



# Continued Progress

Interim result for the six months ended 30 June 2019  
31 July 2019

Peter Long, Executive Chairman  
Paul Creffield, Group Managing Director  
Himanshu Raja, Group CFO



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This presentation has been presented in £ and £ms. Certain totals and change movements are impacted by the effect of rounding.

# Agenda

- 1. Executive summary**
- 2. Financial performance**
- 3. Return to Growth strategy – progress to date**
- 4. Conclusion and outlook**
- 5. Q&A**

# Executive summary

- **Delivered both financial and operating plan in line with the Board's expectations<sup>(1)</sup>**
- **Countrywide is now the clear market leader in sales and lettings<sup>(2)</sup>**
- **Self-help measures continue to drive efficiency and align cost base which**
  - has underpinned our delivery to date and
  - provides good momentum for the second half
- **New covenant package agreed with lenders provides the financial flexibility to execute the turnaround**

## Outlook

- **The second half EBITDA<sup>(1)</sup> will benefit strongly from H1 cost actions and the increased momentum in sales of complementary services**
- **Confident that the full year results<sup>(1)</sup> will be in line with the Board's expectations as a result of the self-help measures that have been implemented**
- **Political and Brexit uncertainty remains**

(1) Adjusted EBITDA (before the impact of IFRS16)

(2) Market share – based on Rightmove data, in Countrywide playing areas

A photograph of a young woman with blonde hair and a grey-haired older woman in a kitchen. The young woman is holding a white plate and a crumpled paper towel, looking at the older woman with a smile. The older woman is also smiling and looking at the young woman. They are standing in front of a kitchen sink with a black faucet. There are white plates and a black handle on the counter. In the background, there are kitchen utensils hanging on a rack and a refrigerator with papers on it.

# Financial performance

Himanshu Raja, Group CFO



# Group summary financials

For the six months ended 30 June	2019 £m	2018 <sup>(1)</sup> £m	YoY %
Income	290.6	302.9	-4%
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>(2)</sup>	20.2	9.9	104%
Adjusted EBITDA (pre-IFRS 16)	3.9	9.9	-61%
Depreciation & amortisation	(10.2)	(13.2)	23%
Operating profit	10.0	(3.3)	-406%
Net finance costs	(5.1)	(5.0)	-2%
Underlying profit before tax	4.8	(8.3)	-158%
Tax	(0.1)	1.9	-107%
Underlying profit	4.7	(6.4)	-174%
Exceptionals, amortisation etc	(42.5)	(200.0)	-79%
Loss after tax	(37.7)	(206.4)	-82%
Adjusted EPS (pence)	0.3	(2.7)	n/m

	As at 30 Jun 2019	As at 31 Dec 2018
Net debt	193.5	n/a
Net debt (pre-IFRS 16)	90.0	70.7
Leverage (pre-IFRS 16)	3.4x	2.4x

## Group income £291m, down 4%

- Good progress on estate agency, down 6% in challenging market .
- Lettings continued to be resilient down 2%
- Financial services in line with expectations
- B2B (excluding LSH) performing in line with expectations

## Adjusted EBITDA (pre-IFRS 16) £3.9m, down £6.0m

- Mostly attributable to our commercial business, LSH down £5m YoY

## Depreciation and amortisation charges reduced following the impairment of assets in 2017 and 2018

## Net finance costs include:

- c .£3m IFRS 16 interest
- Underlying debt interest reduced through lower debt

## Net £42.5m exceptional items, amortisation, etc. comprise:

- Impairment charges of £36.4m
- IT transformation costs of £2.1m
- Restructuring charges of £2.6m
- Other (net) £1.4m

## Net debt increased £19.3m from year end to £90.0m (pre-IFRS 16) at 30 June, after investment of £8.9 million in IT transformation

(1) Restated from prior year following amendment of the Group's opening IFRS 15 transition adjustment and H1 2018

(2) Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, amortisation, exceptional items, employment-linked contingent consideration, share-based payments and share of profits from joint venture,

# H1 Segmental performance

Adjusted EBITDA (pre-IFRS 16) For the six months ended 30 June	2019 £m	2018 <sup>(1)</sup> £m	YoY £'m %	
Sales & Lettings	(4.5)	(3.7)	(0.8)	-22%
Financial Services	6.4	7.3	(0.9)	-12%
B2B	7.6	12.6	(5.0)	-40%
Other segments	(5.6)	(6.3)	0.6	10%
<b>Total Group</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>(6.0)</b>	<b>-61%</b>

## Sales & Lettings

- After 1 month of tenant fee ban, 2019 impact expected to be c. £6m
- Conveyancing income up 27% YoY
- Benefit of cost actions

## Financial Services

- Investment in mortgage consultants impacting H1
- Expect productivity gains in H2

## B2B

- Robust performance in Surveying
- Strong momentum in Coveyancing
- YoY B2B delta £5m mostly due to weakness in capital and commercial transactions markets in LSH

## Other segments

- Reflects on going cost reductions

## Cost Actions

### Underpinned H1, full benefits will be realised in H2

- *Branch closures*
- *Staffing levels aligned to local market activity*
- *Return on marketing investment carefully assessed*
- *Discretionary and overhead cost reductions*

(1) Restated from prior year following amendment of the Group's opening IFRS 15 transition adjustment and H1 2018

# Cash flow

For the six months ended 30 June	2019 Post-IFRS16 £m	2018 <sup>(1)</sup> Pre-IFRS16 £m
<b>Adjusted EBITDA</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>9.9</b>
Changes in working capital:		
Decrease in trade & other receivables	3.4	3.4
Decrease in trade & other payables	(6.8)	(11.8)
Increase in provisions	(0.6)	3.0
<b>Operating Cash Flow (OCF)</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<i>OCF conversion rate</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<b>45.5%</b>
<b>Use of Funds</b>		
Capital expenditure (steady state)	(2.5)	(2.1)
Repayment of finance leases	(12.8)	(1.6)
Interest, Tax and Pension	(6.1)	(4.0)
<b>Cash from Operations</b>	<b>(5.2)</b>	<b>(3.3)</b>
Deferred & contingent consideration	(4.5)	(7.2)
IT transformation	(8.9)	(3.0)
Restructuring	(1.2)	(14.2)
Investments, buybacks, finance fees	-	13.0
<b>Total Cash Flow</b>	<b>(19.8)</b>	<b>(14.7)</b>
RCF drawn	15.0	30.0
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(4.8)</b>	<b>15.3</b>
Opening cash	17.4	22.5
<b>Closing cash</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>37.9</b>

## Cash from operations comparable YoY

### Impact of IFRS16 on 2019 (no restatement of comparatives)

- Adjusted EBITDA increased by £16.3m
- Finance lease payments increased by capital elements of operating lease rentals

IT transformation programme on track and had £8.9m cash investment in H1 19.

