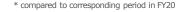


Highlights

- Core hire revenue up +3.4% (Q1: 2.3%; Q2: 4.7%)*
- Adjusted profit before tax up 256%
- Asset utilisation up 1.8% to 57.3% as at 30 September 2021
- Net debt £47.9m with leverage of 0.7x
- Significant investment in hire fleet (£37.6m) with a focus on carbon efficient ECO products
- Formal agreement signed with B&Q; 23 further stores to open in H2
- Confident of delivering full year results ahead of current market expectations and sustainable growth in the medium term
- Dividend of 0.75p per share; during 2022 the Board will consider returns to shareholders of any excess capital











Ongoing growth momentum and investment in people and fleet

	HY22	HY21	
	£m	£m	Change
Revenue (pre disposals) ⁴	186.6	145.5	28.2 %
EBITDA ^{1,4}	49.1	37.8	29.9 %
PBT ^{1,4}	14.6	4.1	£10.5m
Net debt	47.9	57.8	17.1 %
Leverage ²	0.7x	0.9x	0.2x
ROCE ^{3,4}	12.4%	9.1%	3.3pp
Adjusted EPS ⁴	1.81p	0.53p	1.28p
Capex Additions	37.6	7.2	£30.4m

Highlights

- Hire revenue showed continued progressive growth throughout H1 and is tracking ahead of HY20
- Overheads remain well controlled inclusive of investment in our people and other key strategic priorities
- Net debt and leverage remain low, allowing strategic flexibility
- ROCE increased to 12.4% (FY20: 12.5%)
- Interim dividend of 0.75p per share



Before amortisation and exceptional items post-IFRS 16

Net debt / Pre-IFRS16 EBITDA

³ ROCE is defined as profit before interest, tax, amortisation and exceptional items divided by average capital employed for the last 12 months

From continuing operations

Continued strong UK&I performance

	HY22	HY21	HY20	HY21	HY20
	£m	£m	£m	Change	Change
Revenue					
Hire	120.5	91.4	116.5	31.8 %	3.4 %
Services	66.1	54.1	70.0	22.2 %	(5.6)%
Disposals	2.0	1.5	1.5	33.3 %	33.3 %
	188.6	147.0	188.0	28.3 %	0.3 %
Gross Margin	57.3 %	55.0 %	57.7 %	2.3pp	(0.4)pp
Hire	77.3 %	74.8 %	77.0 %	2.5pp	0.3pp
Services	22.5 %	22.9 %	27.2 %	(0.4)pp	(4.7)pp
Gross profit	108.0	80.9	108.5	33.5 %	(0.5)%
Overheads ¹	(89.6)	(72.2)	(90.1)	(24.1)%	0.6 %
EBITA ¹	18.4	8.7	18.3	111.5 %	0.5 %
Headcount	3,339	3,173	3,447	5.2 %	(3.1)%
Underlying	3,250	3,160	3,447	2.8 %	(5.7)%
B&Q	89	13	-		

Revenue

- Hire revenue on an improving trend, H1 revenue up 3.4% on HY20
- Strong Services performance from the rehire business, offset by lower Training revenue

Margin

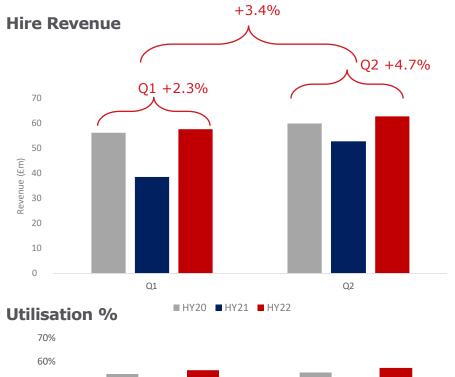
- Hire margin improved in H1 as activity levels and utilisation rates increased
- Services margin impacted by sales mix

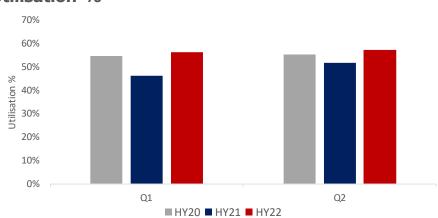
Overheads

 Effective cost management with overheads broadly flat vs HY20



Hire revenue growth momentum supported by improving asset efficiency





Hire revenue

- Continued progressive growth in H1, +3% ahead of HY20
- Targeted pricing reviews expected to contribute to further growth in H2

