

Full Year

Results

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# **Appendix**

A Supplementary information





FY20

**Financial Results** 



# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

A more resilient and efficient business model

# **FY20 HIGHLIGHTS**

Legacy issues and related exceptional costs now largely resolved

FY20 retail challenges offset, as planned, by cost efficiencies

Significantly ahead of guidance on achieving sustainable operational efficiencies

FS challenges driven by industry-wide regulation

Increased digital penetration across Womenswear and Menswear brands

Stock levels down 15.5% on FY19

Adjusted PBT £59.5m. Lower than guidance due to lower than expected IFRS9 benefit and enhanced stock provisioning

# **RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**

Improved balance sheet and new banking arrangements provide significant liquidity headroom and flexibility

Q1 FY21 strong cash generation despite Covid-19 disruption resulting in materially reduced net debt

Materially reduced stock levels at FY20 year-end

# **REVENUE BY BRANDS**

#### Group revenue performance driven by strategic decision to remove unprofitable marketing expenditure

			Di	gital Penet	ration
£m	FY20	FY19	Change	FY20	FY19
JD Williams	153.1	159.5	-4.0%	81%	76%
Simply Be	128.0	120.1	+6.6%	98%	96%
Ambrose Wilson	45.4	51.3	-11.5%	60%	48%
Womenswear	326.5	330.9	-1.3%	84%	79%
Menswear <sup>1</sup>	66.9	64.0	+4.5%	97%	96%
Product Brands	170.2	202.6	-16.0%	82%	75%
Product revenue excluding stores and USA	563.6	597.5	-5.7%	85%	79%
USA	4.1	11.4	-64.0%	91%	80%
Stores	-	6.9	-100.0%	-	-
Total Product revenue	567.7	615.8	-7.8%	85%	79%
Financial Services revenue	290.5	298.6	-2.7%	-	-
Total revenue	858.2	914.4	-6.1%	-	-

#### **Product**

- In line with strategic focus, digital penetration increased across all brands
- Digital growth

Womenswear: 5.5%

Menswear: 5.5%

- Good growth from Simply Be and Jacamo
- Overall product revenue reduction reflects strategic decision to scale back unprofitable marketing and recruitment

#### **Financial services**

 Regulatory change-led to a smaller debtor book and thereby lower interest income and lower admin fees

Note 1 - Menswear is the Jacamo brand

# PRODUCT MARGIN GROSS PERFORMANCE

#### Margin impacted by trading and sales mix effects

£m	FY20	FY19	Change
Revenue	567.7	615.8	-7.8%
Gross Profit	279.1	320.8	-13.0%
Gross Margin	49.2%	52.1%	-290bps

Discounting and Promotions due to highly promotional retail market

#### **UNDERLYING GROSS MARGIN RECONCILIATION**



Stock provision reflecting discontinued brands and lower apparel sales

Product mix reflecting increase in Home sales and less international revenue

# FINANCIAL SERVICES GROSS MARGIN PERFORMANCE

#### Revenue impacted by regulatory changes

£m	FY20	FY19	Change
Revenue	290.5	298.6	-2.7%
Gross Profit	160.7	176.9	-9.1%
Gross Margin	55.3%	59.2%	-390bps

#### **UNDERLYING GROSS MARGIN RECONCILIATION**

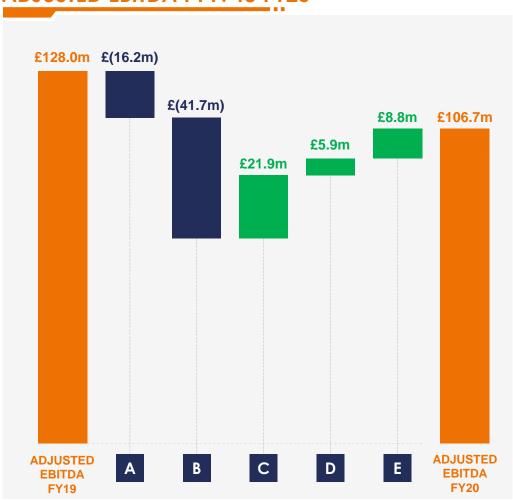


- A Operational cost savings largely due to USA exit
- B Lower profit achieved on spot debt sales
  - The Group normally undertakes 1 or 2 spot sales of written off debt during a financial year
- C Lower rate of recovery from external debt markets
  - The Group undertakes a monthly forward flow of debt sales.
     During the year the rate was lower than the prior year.

# **ADJUSTED EBITDA PROGRESSION**

Strong delivery on operating cost savings counterbalances product gross margin decline

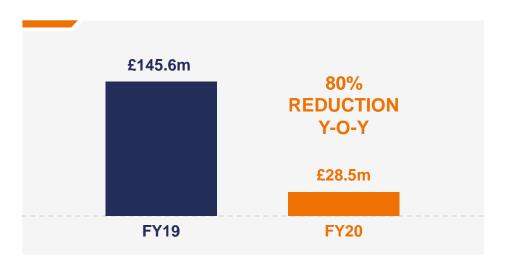
#### **ADJUSTED EBITDA FY19 to FY20**



- A FS gross profit
- B Product gross profit
- C Marketing & production
  - Marketing costs down 13.8% year on year in line with the Group's strategy of scaling back offline marketing and recruitment and improving marketing efficiency
  - Cost savings achieved despite strategic investment in building our brands in the period and expanding our social media presence
- D Warehouse & fulfilment
  - Warehouse and fulfilment costs decreased by 7.0% to £78.1m, primarily driven by lower volumes
- E Admin & payroll
  - Decreased by 6.9% to £119.1m, driven predominantly by continued Head Office efficiencies

Adjusted EBITDA is defined as operating profit, excluding exceptionals, with depreciation and amortisation added back

# **EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS AND HISTORICAL COSTS**



£m	FY20	FY19
Customer redress	22.9	45.0
Review of strategy costs	3.8	-
External costs in relation to resolving legacy tax matters	2.4	8.9
Impairment of intangible assets & brands	1.8	20.0
Legal costs	1.0	-
Store closure (credit) / costs	(0.3)	22.0
VAT partial exemption (credit) / cost	(3.1)	49.4
GMP Equalisation	-	0.3
Total	28.5	145.6

#### **CUSTOMER REDRESS**

- Customer redress deadline has now passed
- As a result of the August spike in information requests and complaints, an additional provision for customer redress of £25m was made during the first half of the year
- The provision was later reduced by £2.1m as the final amount of customer redress was less than envisaged, resulting in a £22.9m charge for the full year