Restructuring of £1.2m from self help measures to re-align the cost base to current market conditions

Completed triennial pension valuation with no change in contributions – at £2m for period 2020-2022

(1) Restated from prior year following the amendment of the Group's opening IFRS 15 transition adjustment and H1 2018 results.



# Guidance

**Confident that our full year results<sup>(1)</sup> will be in line with the Board's expectations**

## **Adjusted EBITDA<sup>(1)</sup>**

- **Sales and Lettings**

- Good momentum, with pipeline in line with H1 prior year
- Underpinned by self-help measures on cost and resourcing, which will offset the effect of the tenant fee ban

- **Financial Services**

- H1 reflects investment to build back mortgage consultants
- Expect productivity gains in H2

- **B2B**

- Surveying contract retentions provide confidence in H2
- Strong momentum on Conveyancing

**Offset by**

- Weakness in capital and commercial transactions markets in LSH

(1) Adjusted EBITDA (before the impact of IFRS16)

# Return to Growth strategy — progress to date

Paul Creffield and Himanshu Raja



# Return to Growth strategy

## Market context

- Market conditions are very challenging as a result of significant uncertainty in relation to the political environment in the UK and around the outcome of the Brexit;
- As a result of political uncertainty and Brexit we are seeing consumer sentiment being affected and a deterioration in confidence
- Transaction levels are declining down 9.9% in Q1 2019 compared to 2018<sup>(1)</sup>
- New properties coming to the market (listings) are 7% down YOY<sup>(2)</sup>
- These conditions are also impacting the commercial transactional and capital markets both from an occupier and investor perspective

However, the medium and long term macro economic conditions are positive for the housing market

(1) Land Registry data

(2) Rightmove data



# Strategy to turnaround the business to profitable growth

## 2018 implementation of “Back to Basics” – what we said...

1. Back to Basics in Sales and Lettings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rebuild and sustain the register and pipeline</li><li>• Right level of staffing, spans of control and capability</li><li>• Pricing and fee discipline</li><li>• Decentralise decision making and empower branch network</li><li>• Restore Lettings capability and expertise</li><li>• Turnaround loss making branches</li></ul>
2. Grow complementary services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grow complementary services in Financial Services and Conveyancing</li></ul>
3. Continued growth in B2B and FS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase number of mortgage and protection consultants in branch network</li><li>• Improve remortgage conversion</li><li>• Continue to expand digital offerings in Surveying and Valuation</li><li>• Combined offering to developers and property investors</li><li>• Improved productivity and customer service</li></ul>
4. Cost efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Invest to address legacy IT infrastructure and reduce costs</li><li>• Rationalise the end to end processes in the customer contact centres</li><li>• Reduce overheads and drive cost efficiency in central support functions</li></ul>
5. Financial discipline and cash flow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aim to reduce leverage to below 1.0x in medium term</li><li>• Improve working capital discipline and capital allocation</li><li>• Timeliness of billing and collections</li></ul>

# Strategy to turnaround the business to profitable growth

**“Back to Basics” – what we have done...**

## 1. Back to Basics Sales and Lettings

- Listings market share up at 8.4% Sales and 7.3% Lettings in June 2019 (Dec 18: Sales 7.8% and Lettings 7.25%)
- Fee discipline in place with fixed fees with pipeline underpinned by material level of fixed fee arrangement
- Closed loss making branches that are non-viable
- Rebased staffing numbers to reflect the current market

## 2. Grow complementary services

- Complementary services continuing to build with p in the £ growing from 43p at Dec. 2018 to 49p at June 2019
- Sales management driving close alignment on all complementary services - FS, Conveyancing, Surveying
- Strong focus on complimentary services and sales drive

## 3. Continued growth in B2B and FS

- Mortgage consultant numbers grown. Branch coverage now 84% from 71% at the end of 2018
- Invested in Conveyancing teams to build capacity
- Key client contracts retained in our core surveying business as well as client contracts in LSH

## 4. Cost efficiency

- IT transformation mobilised and underpins three year cost opportunity of 30-35% cost savings off IT cost based expected in 2021
- Transformation underway to establish optimal customer contact centre design and processes and planning to achieve 15% cost savings p.a.
- Self help measures actioned to protect future profits

## 5. Financial discipline and cash flow

- Supportive lender group have relaxed covenants to facilitate the build back in a very challenging market
- Net debt at 30 June 2019 at £90.0m and leverage at 3.4x and to below 1x over medium term
- Cash from operations £0.7m lower than in H1 18 despite weaker trading.
- A continued focus on debt collection and further improvement in LSH with debtor days now 53 (2018: 60 and 2017: 72)

# 1. Back to basics in Sales and Lettings is working

Resilient performance in a challenging market, with cost actions providing momentum for H2

For the six months ended 30 June	2019 £m	2018 <sup>(1)</sup> £m	YoY %
Income	157.9	164.8	-4%
Adjusted EBITDA	8.4	(3.7)	n/m
Adjusted EBITDA (before IFRS 16)	(4.5)	(3.7)	-21%
<b>Key Performance Indicators</b>			
Exchanges	21,623	22,026	-2%
Average cash fee (£)	3,235	3,370	-4%
Average house price (£)	286,722	293,929	-2%
Managed properties (Average)	86,064	87,846	-2%
Employees FTE (Average)	5,605	5,644	-1%

