

Crest Nicholson Holdings plc

# **PRELIMINARY RESULTS 2021**

19 January 2022

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• FINANCIAL REVIEW

#### PETER TRUSCOTT

- MARKET CONTEXT
- STRATEGY UPDATE
- DELIVERING GROWTH

Q&A



# INTRODUCTION

#### **PETER TRUSCOTT** Chief Executive



### **INTRODUCTION** EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Turnaround now complete
- Strong financial performance delivered in FY21
  - Net cash: £252.8m (FY20: £142.2m)
  - ROCE: 17.2% (FY20: 7.6%)
- Excellent progress on strategy
- Exciting growth plans announced at 2021 Capital Markets Day



# FINANCIAL REVIEW

#### **DUNCAN COOPER** Group Finance Director



## **INCOME STATEMENT** MEDIUM-TERM MARGIN GUIDANCE ON TRACK

£m (unless otherwise stated)	FY21	FY20	% Change	
Revenue	786.6	677.9	16.0 🔺	
Cost of sales <sup>1</sup>	(619.9)	(570.2)		
Adjusted gross profit <sup>1</sup>	166.7	107.7	54.8 🔺	
Adjusted gross profit margin <sup>1</sup>	21.2%	15.9%		
Administrative expenses <sup>1</sup>	(51.1)	(50.3)	1.6 🔻	
Net impairment losses on financial assets <sup>1</sup>	(1.0)	(0.3)		
Adjusted operating profit <sup>1</sup>	114.6	57.1	100.7 🔺	
Adjusted operating profit margin <sup>1</sup>	14.6%	8.4%		
Adjusted net finance expense <sup>1</sup>	(9.1)	(10.7)		
Share of joint venture results	1.7	(0.5)		
Adjusted profit before tax <sup>1</sup>	107.2	45.9	133.6 🔺	
Adjusted income tax <sup>1</sup>	(19.9)	(8.5)		
Adjusted profit after tax <sup>1</sup>	87.3	37.4		
Exceptional items net of income tax	(16.4)	(48.1)		
Profit/(loss) after tax	70.9	(10.7)		
Adjusted basic earnings per share (p) <sup>1</sup>	34.0	14.6	132.9 🔺	
Dividend per share (p) <sup>2</sup>	13.6	_		
Return on capital employed	<b>17.2</b> %	7.6%	960bps 🔺	

- Adjusted gross profit up strongly
  - Robust sales performance in FY21
  - Longcross Film Studio at £16.0m
  - Volume/rate effect from 2 scheme delays
- Admin expenses tightly controlled
  - £2.5m JRS repayment in FY21
  - Higher YoY bonus payment
- Adjusted effective tax rate of 18.6%
- Exceptionals net of tax of £16.4m
- Final dividend proposed of 9.5 pence per share

1 FY21 and FY20 figures adjusted for exceptional items as disclosed on slide 9

**2** FY21 interim dividend paid of 4.1 pence per share and final dividend proposed of 9.5 pence per share



# SALES METRICS

#### STRONG RECOVERY IN PRIVATE SALES RATE TAKEN INTO FY22

	FY21	FY20	% Change
Outlets (full year equivalents)	59	63	(6.3) 🔻
SPOW (Open market)	0.80	0.59	35.6 🔺
Home completions (units) <sup>1,2</sup>			
Open market (private)	1,515	1,146	32.2 🔺
Affordable	483	506	(4.5) 🔻
Bulk <sup>3</sup>	409	595	(31.3) 🔻
Total	2,407	2,247	7.1 🔺
Joint ventures <sup>1</sup>	156	46	
<b>ASP</b> £'000 <sup>2,4</sup>	FY21	FY20	% Change
Home completions			
Open market (private)	393	400	(1.8) 🔻
Open market (inc-Bulk)	359	336	6.8 🔺
Affordable	174	161	8.1 🔺
Total housing ASP (weighted average)	322	297	8.4 🔺

1 FY21 includes joint venture units at full unit count (FY20: Group's share of joint venture units)

**2** FY21 is presented on an equivalent unit basis which allocates a proportion of the unit count for a deal to the land sale element where the deal contains a land sale (FY20: no equivalent unit allocation to land sale element)