#### **VAT**

- In FY19, an exceptional charge of £49.4m was incurred in relation to the write-off of a VAT debtor balance previously held
- A credit of £3.1m in FY20 reflects the actualisation of previously estimated cost disallowances
- Long-running dispute with HMRC now broadly concluded

#### REVIEW OF STRATEGY COSTS

- One-off costs in relation to the review of strategy:
  - £3.5m redundancy and consultancy costs
  - £0.3m stock-write off from discontinued brands



2. Trading / Covid-19 Update



# Q1 FY21 HIGHLIGHTS

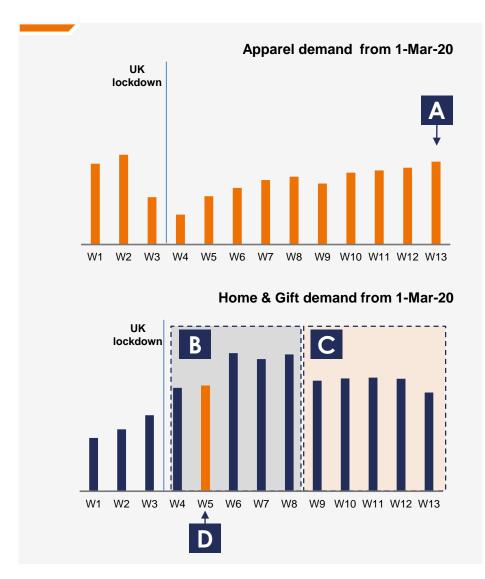
Cash generative despite challenging market due to agile model and effective management actions

- Swift business action in response to Covid-19 resulted in remaining profitable with net cash generation despite unprecedented and disruptive market conditions
- FS and Home Essentials balancing the wider retail revenue impact of Covid-19
- Cost efficiencies offset >80% of the gross margin impact from lower demand and future bad debt provisioning
- Tightly controlled stock at lowest levels since 2012
- Net debt down 9.9%¹ vs. year-end
- Sufficient liquidity, working capital headroom and covenant flexibility to be able to manage effectively in this challenging trading environment

1. As at 19 June 2020

# **RESPONSE TO COVID-19: TRADING IMPACT**

#### Intensive focus on our fully operational online business



- Continued recovery in apparel since Covid-19 low point, with positive trajectory
- B Strong growth in demand as Home Essentials is launched and lockdown is introduced
- Demand remains well above pre-lockdown levels in spite of lockdown measures beginning to ease
- D Launch of Home Essentials
  - Home Essentials launched on 1 April
  - Significant boost in Home & Gift demand following UK lockdown measures
  - New digital delivery model with smaller benefits-led MVP drops

# **RESPONSE TO COVID-19: TRADING IMPACT**

Intensive focus on our fully operational online business

#### **SWIFT BUSINESS ACTION TO COVID-19**

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING

Our priority through the crisis has been to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of our colleagues and customers

PIVOTING THE CUSTOMER OFFER

Accelerated the MVP and successfully launched Home Essentials on 1st April; new digital way of working

INCREASE IN DIGITAL PENETRATION • Q1 digital penetration: 91%

MARKETING COSTS Revenue weakness offset by marketing efficiency

CONTINUOUS SUPPLY OF GOODS Whilst complying with all government guidelines

TREATING CUSTOMERS FAIRLY 3 month forbearance for Covid-19 affected customers

ACCEPT RATES REDUCED Adopted a more prudent lending approach to new customers

RESTRICTIONS ON SALES Improved customer journey to encourage customers to bring their accounts up to date before placing another order

PROACTIVE BEHAVIOUR

Close monitoring of day-to-day collections

Covid-19 indicator being placed on customers accounts where needed

# COST BASE STRATEGIC PROGRESS

#### FY20 cost efficiency progress has continued into Q1

#### **OPERATING COST AS A % OF REVENUE**



#### STOCK CONTROL



- Strategic progress on improving the efficiency of the cost base has continued into Q1
- Significant improvement in operating efficiency reflects increasingly flexible and variable cost base
- FY21 Q1 operating costs 43% lower than prior year. Savings achieved across all areas
- Strategic focus on efficiency in stock management has continued

# MATERIALLY IMPROVED LIQUIDITY

#### Significant headroom available from Amended Financing Facilities

#### **IMPROVED HEADROOM SINCE YEAR-END**

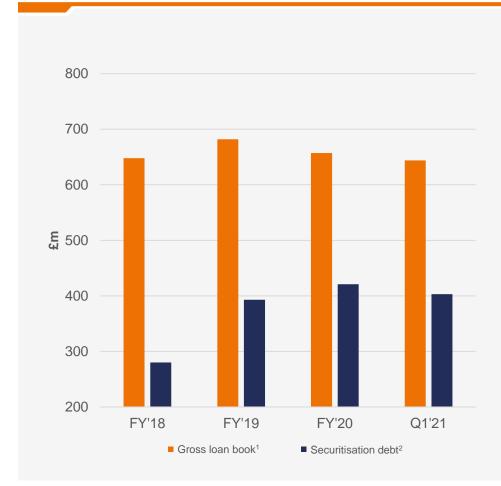


- In response to Covid-19, Group undertook prudent downside stress test scenarios
- Swift business action resulted in net cash generation since lockdown.
- Successfully accessed £50m CLBILS, with temporary covenant relaxation
- Significant headroom even in a reasonable worst-case scenario. Not expected to be utilised but sensible precaution during period of uncertainty

# FLEXIBLE SECURITISATION FACILITY TO ENABLE FS

Maximum available draw on the facility is driven by the size and quality metrics of the eligible pool

#### LOAN BOOK & SECURITISATION FACILITY LOWER IN Q1



- Securitisation facility secured by a charge over certain eligible customer receivables which is without recourse to any of the Group's other assets
- Facility is £500m. Amount drawn depends on the level of eligible customer receivables at any one point in time
- Structure of the facility enables the loan book to flex to meet customer demand
- Amended financing arrangements support Covid-19 pool to assist with FCA customer forbearance measures without de-stabilising the facility
- Securitisation was £403m and gross loan book was £639.6m at Q1 FY21

Note 1 – Gross loan book: the amount receivable for the sale of goods and services Note 2 – Securitisation debt: amount drawn under the Securitisation facility at period end