(1) New Homes and Auctions businesses have moved to Sales and Lettings and B2B during 2019 and therefore KPI comparatives have been restated accordingly

(2) Sourced: Rightmove data

(3) Sourced: Land Registry data

**Income £158m, down 4% (compared with 7% H1 2018)**

**Sales, good progress on estate agency, down 6%**

- No. 1 for Sales listings<sup>(2)</sup> at 8.4% in our playing areas
- Exchanges 2% down YoY (market reduction of 9.9% in Q1<sup>(3)</sup>)
- Fee levels held >£3,000
- Average FTE down 1%: exit FTE down 350 due to H1 cost actions

**Lettings continued to be resilient down 2% reflecting the impact of tenant fee ban**

- No. 1 Lettings agent for listings in our playing areas at 7.3%
- Landlord retention for the UK area has recovered from 80.5% in 2017 to 84.0% 2019
- Properties under management down 2%
- Tenant fee ban mitigated

**Self help measures implemented**

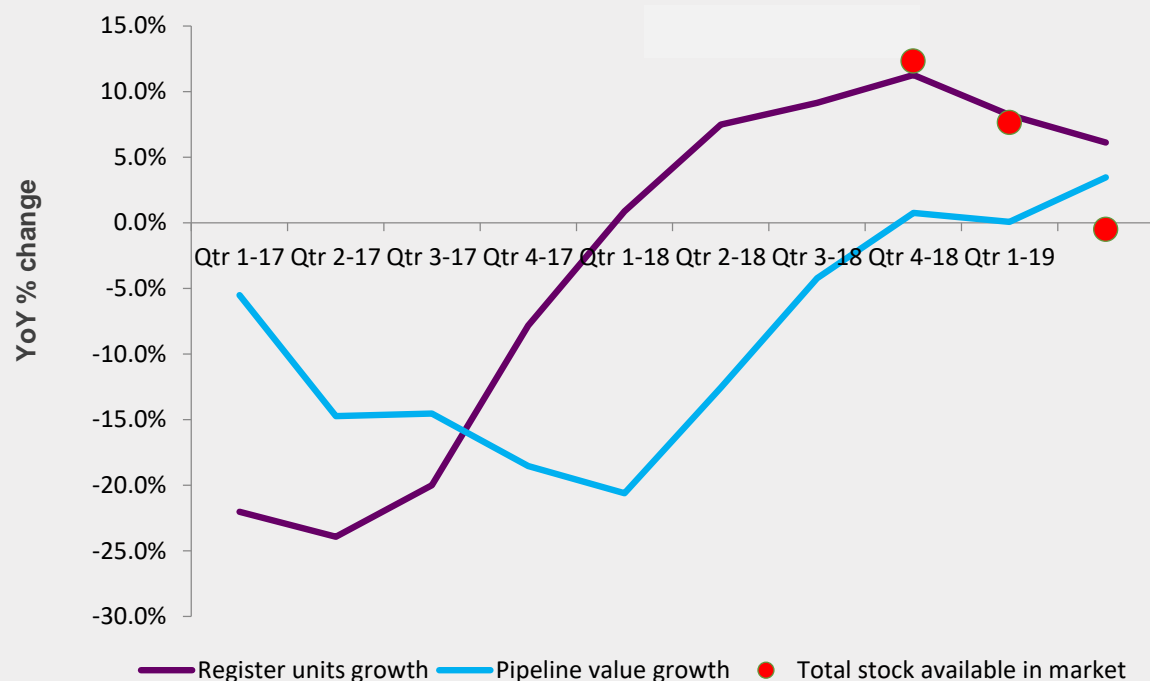
- Conveyancing instructions up 17% YoY
- Cost actions in place during H1 is driven through branch closures, staff reductions and aligning spend to market size – mitigates all the tenant fee ban



# 1. Back to basics in Sales and Lettings

Continued progress in a challenging market, with strong closing pipeline underpinning H2

## Quarter on Quarter Growth (excluding closed branches)



## Sales

- Income down 6% (vs down 23% H1 2018)
- Excluding closed branches, sales income was 3% down YoY
- Register up 6% (excluding closed branches)
- Pipeline up 3% (excluding closed branches) providing good confidence for H2
- Complementary services 49p in £ (H1 2018 43p)

Source: Rightmove data available from Q4 17.

Total stock available in the market represents the number of properties for sale and those sold subject to contract for all agents that operate in our playing areas

# 1. Back to basics in Sales and Lettings

Continued progress in North and South, strong closing pipeline underpinning H2

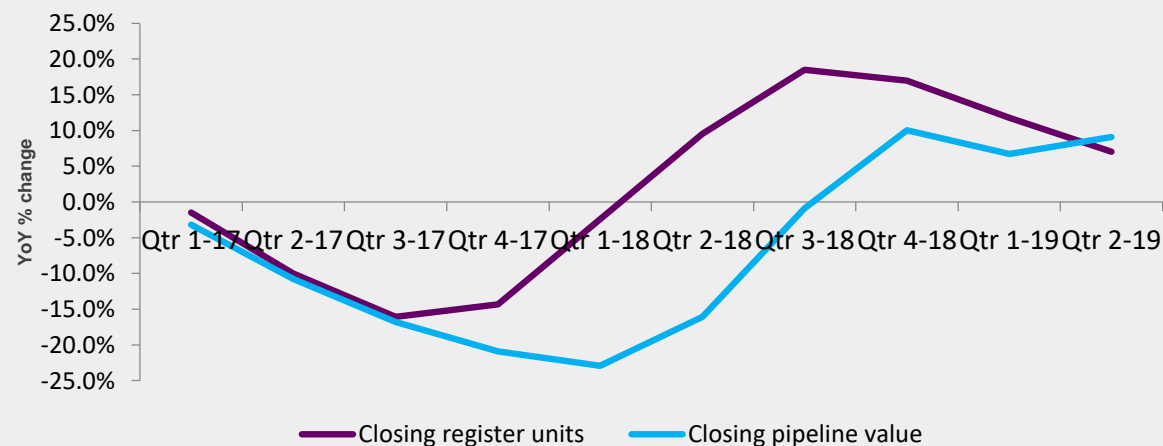
North (excluding closed branches)