Utilisation

- Strong utilisation, exceeding HY20 in each quarter during H1
 - 56.5% in Q1 (HY20: 54.9%), 57.6% in Q2 (HY20: 55.6%)
- Enhancement and improved leverage of artificial intelligence providing utilisation benefit

Supply chain

 Experienced limited delays on certain products mitigated through supply chain relationships and artificial intelligence



Strong balance sheet provides resilience and strategic flexibility

	30 Sep 21	31 Mar 21
	£m	£m
Intangibles and joint ventures	32.5	30.9
Hire fleet	220.7	207.2
Other fixed assets	27.7	25.9
Right of use assets	65.2	59.1
Net working capital	(1.1)	2.6
Trade and other receivables	99.4	93.3
Trade and other payables	(96.7)	(94.8)
Provisions	(5.9)	(6.0)
Lease liabilities	(70.9)	(65.8)
Net debt ¹	(47.9)	(33.2)
Net assets	222.9	219.2

Hire fleet

- Hire fleet increased by £13.5m; average fleet age at 3.6 years (HY20: 3.9 years)
- Hire fleet additions of £38m in H1 (HY20: £25m);
 FY22 forecast capex of c.£70m
 - Sustainable fleet contributing c.28% of revenue
- Earlier order commitments to mitigate extended lead times

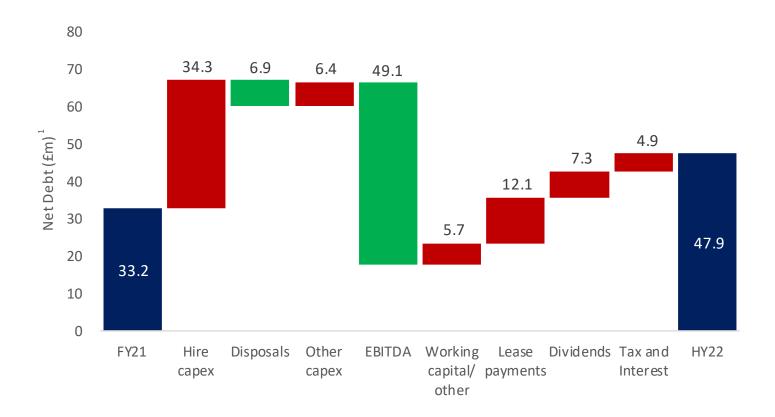
Other notable balances

- Debtor days for the UK&I are 67 (HY21: 66); cash collection remains strong
- Net debt increased from £33.2m to £47.9m; as a result of strong cash generation invested into hire assets



1 Excluding IFRS 16

Conservative net debt with significant facility headroom



Highlights

- Strong EBITDA performance partially offset by significant hire capex spend
- Working capital movement primarily due to unwinding of International balance sheet
- Significant cash and facility headroom of £131.0m (FY21: £142.3m)
- Leverage remains below target at 0.7x (FY21: 0.5x)
- Facilities refinanced during the year, now maturing in July 2024





Capital allocation policy

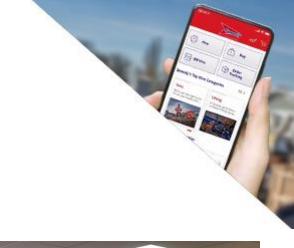
Organic growth Regular returns to shareholders Continued re-investment of free • Regular dividend payments in the cash flow in hire fleet as well as range between 33% and 50% of targeted investment in people, adjusted EPS, with proposed ESG, retail and digital capabilities interim dividend of **0.75pence** • Full year hire fleet capex expected per share (£3.9m cost) to be **c.£70m** Gearing and treatment of excess capital Value enhancing acquisitions Debt facilities available to fund Committed to maintaining efficient balance sheet – target in the region acquisitions with a focus on of 1.5x net debt to EBITDA* specialist hire and services During 2022 the Board will consider Pipeline of acquisition returns to shareholders of any opportunities being appraised capital in excess of the Group's needs