# FY21 OUTLOOK

#### Continue to improve the business and accelerate drivers of growth

#### **REVENUE**

- Since initial significant impact of Covid-19 on product revenue, trends have continued to improve
- Financial Services revenue has been impacted by the effects of Covid-19 on our markets

#### **MARGIN**

- Product gross margin pressure will continue due to mix and a highly promotional retail market
- FS gross margin will decline due to previously guided regulatory pressures and an increase in bad debt provisioning due to impact of Covid-19

# OPERATING COSTS

- Strong operating cost efficiency continues
- Bad debt provisioning the main driver of reduced profitability

# OTHER P&L AND CASH FLOW ITEMS

- Capex c.£20m
- Net debt £380m £400m

- Exceptional items<£10m</li>
- No FY21 dividend

# IMPROVED DISCLOSURE TO REFLECT THE EVOLUTION OF THE BUSINESS

Our reporting will reflect our digital focus, distinct brands and improve financial services transparency



- Digital KPIs to reflect our online focus
- Reported from FY21



# DISTINCT BRANDS WITH DISTINCT CUSTOMERS

Our brand-level reporting will now include Home Essentials to reflect our updated distinct brand proposition



# GREATER TRANSPARENCY BETWEEN RETAIL AND FS

We will report separate retail and FS financial metrics to clearly distinguish progress made across both of our core business areas





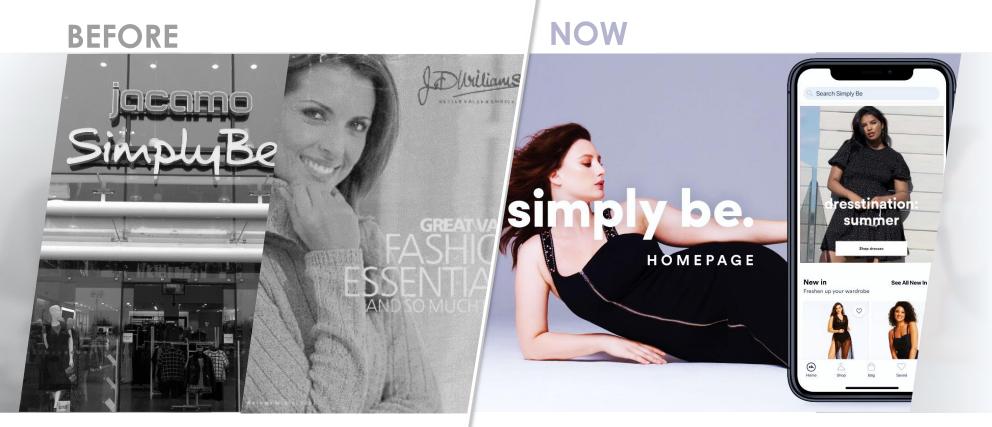
# 3. N Brown today

and our potential



# NO LONGER A TRADITIONAL RETAILER BUT NOW A DIGITAL RETAILER

We have restructured our business to build sustainable long-term value





Unsustainable proposition

Mixed branding and identity

91% digital

Larger addressable market

Focused brand and product strategies

# THE BUSINESS TODAY

Our key strengths – a leading market position with an under-served customer base



# WHY WE EXIST

Inclusivity and our desire to serve the underrepresented are key to our existence

#### WE SERVE UNDERREPRESENTED MARKETS WITH APPEALING STRUCTURAL GROWTH DRIVERS

CUSTOMER NEED	MARKET SIZE	OUR PROPOSITION	OUR OPPORTUNITY
+ SIZE	<ul> <li>Womenswear: £4.6bn</li> <li>Menswear: £1.7bn¹</li> </ul>	WE ARE #1 FOR WOMENSWEAR SIZE 20+	POTENTIAL TO GAIN MARKET SHARE IN A GROWING MARKET
UNDERSERVED CREDIT	<ul> <li>UK non-standard credit market is approx. £100bn+²</li> </ul>	WE KNOW 80% OF OUR CUSTOMERS ARE C1, C2, D, E	SCOPE TO EXTEND CREDIT OFFERING TO A WIDER RANGE OF CUSTOMERS
MATURE	<ul> <li>UK Womenswear spend by age 65+ was £4.75bn in 2019</li> </ul>	WE KNOW OUR AGE GROUP OVERINDEXES VS MARKET	FAVOURABLE STRUCTURAL DRIVERS

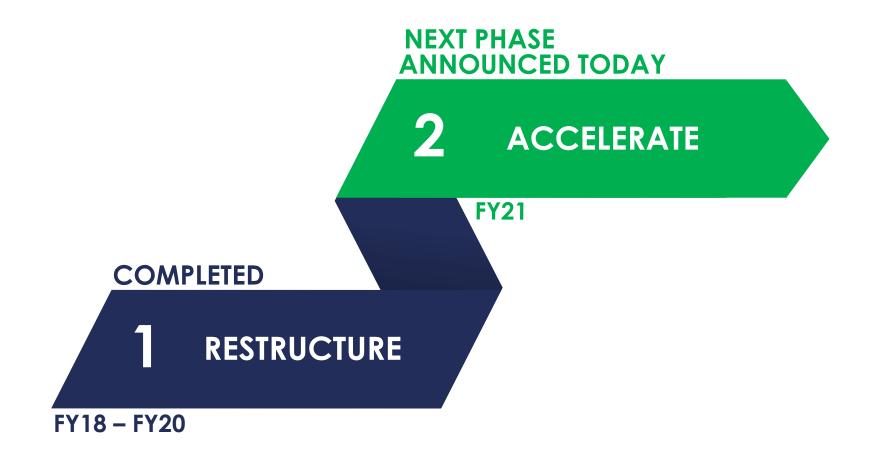
WITHOUT N BROWN, 11 MILLION CUSTOMERS WOULD HAVE FEWER / LESS ADEQUATE OPTIONS AVAILABLE

<sup>1.</sup> Source: PWC, The UK plus size clothing market review

Source: Integer Advisors, Demystifying the UK Specialist Lending Markets
 Source: GlobalData, UK: Clothing & Footwear – Womenswear 2019-2024

# **OUR STRATEGIC APPROACH**

A two phase approach to prepare for the strategic opportunity that lies ahead





4. transforming

our business



# PAST ISSUES IDENTIFIED AND ADDRESSED

Our Strategic Plan addresses the key factors identified that were contributing to poor performance