## North

- Income flat YoY (vs down 16% H1 2018)
- Register up 6% excluding closed branches
- Pipeline up 2% excluding closed branches but turn is pipeline turn is better than South
- Complementary services 75p in £

South (excluding closed branches)



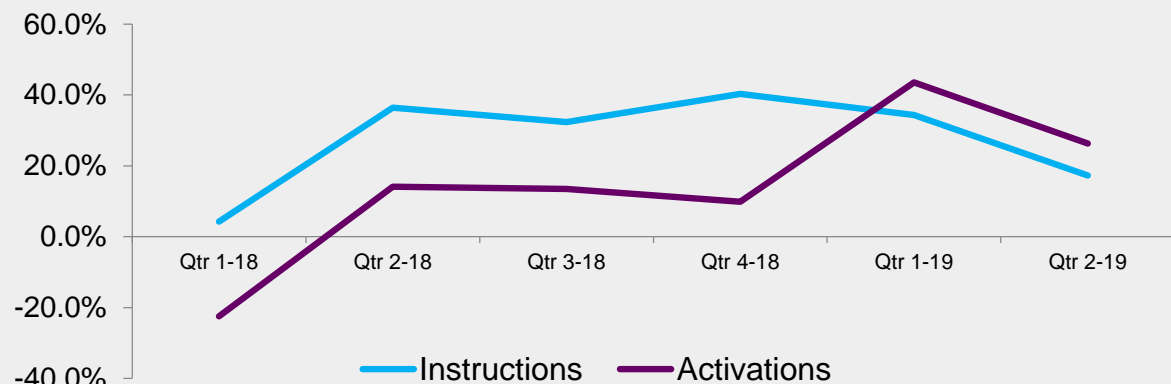
## South

- Income flat YoY (vs down 16% H1 2018)
- Register up 11% excluding closed branches
- Pipeline up 9% (excluding closed branches) providing good confidence for H2
- Complementary services 58p in £

## 2. Strong momentum on complementary services

Good progress in the first half of 2019; good momentum in Conveyancing, lag in FS due to new hires

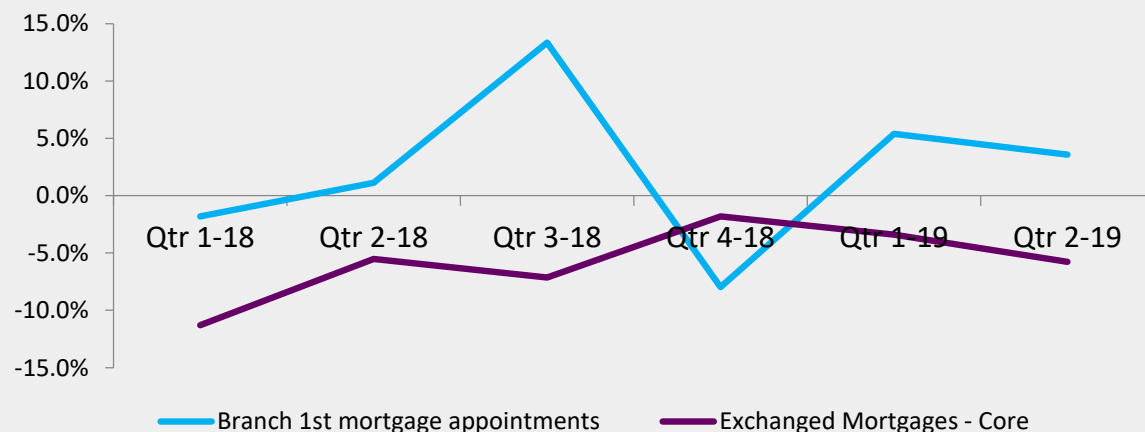
### Conveyancing attachment



### Conveyancing

- We are one of the leading property conveyancing firms in the UK
- Gross conveyancing revenue increased 8% H1 YoY
- On average we achieve legal exchange 13 days faster than other firms used by our Sales clients
- 2019 won four awards: What Mortgage Awards: Best Legal Services provider – Highly Commended, Modern Law Conveyancing Awards: Conveyancing Firm of the Year – Wales – Won, Outstanding Commitment to Training - Highly Commended, Conveyancer of the Year Highly commended

### Financial services – mortgages



### Financial Services

- Focus for FS was to build back the footprint of MPCs
- To improve advisory referral rate from branch network
- Exchanges mortgages lag as our new MPCs reach productivity

\* See glossary for definition



# 3a. Grow B2B

Strong H1 performance in Surveying and Conveyancing and good for H2  
H1 YoY decline wholly due to commercial transactions in LSH

For the six months ended 30 June	2019 £m	2018 <sup>(1)</sup> £m	YoY %
Income	92.5	97.4	-5%
Adjusted EBITDA	10.1	12.6	-20%
<i>Adjusted EBITDA (before IFRS 16)</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>12.6</i>	<i>-40%</i>
<b>Key Performance Indicators</b>			
Surveys and valuations completed	192,224	192,097	0%
Conveyancing completions	13,247	11,398	16%
Corporate properties under management	40,134	36,930	9%
Employees FTE (Average)	2,024	2,335	-13%

## Surveying

- Maintained allocations with three of our largest clients
- Launched Homefact product with Santander for first time buyer customers, giving them more information about their new home
- Valuations completed consistent with H1 2018

## Conveyancing

- Total group instructions up 17% YoY
- Completions up 16% YoY and Gross revenue has increased by 8% - strong momentum into H2
- Investment in staff to build capacity has cost £0.6m in H1 19
- In-house pipeline 18% higher at 30 June YoY

