution Channels

Building on our physical and online distribution capability in order to optimise market share

2 Product and Services

Providing customers with full suite of market-leading products and services designed to meet their expectations

3 People

Recruiting, developing and retaining the most dynamic, talented and professional people in the industry

4 Infrastructure

Ensuring our people have access to a reliable, economic and scalable infrastructure



## **Summary and Outlook**

#### lettings expansion continues in-fill deals in other divisions as appropriate Investment no appetite for significant leverage H1 provides a solid foundation for delivery of 2014 plan strong momentum across our entire Group 2014 expected to show: best ever Group performance very strong cash generation EBITDA margin expected to be an all time high increasing level of shareholder returns Outlook increase in underlying level of dividend pay out clear policy on other returns special dividend confirmed to repatriate Zoopla proceeds new CEO on board from September with experienced pool of nonexecutive talent now in place Group now delivering anticipated benefits from strategic changes and value creating investments