# OUR ROUTE TO A SUSTAINABLE RESHAPED BUSINESS POST COVID-19

Swift and decisive action to improve the foundation / key pillars

- 1 RESILIENT MODEL THROUGH COVID-19
- 2 SERVING CORE CUSTOMERS
  PROFITABLY AND SUSTAINABLY
- RATIONALISE BRAND PORTFOLIO AND IMPROVE PRODUCT OFFERING
- 4 DEVELOP DIGITAL AND TECHNOLOGY CAPABILITIES
- 5 CONTINUE TO OPTIMISE SUSTAINABLE COST BASE
- 6 ENHANCED FINANCIAL FLEXIBILITY

# REFRESHED STRATEGY DELIVERY BEGINS RETURN TO GROWTH IN FY22

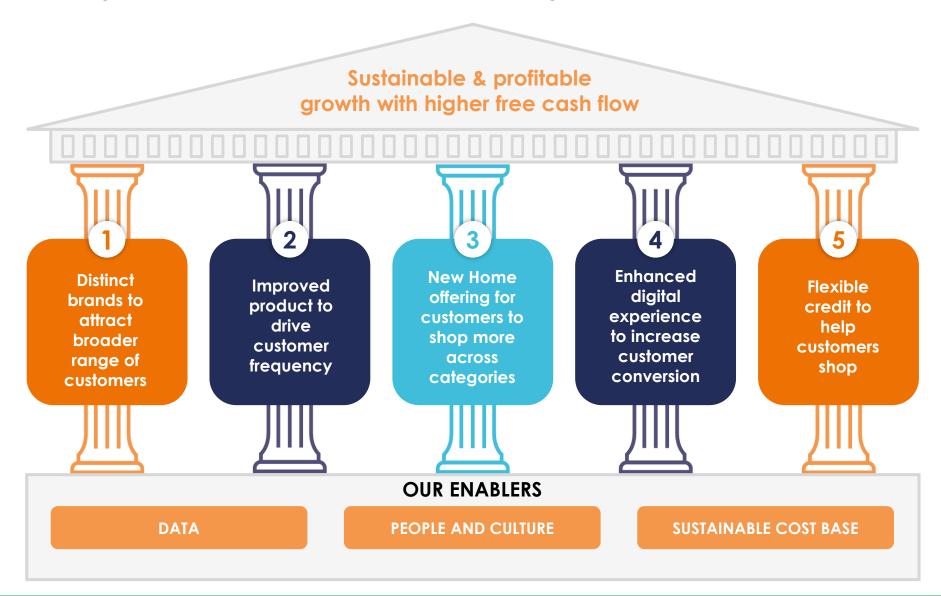


# 5. Our strategy

for the future



Clear strategic framework and well defined priorities to drive growth





# DISTINCT BRANDS TO ATTRACT BROADER RANGE OF CUSTOMERS

Clear brand proposition to standout vs the market and each other

#### **APPROACH**

Redefining brand architecture to broaden customer appeal

Rationalisation of brand portfolio

Remaining product brands will either be folded into our rationalised portfolio or gradually wound down

Continuing to serve our existing customers by maintaining exceptional customer service

#### **IMPACT**

Potential to deliver significant growth in sales

Quadruple addressable market within apparel

Clarity of proposition and appeal in our chosen markets

Separate and distinct home brand boosting cross-sell opportunity

Improved brand recognition

Significant scope for cost efficiencies

# DISTINCT BRANDS TO ATTRACT BROADER RANGE OF CUSTOMERS

Clear brand proposition to standout vs the market and each other

#### **NOW**

- 9 APPAREL BRANDS
- 1 NICHE HOME BRAND

simply be.

**HIGH**MIGHTY

**JACAMO** 

Marisota

PREMIER MAN

ambrose\*\*
Wilson



FIGLEAVES



HOUSE of BATH

#### **FUTURE**

- **4** APPAREL BRANDS
- 1 MAINSTREAM HOME BRAND

simply be.

**JACAMO** 

ambrose\*
Wilson

**HOME ESSENTIALS** 



# DISTINCT BRANDS TO ATTRACT BROADER RANGE OF CUSTOMERS

Clear brand proposition to standout vs the market and each other

# simply be.

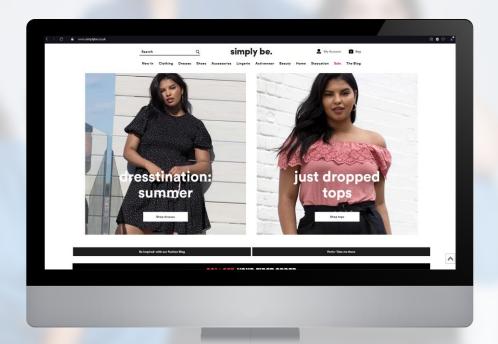
#### **PROPOSITION**

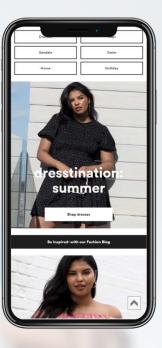
Online fashion & beauty brand for plus size women

#### TARGET CUSTOMER

Plus size woman aged 25-45 with a trendled attitude to fashion & a credit chooser







# DISTINCT BRANDS TO ATTRACT BROADER RANGE OF CUSTOMERS

Clear brand proposition to standout vs the market and each other

# **JACAMO**

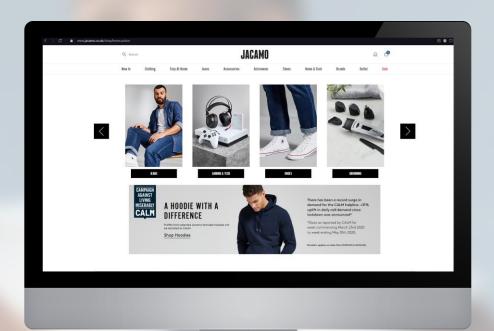
#### **PROPOSITION**

Online fashion brand for plus size men

#### TARGET CUSTOMER

Plus size man aged 25-50 with a trend-led attitude to fashion & a credit chooser







# DISTINCT BRANDS TO ATTRACT BROADER RANGE OF CUSTOMERS

Clear brand proposition to standout vs the market and each other



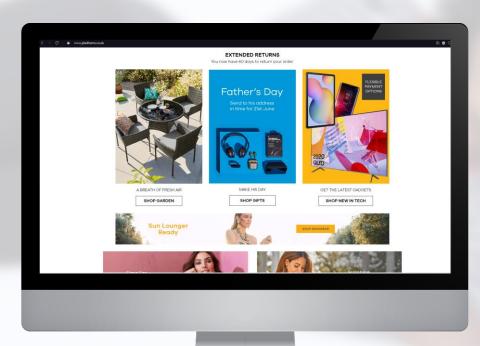
#### **PROPOSITION**

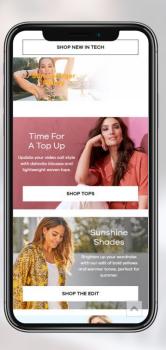
Online boutique experience showcasing fashion and home product