## Lambert Smith Hampton

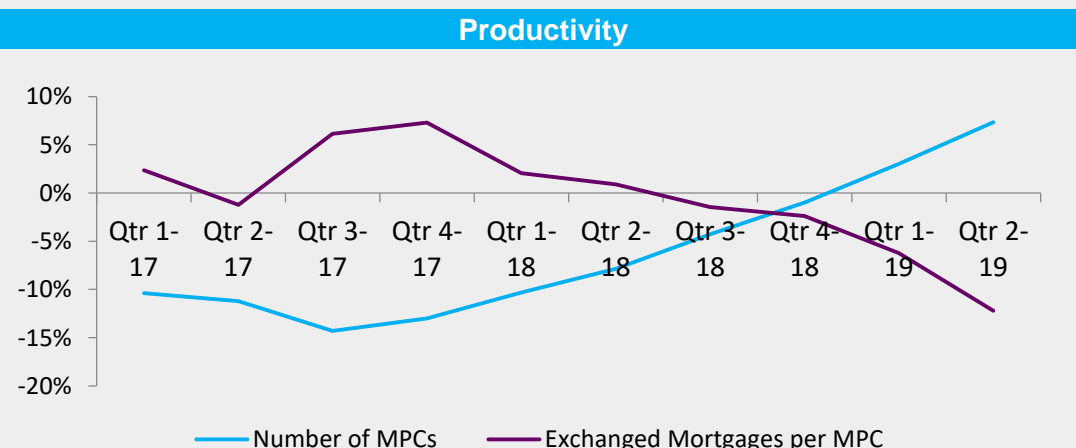
- Delayed completion of a number of transactional deals
- Continued strength in consultancy

(1) New homes business and Auctions have moved to Sales and Lettings from B2B during 2019 and therefore KPI comparatives have been restated accordingly

## 3b. Grow Financial Services

### Investment in Mortgage Consultants has had a short term impact on profitability

For the six months ended 30 June	2019 £m	2018 £m	YoY %
Income	40.1	40.2	0%
Adjusted EBITDA	6.9	7.3	-6%
Adjusted EBITDA (before IFRS 16)	6.4	7.3	-12%
<b>Key Performance Indicators</b>			
Gross mortgage value (core) £'bn	2.3	2.4	-3%
Gross mortgage value (non core) £'bn	7.4	7.1	5%
Gross mortgage value (total) £'bn	9.8	9.5	3%
Total mortgages arranged (number)	51,685	51,134	1%
Employees FTE (Average)	1,009	977	3%



### Mortgage distribution

- 3% growth in gross mortgage distribution to £9.8bn (2018: £9.5bn); (market growth May YTD 1%<sup>(1)</sup>)
- 1% growth in total mortgages arranged
- Branch channel positively impacted by increase in MPC numbers following growth plan during H1 2019
- MPCs (Average H1 2019: 547 vs H1 2018: 523)
- Exchanges mortgages lag as MPCs reach productivity

### Strong performance from alternative channels in terms of number of mortgages exchanged

- The Buy to Let Business/telephony + 16%
- The Mortgage Bureau + 2%
- Mortgage Intelligence Network + 1%

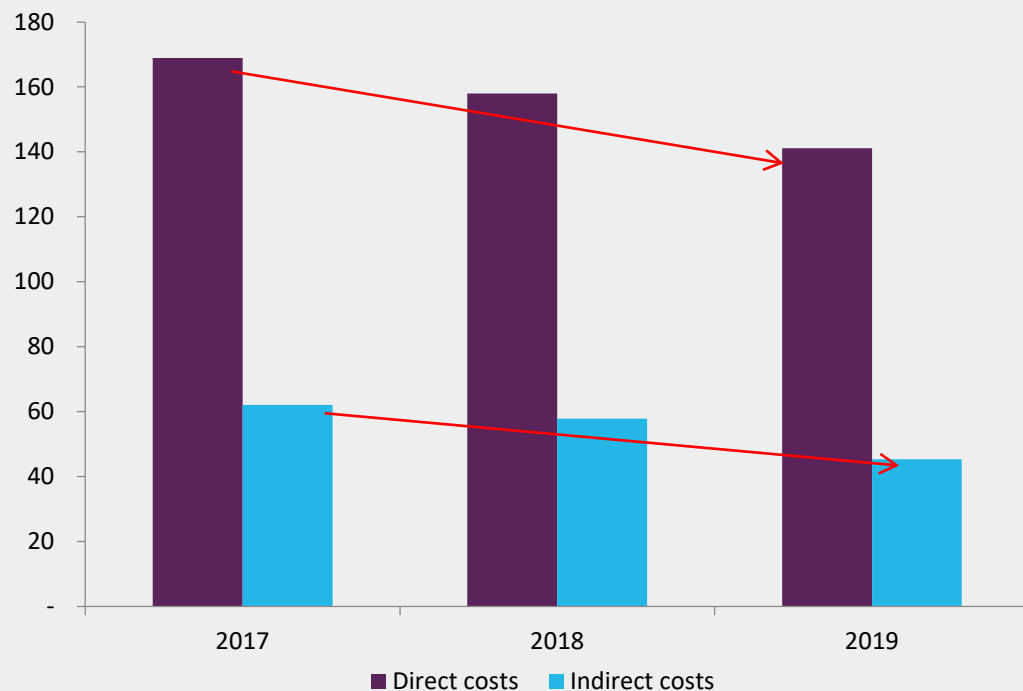
Productivity per Mortgage Consultant increases three fold for those in post > 12 months compared to those recently joined

Currently c30% of Consultants have < 12 months service

(1) Source: UK Finance (Council of Mortgage Lenders)

# 4. Cost efficiency

First half cost actions underpinned H1 and give confidence in H2



## Indirect costs

- Between 2014 and 2017 increased by £32m in part due to acquisitions and also centralisation under prior strategy
- Reduced from 2017 to 2018 by 14%
- Re-invested £6m in the build back of UK Sales & Lettings

## Cost efficiency on track

- Invest to address our legacy IT infrastructure and line of business applications
- Contact centre optimisation to improve customer experience through localisation and improved productivity
- Right size and drive cost