Market environment

- Growing pipeline of infrastructure opportunities:
 - HS2
 - Rail CP6
 - Water AMP7
- Housing market remains good; commercial property market weaker
- Long term contract renewals and market share gains provide resilience and visibility
- Raw material shortages not impacting customer activity levels significantly
- Targeted price increases implemented to offset cost pressures
- Supply chain delays mitigated through use of artificial intelligence and excellent supplier relationships
- Implementing initiatives to proactively manage staff retention







Strategic growth initiatives







People – the key to our success

- UK and Ireland headcount 3,339 including 89 B&Q (HY20: 3,447)
- Salary benchmarking exercise updated at half year
- Increased investment in internal training, succession, mentoring and career development. Career Line of Sight launched for Operations, Sales, Lloyds British and HR
- Staff forum relaunched in the period with greater employee participation
- Members of the 5% Club; currently 3% of colleagues are on earn and learn programmes. Signed up to the Armed Services covenant
- Continued progress in increasing workforce and Board diversity
- Speedy women's network in place, progressing on our plan for our workforce to be 30% female by 2030









Targeting net zero by 2035

Achievements

- Sustainable products make up c.28%+ of revenue
- Commenced roll out of HVO D+ as a replacement for diesel in our commercial fleet. Increasing customer take up of HVO D+
- Partnered with IEMA and working with the SSCS on training
- Well established community and charity programme

Initiatives

- Science based target modelling underway to build our carbon reduction pathway
- Target to reduce emissions per employee by a minimum of 10% in FY22
- Innovative electric vehicles being introduced to the fleet
- Significant further investment planned in new ECO equipment e.g. cordless, hybrid, solar and hydrogen







Digital transformation

Importance of digital

- B2C market being created through B&Q; consumers demand a digital transaction
- Increased digital activity with B2B customers as they start to develop their digital ecosystems
- Digital transactions are a lower cost to serve

Progress

- New cloud based "evergreen" ERP system implemented in October 2021 to accelerate digital capability
- Digital customer journey enhanced
- Digital on / off hires up c.80% compared to prior year
- New B2C website under development for launch in Q4
- Work underway to improve digital capability of services businesses







The B2C growth opportunity

- Formal partnership signed with B&Q in October 2021 following successful trial period
- Rent and commission based model
- 16 stores open at 30 September 2021; further 23 store openings planned in H2
- Enhanced B2C offering to be available through new website in March 2022
- Marketing campaign to be implemented re 'Why Hire' to promote ESG, circularity and financial benefits. Spend will grow as pace of mobilisation and maturity increases
- Further opportunities for reciprocal trading
- Discussions underway with other potential partners



£1.5m

39 Concessions

Hire fleet capital requirement Incremental revenue at maturity £10m Target operating profit % at maturity 20%



Summary and outlook

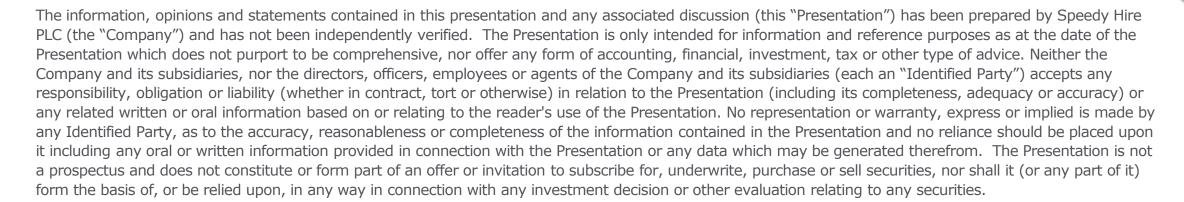
- Strong performance with supportive end markets
- Good momentum; current trading c.5% ahead of FY20
- Significant growth opportunities from infrastructure projects
- Market share gains reflect customer service focus
- Excellent retail opportunities through partnership with B&Q
- Leading the market in ESG
- Strong balance sheet with significant facility headroom
- Confident of delivering full year results ahead of current market expectations and sustainable growth in the medium term







Disclaimer



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