#### TARGET CUSTOMER

45-65 women credit user with a less trend-led attitude to fashion







# DISTINCT BRANDS TO ATTRACT BROADER RANGE OF CUSTOMERS

Clear brand proposition to standout vs the market and each other



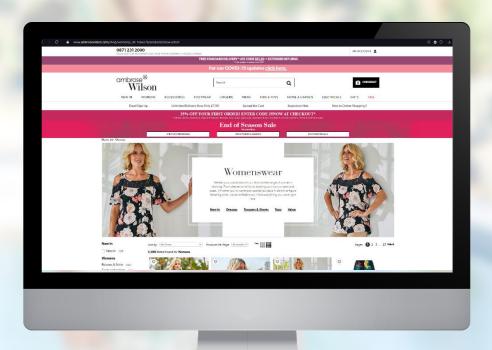
#### **PROPOSITION**

Fashion-led brand supported by home, available on & offline that truly values the mature customer

#### **TARGET CUSTOMER**

65+ women credit chooser with a value for money fashion need









# DISTINCT BRANDS TO ATTRACT BROADER RANGE OF CUSTOMERS

Clear brand proposition to standout vs the market and each other

# **HOME ESSENTIALS**

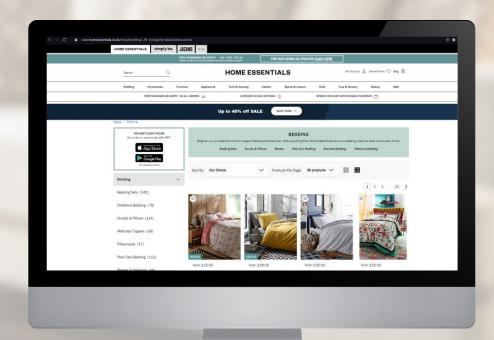
#### **PROPOSITION**

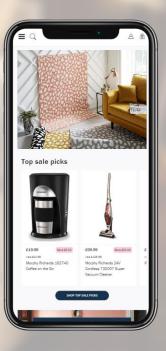
A standalone one-stop home brand focused on modern homeware and enabled by a credit offering

#### TARGET CUSTOMER

The target customer will be families with children at home







# 2 IMPROVED PRODUCT TO DRIVE CUSTOMER FREQUENCY

Improved product offering key to building overall proposition

#### INITIATIVE

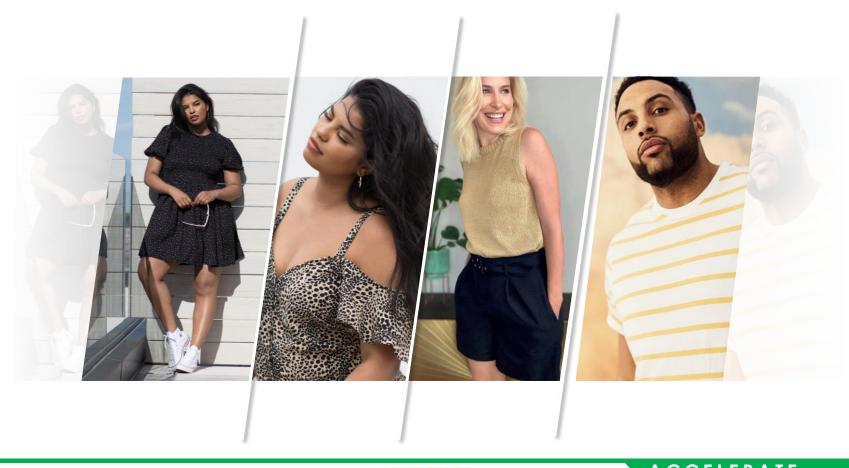
#### **IMPROVED PRODUCT HANDWRITING**

#### **EXPLANATION**

- Clearly designed handwriting bespoke for each brand
- Investment in fabric, quality and consistency of fit
- Delivering trends for customers at the right time in the right way

#### **RATIONALE**

Better product, relevant to customers will drive loyalty



## 2 IMPROVED PRODUCT TO DRIVE CUSTOMER FREQUENCY

Improved product offering key to building overall proposition

#### INITIATIVE

**RENEWED 'GOOD / BETTER / BEST' PRODUCT ARCHITECTURE** 

## **EXPLANATION**

- Increased importance in own designed ranges in Womenswear, Menswear and Home
- Better curation of branded products
- Well defined pricing criteria which is adaptable and responsive

## **RATIONALE**

Driving increased customer loyalty alongside AOF





# 2 IMPROVED PRODUCT TO DRIVE CUSTOMER FREQUENCY

Improved product offering key to building overall proposition

#### INITIATIVE

### **EXPLANATION**

## **SUSTAINABLE** SOURCING

- Continued evolution of supplier base, 50% supplier reduction in last 18 months
- Increased mix of UK and European sourcing to increase flexibility and speed to market
- Clearly defined roadmap to deliver enhanced level of sustainability

## **RATIONALE**

Adopting a model in response to shifting consumer demands with increased flexibility to reduce lead times







For workers' rights. For better business.





	% Sourcing
China	34%
■UK	22%
■ India	12%
Bangladesh	10%
■ Pakistan	5%
■Turkey	5%
■ Sri Lanka	4%
■Vietnam	2%
■ RoW	6%



## 3 NEW HOME OFFER FOR CUSTOMERS TO SHOP ACROSS CATEGORIES

Standalone home brand supported by FS presents large market opportunity

#### LAUNCHED HOME ESSENTIALS AS A STANDALONE PROPOSITION WITH A DISTINCT TARGET CUSTOMER BASE

## PREVIOUS HOME OFFER

Home purchases • enabled by current revolving credit offer

- Home offer sold across various apparel brand sites
  - No curated. consistent Home offer

## **HOME ESSENTIALS**

- Standalone Home Brand with single trading website
- Lead on design-led Homeware, backed by full Home offer
- Customer is families with children.
- Complementary / cross-selling opportunities
- New credit products to ensure relevance and competitiveness
- Inspirational and complete home solutions made affordable