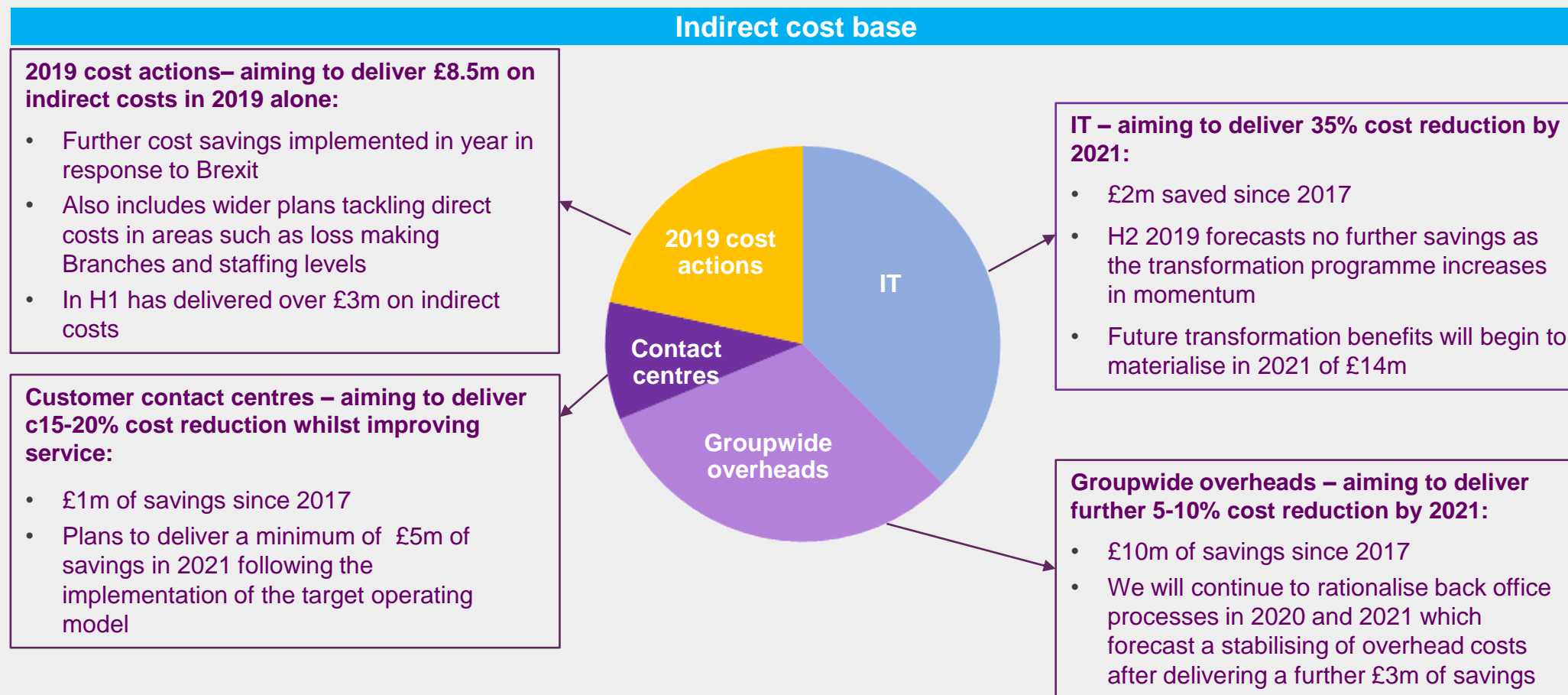
## Direct costs self-help measures implemented

- Branch closures
- Staffing levels aligned to local market activity
- Return on marketing investment carefully assessed
- Discretionary and overhead cost reductions



# 4. Cost efficiency

Targeting a further £15-20m cost out by 2021



# 5. Financials discipline and cash flow

## Supportive lender group providing the financial flexibility to execute the turnaround

### Debt Facilities and Covenants

- Committed facilities of £125m until September 2022
  - Net debt (before IFRS 16) 30 June 2019 £90.0m (December 2018: £70.7m)
  - Net debt: adjusted EBITDA 3.4x (December 2018: 2.2x)

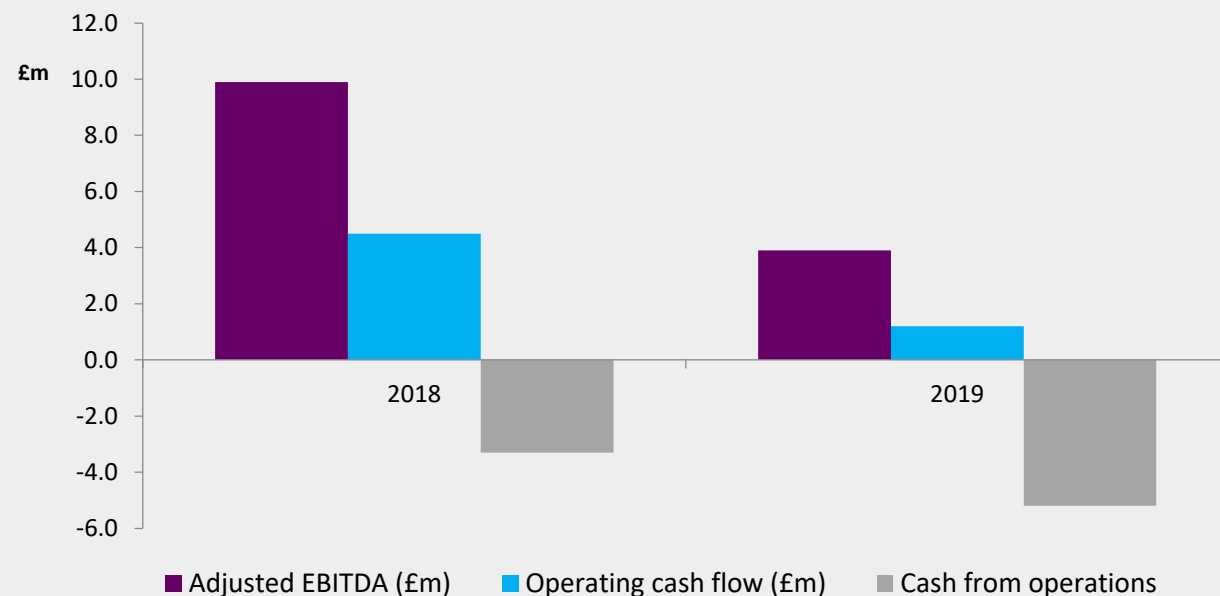
Committed to reducing net debt to adjusted EBITDA to < 1x in the medium term

Reporting date	Jun 19	Sep 19	Dec 19	Mar 20	Jun 20	Sep 20	Dec 20	Mar 21	Jun 21	Sep 21
New leverage covenant	6.00x	4.75x	4.25x	4.25x	4.00x	4.00x	3.75x	3.75x	3.75x	2.50x
Previous leverage covenant	6.00x	4.75x	4.25x	4.00x	3.50x	2.75x	2.50x	2.50x	2.50x	2.50x

Bank covenant testing is based on “frozen” GAAP, prior to the adoption of IFRS 16

# 5. Financial discipline and cash flow

Meaningful cash generation in H2 from operations offset by investment in IT



- **Cash from operations £1.9m lower than H1 18 despite weaker adjusted EBITDA (before IFRS 16)**
- **H1 is seasonally weak for cash generation following the seasonal trend of the property market**
- **Continue to improve working capital management**
  - Debt collection in our new homes and commercial teams has reduced the ageing of debts by £4.2m
  - Further improvements are planned to release more cash on time from our clients
- **Improved capital discipline and capital allocation through better processes and management**
  - Disciplined steady state capex management
  - investment in IT transformation
  - Improved procurement

# Conclusion and Outlook

Peter Long,  
Executive Chairman





# Conclusions and Outlook

## Continued progress

- **Countrywide is the clear market leader<sup>(1)</sup> in sales and lettings**
- **Self-help measures continue to drive efficiency and align cost base which**
  - has underpinned our delivery to date and
  - provides good momentum for the second half
- **New covenant package agreed with lenders provides the financial flexibility to execute the turnaround**

## Outlook

- **The second half EBITDA<sup>(2)</sup> will benefit strongly from H1 cost actions and the increased momentum in sales of complementary services, fully mitigating the impact of the tenant fee ban**
- **Confident that the full year results<sup>(2)</sup> will be in line with the Board's expectations**
- **Political and Brexit uncertainty remains**

(1) Market share – based on Rightmove data, in Countrywide playing areas

(2) Adjusted EBITDA (before the impact of IFRS16)

# Questions

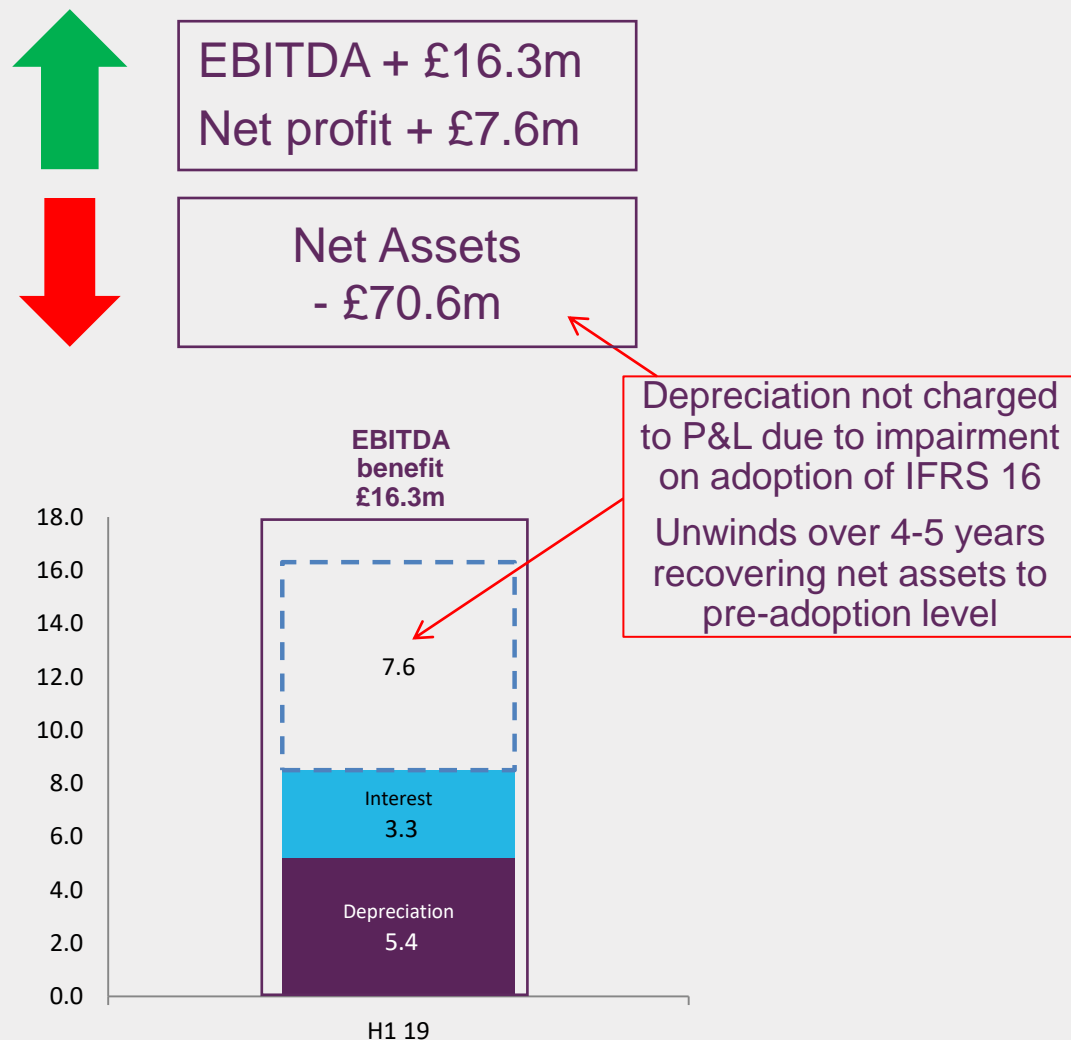


# Appendices





# IFRS 16 - Lease Accounting



## IFRS16 has no impact on

- Income
- Net cash
- How we run the business
- Finance facilities

## IFRS16 involved a review of

- 1,000 property leases
- 3,500 car leases
- Master leases for printers and equipment
- Majority of leases < 5 years