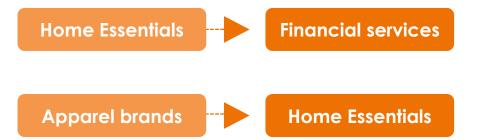


## 3 NEW HOME OFFER FOR CUSTOMERS TO SHOP ACROSS CATEGORIES

Standalone home brand supported by FS presents large market opportunity

#### LAUNCHED HOME ESSENTIALS AS A STANDALONE PROPOSITION WITH A DISTINCT TARGET CUSTOMER BASE

- Their core needs are Affordability, Confidence & "Fits my Life"
- This market is worth £15bn; >50% of the credit user home market
- Targeted cross-selling opportunities:





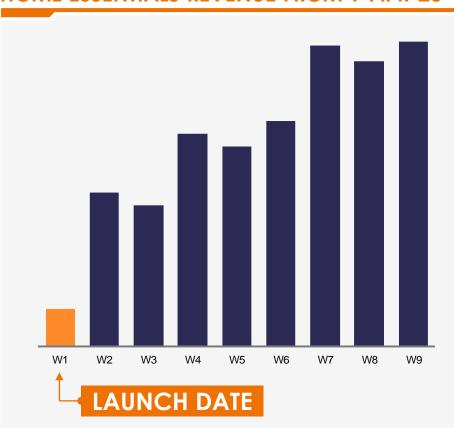


## NEW HOME OFFER FOR CUSTOMERS TO SHOP ACROSS CATEGORIES

Standalone home brand supported by FS presents large market opportunity

#### LAUNCHED HOME ESSENTIALS AS A STANDALONE PROPOSITION WITH A DISTINCT TARGET CUSTOMER BASE

#### **HOME ESSENTIALS REVENUE FROM 1-APR-20**



## LAUNCH OF HOME ESSENTIALS HOME ESSENTIALS

- Home Essentials launched just one week after commencement of UK "lock down"
- Immediate impact on Group's Home sales following launch
- Strength of demand has been sustained
- Successful launch and excited about opportunity for the Group





## OPTIMISING DIGITAL CUSTOMER JOURNEY

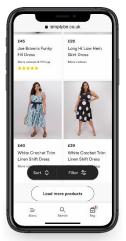
## Strategic priority is to transform the front end customer journey of the website

**Browse** 

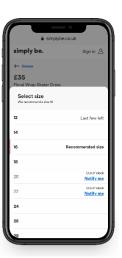
Product Detail

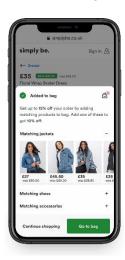
Select Size

Add to Bag











**Mobile first** website framework



Al driven search & merchandising via Bloomreach



Size & Fit recommendation algorithms via True Fit



Single Customer View to drive insights



Redesign of shopping channels to optimise for mobile users and accessibility for customers with disabilities and impairments



SEO supportive approach to improve organic traffic mix



Faster page load time to uplift conversion and digital satisfaction



Modular approach to speed up the pace of change



Utilisation of cloud to dynamically scale offering cost efficiencies and resilience



Simply Be will be the first brand to benefit, with other brands to fast follow

Bag

a simplybe.co.uk

Spot Plisse Midi Dress

Floral Wrap O Ring...

Red Button Through...

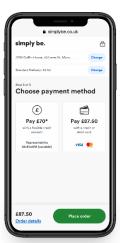
Easy, free returns an return it for free up to 28 days after

Delivery



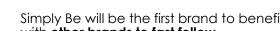


**Payment** 



We've got your order confirmation e-mail is on the way to Get more treats in your life exclusive events are waiting

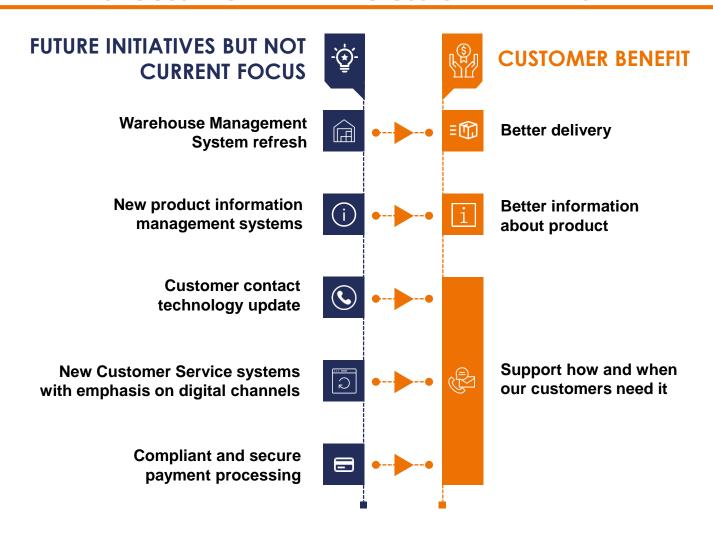
Place Order



## 4 OPTIMISING DIGITAL CUSTOMER JOURNEY

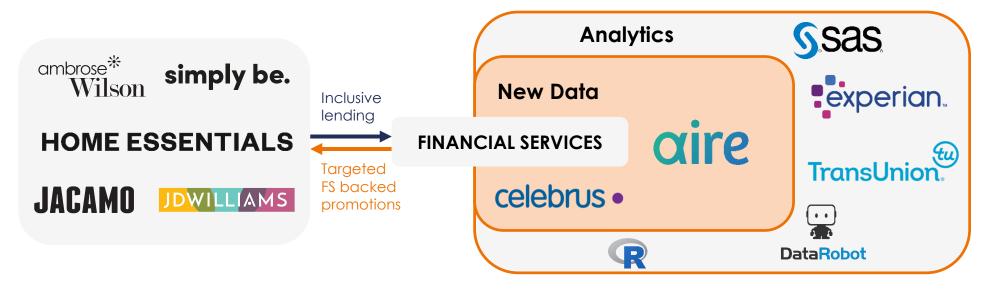
Progressing N Brown with a "digital first" mentality

### DIGITAL INITIATIVES FOCUSED ON DELIVERING CUSTOMER BENEFITS



## N BROWN'S CREDIT PROPOSITION IS A KEY DIFFERENTIATOR

**Providing convenient Financial Services to customers** 

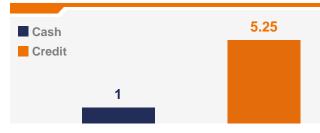


- N Brown's credit proposition is, to us, what Next Pay is to Next
- Combining data across Retail and Financial Services, we provide convenient and integrated personalised offers, targeted to each customer and their shopping needs
- By leveraging new data and analytical methods we also make better lending decisions at application and through the customer lifecycle

## FLEXIBLE CREDIT TO HELP CUSTOMERS SHOP

Modern credit products will appeal to broader customer segments

## CREDIT ACCOUNTS PLACE 5.25x MORE ORDERS THAN CASH ACCOUNTS



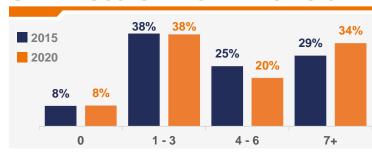
 Established credit customers<sup>1</sup> are offered significantly higher credit spending power as their relationship with N Brown develops

## ESTABLISHED CREDIT CUSTOMERS HAVE GREATER PURCHASING ABILITY



 Significant unutilised credit headroom<sup>2</sup> across the portfolio, demonstrating opportunity to grow over the medium term

#### CREDIT CUSTOMERS ARE LONG STANDING



 Insight into customer base and approach to customer management allows us to lend deeper than others; weighted towards core, reliable and long standing customers

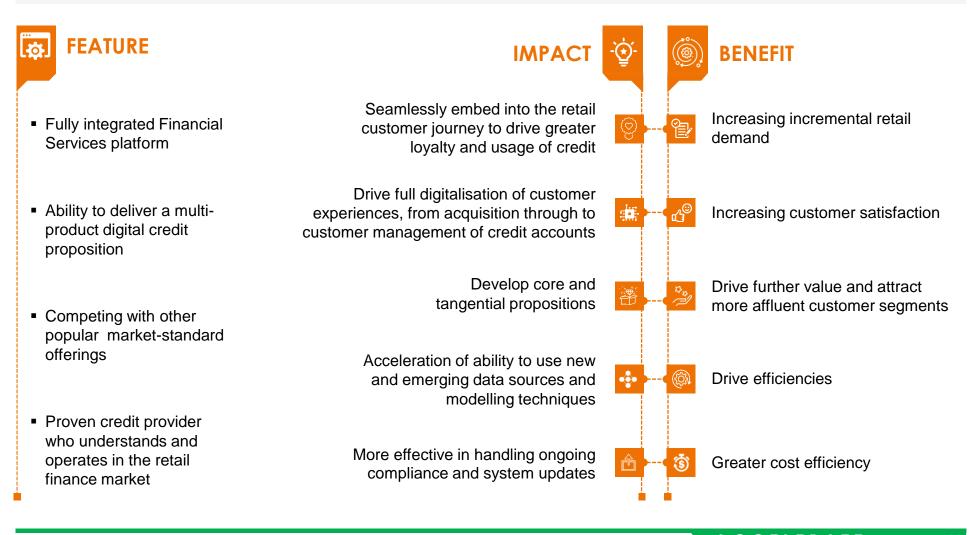
#### Note:

- 1. Established customer defined as not recruited within the last 12 months
- 2. Clear growth in use of unutilised balances is dependant on retail sales growth, which is reasonably expected to be organic and steady

## FLEXIBLE CREDIT TO HELP CUSTOMERS SHOP

Our focus for the next 3 years

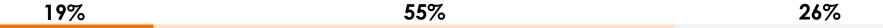
### STRATEGIC PRIORITY IS A NEW FINANCIAL SERVICES PLATFORM



## BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

Our refreshed strategy unlocks access to new customer groups for longer term growth





£5.5bn £16.1bn £7.8bn

Current heartland

Additional addressable market to provide growth opportunities

Remaining UK apparel market

## **ADDRESSABLE MARKET SEGMENTS**

Non-trend-led, plus-size customers that prioritise affordability or need credit to shop

- Trend-led, plus-size customers that prioritise affordability
- 2 Non-plus-size customers that prioritise affordability
- 3 Customers who prioritise quality

Non-plus-size customers that need credit to shop or are trendled but prioritise affordability

## New senior team in place to implement a refreshed strategy

## **NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD**



Steve Johnson CEO Joined 2016



**Kenyatte Nelson Chief Brand Officer** Joined 2019



Rachel Izzard **CFO** Joined 2020



Aly Fadil **Chief People Officer** Joined 2018



Sarah Welsh **CEO of Retail** Joined 2020



**Adam Warne Chief Information Officer** Joined 2018



**Dan Joy CEO of FS** Joined 2020



**Theresa Casey General Counsel & Company Secretary** Joined 2015

### **CAPABILITIES**

## Shift in focus

- Data scientists
- Scrum masters
- Risk
- Cyber security
- User Experience Design

## SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Diverse and experienced leadership
- 31% joined in the last 18 months
- Attracted new capability from:

MISSGUIDED





## **BUILDING BLOCKS PUT IN PLACE IN FY20**

Strategic priority to accelerate on the foundations put in place in FY20

DATA

## **FOUNDATIONS**



Refresh of in-house data team and investment in data architecture



Development of the CLTV model to focus on increasing AOV and AOF



Focus on digital marketing to drive a lower cost of customer acquisition



Reviewed all forecasting technologies to deliver:



More accurate sales prediction by SKU



Optimisation of warehouse space and logistics

## **ACCELERATING THE USE OF DATA**



Enhancing the cloud-based data lake to provide fast access to data for relevant needs



Building out the data warehouse to ensure common use of data across the business



Enhancing use of AWS to drive faster decisions through scalable resources

Improved margins and cost control

SUSTAINABLE COST BASE

#### BENCHMARKING HIGHLIGHTED THE SIGNIFICANT SCOPE FOR COST SAVINGS AT N BROWN





## **HOW ARE WE IMPROVING?**

#### Structural bought-in margin improvement

- N Brown brands and home essentials well placed for digital growth
- Product and digital enhancement supporting margin
- Supportive active customer growth and margin improvement in FS

#### Improvement in efficiency and tightening cost controls

- Sustainable cost base for digital retailer
- Growth driving economies of scale
- Focus on working capital efficiency