## We have adopted the modified retrospective approach

- Balance sheet transition 1 Jan 2019
- No change to 2018 or earlier results
- Lease liabilities add £123.3m to balance sheet debt, mostly unwinds over 4-5 years

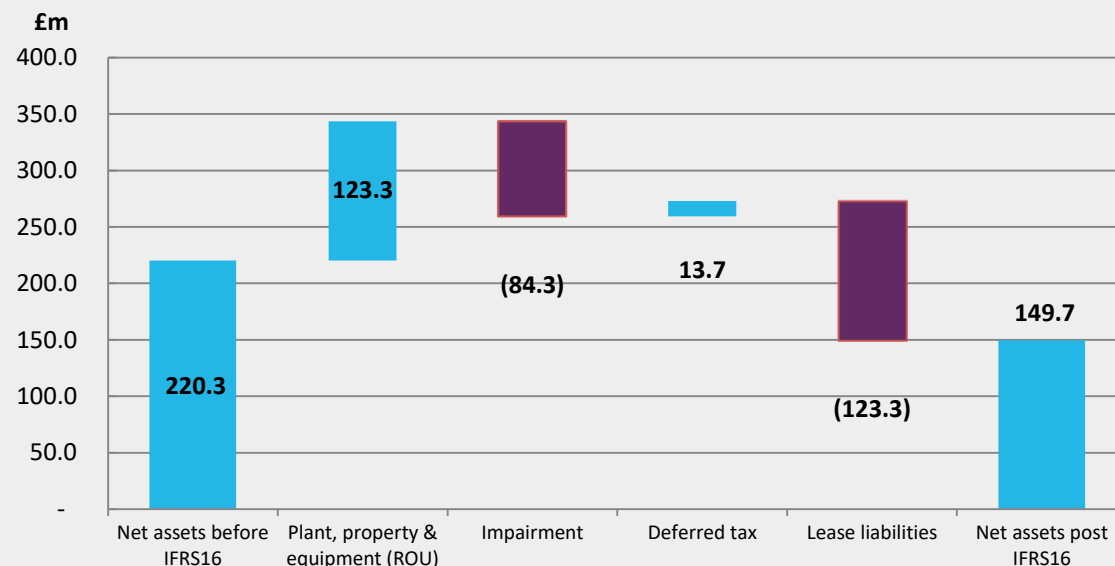
## Finance facilities and net debt

- Covenant testing based on financial statements before the impact of IFRS16

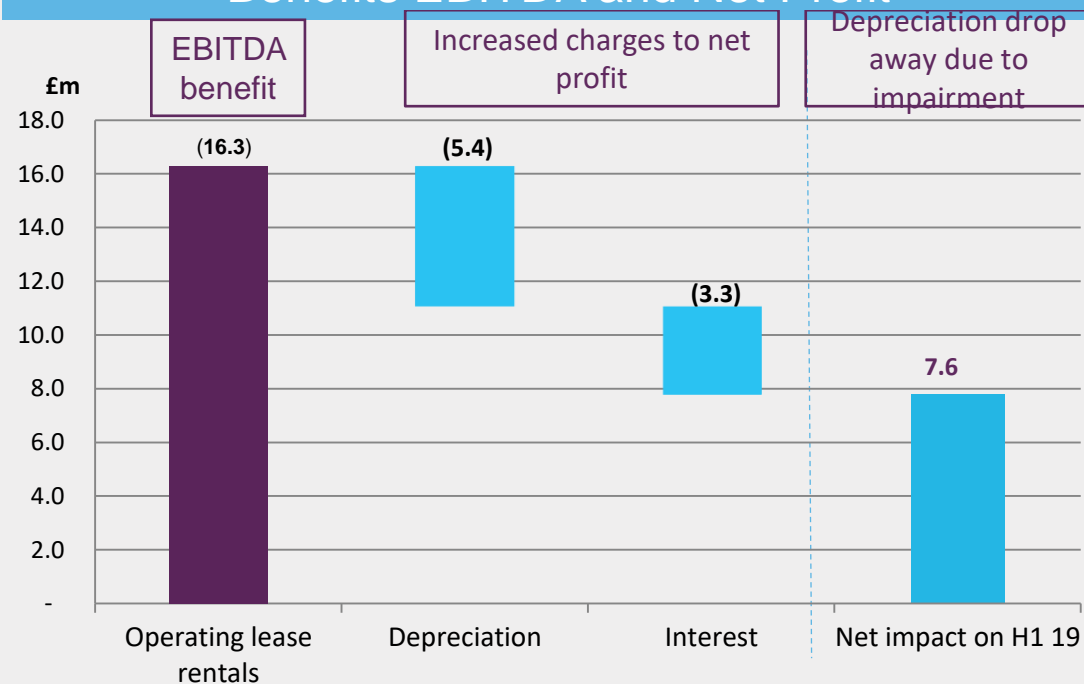


# FY 19 Impact of IFRS 16 – Lease Accounting

## Opening balance sheet adjustments



## Benefits EBITDA and Net Profit



- IFRS 16 adopted on 1 January 2019 and premises, cars and equipment operating lease liabilities brought onto the balance sheet
- Some assets impaired on transition
- Depreciation charges with interest will be significantly lower than rental costs, owing to impairment
- Balance sheet net debt increased by £123.3m, will mostly unwind over 4-5 years