CONSISTENT FUTURE PROFITABILITY AND CASH GENERATION SCALING UP AS STRATEGY IS IMPLEMENTED



# 6. Summary

and outlook



## Developing the platform for scaling up profitability and sustainably

## CONSISTENTLY PROFITABLE AND CASH GENERATIVE, SCALING UP AS STRATEGY IMPLEMENTS

	CONSISTENTLY PROFITABLE AND CASH GENERATIVE, SCALING UP AS STRATEGY IMPLEMENTS			
	1-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS		
RETAIL	<ul> <li>Market normalises post Covid-19, &amp; continues to be highly competitive for margin</li> <li>Progressive exit of non core customers</li> <li>FS regulatory changes impacting customer base</li> <li>Progressive flow through of Brand, Product and Digital enhancements</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>N Brown markets have strong growth prospects; size inclusive, credit</li> <li>Brands and offer well placed for strong digital growth</li> <li>Product and digital enhancements supporting margin</li> </ul>		
FINANCIAL SERVICES	<ul> <li>Regulatory impact from Credit Limit Increases and Persistent Debt absorbed</li> <li>Impact on debtor book from Covid-19 starts to normalise</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Strategic changes implemented</li> <li>Supporting active customer growth and margin improvement</li> </ul>		
OPERATING COSTS	<ul> <li>Efficiency flow through as strategy deploys and offer improves</li> <li>Costs move into technology</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Sustainable cost base for digital retailer</li> <li>Growth driving economies of scale</li> </ul>		
CASH USES	<ul> <li>Net Debt Reducing &amp; Re-Financing complete</li> <li>Interest Costs &lt;£15m</li> <li>Exceptional costs &lt;£10m</li> <li>Capex returns to ~£40m, focused on improving digital customer experience</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Net Debt and WC flexing with profitable growth</li> <li>No non-securitised debt</li> <li>Interest costs &lt;£10m</li> <li>Capex £40-45m</li> </ul>		



Significant action taken in transforming our business and rectifying issues of the past



Swift and decisive steps taken to improve the business in the current, unprecedented trading environment



We have ensured sufficient liquidity, working capital headroom and covenant flexibility to manage effectively in current circumstances



Developed a clear and compelling strategy to unlock significant addressable market potential in the future, based on five deliverable pillars and underpinned by N Brown's enablers



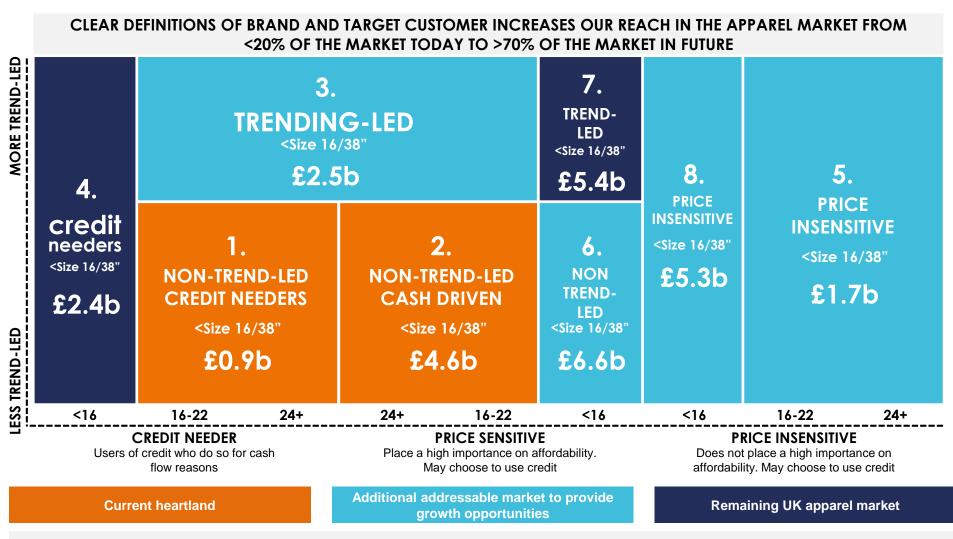
Plans identified which could further accelerate longer term potential of the business



Appendix

**Supplementary information** 





WE WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR EXISTING CUSTOMER, BASE WHILST REACHING MORE TREND-LED, LESS PRICE SENSITIVE CUSTOMERS THROUGH REDEFINED BRAND PROPOSITIONS

## INDUSTRY WIDE REGULATORY CHANGE

# **AFFORDABILITY**

- Affordability changes following FCA creditworthiness consultation paper
- N Brown enhanced affordability processes from November 2018 working closely with credit bureaux and fintech start-up, Aire

## **CREDIT LIMIT INCREASES**

- New policy rules were introduced in response to the FCA's High Cost Credit Review
- Customers can now opt-in or opt-out of CLIs at the point of set-up or any point in the future
- Phase 1 (March 2019)
  - Give customers 30 day's notice of credit limit increase and offering option of declining it
- Phase 2 (**December 2019**)
  - Set credit limit preferences at point of opening account
  - Hard policy rules around customers in arrears, forbearance and persistent debt



## **PERSISTENT DEBT**

- Defined as, over a period of 18 months, a customer pays more in interest, fees and charges than they have repaid of the principal
- Introduced following Credit Card Market study
- Key dates
  - June 2019 we communicated with customers on implications of remaining in Persistent Debt
  - March 2020 we sent a further reminder to customers
  - From December 2020 we will start to take intervention and propose ways to help customers repay their balance more quickly within defined reasonable period (3-4 years)\*

£m	FY20	FY19	Change
Group Gross Profit	439.9	497.7	-11.6%
Warehouse & Fulfilment	(78.1)	(84.0)	-7.0%
Marketing & Production	(136.0)	(157.8)	-13.8%
Admin & Payroll	(119.1)	(127.9)	-6.9%
Total Operating Costs	(333.2)	(369.7)	-9.9%
Adjusted EBITDA	106.7	128.0	-16.6%
Adjusted EBITDA Margin	12.4%	14.0%	-160bps
Depreciation & Amortisation	(30.1)	(30.1)	0.0%
Operating Profit before exceptionals	76.6	97.9	-21.8%
Operating Profit Margin before exceptionals	8.9%	10.7%	-180bps

£m	FY20	FY19
Operating Profit before exceptionals	76.6	97.9
Net Finance Costs	(17.1)	(14.3)
Adjusted Profit Before Tax	59.5	83.6
Exceptional Costs	(28.5)	(145.6)
Unrealised FX Movement	4.7	4.5
Profit / (Loss) Before Tax	35.7	(57.5)
Taxation	(8.3)	(0.8)
Net Profit / (Loss)	27.4	(58.3)

£m	% Hedged	Hedge Rate
FY21	88%	1.32
FY22	39%	1.32

- Hedging position as at 29 February 2020
- Solidly placed to mitigate short-term impact of currency volatility

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