- Consistent sales profile in FY21
  - Outlets a function of planning
  - Equivalent unit and 100% JV unit change
  - Build completions in H2
    - 81 units at Old Vinyl, Hayes
    - 30 units at Sherborne Wharf, Birmingham
- Private open market ASPs continue to reduce
  - Reflecting product type and geographies
  - 1 unit left in legacy London
- Forward sales at 14 January 2022
  - 2,702 units and £719.0m GDV
  - c.63% of FY22 covered



- **3** Bulk home completions reflect sales to Private Rented Sector (PRS), Registered Providers (excluding S106) and private investors
- **4** ASP calculation includes the Groups share of joint venture units and sales prices

# **EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS**

#### COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS CHARGE OFFSET BY NRV RELEASE

£m	FY21	FY20
Cost of sales		
Inventory impairment (credit)/charge	(8.0)	43.2
Net combustible materials charge	28.8	0.6
Total cost of sales exceptional charge	20.8	43.8
Restructuring costs	-	7.5
Net impairment losses on financial assets	-	7.6
Finance expense (credit)/charge	(0.5)	0.5
Total exceptional charge	20.3	59.4
Tax credit on exceptional items	(3.9)	(11.3)
Total exceptional charge after tax	16.4	48.1

NRV release

- £8.0m credit from 7.5% unutilised provision
- Expect >75% of £20.7m to be utilised in FY22
- £0.5m shared equity loans
- Net combustible materials
  - £31.2m charge
  - £2.4m recoveries from third parties
  - £3.4m spent in FY21 with £42.6m remaining provision



# **EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS**

#### BACKDROP REMAINS COMPLEX FOR COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS

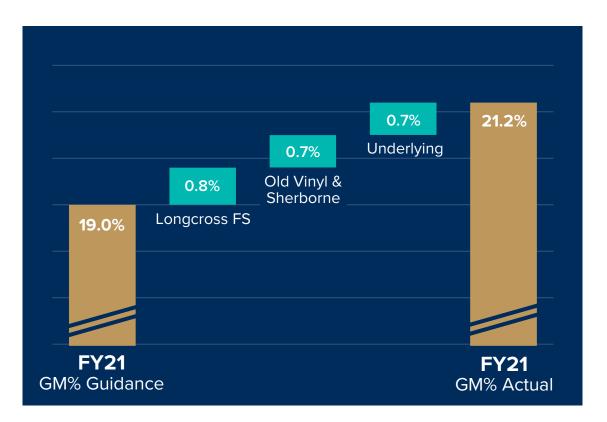
£m	FY21
Workmanship defects	12.5
Design defects	17.7
Other costs (fees and temporary measures)	1.0
Recoveries	(2.4)
Net combustible material charge	28.8

- Detailed analysis on all buildings built in last 10 years
  - c.85% of buildings in scope have some provision or 'low risk'
- £3.4m spent on remedial works in FY21
  - Balconies on 23 freehold buildings replaced
  - Prepared external walls for remedy in FY22 on 19 buildings
  - Further intrusive works on c.30 buildings
- Robust governance remains in place
  - Regular meetings with CEO, CFO, GPD
  - Board regularly reviews progress and provision



# FY21 GROSS MARGIN DELIVERY

#### UNDERLYING GAIN TO HALF YEAR GUIDANCE BUT ALSO ONE-OFFS

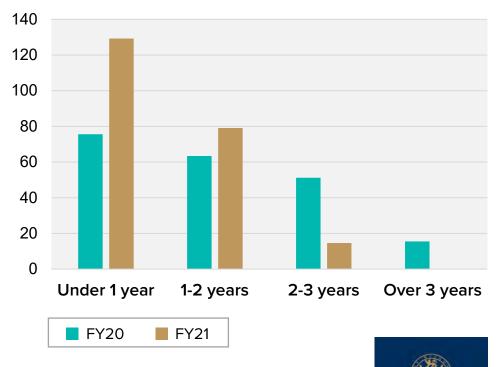


- FY21 Gross Margin % guided to 19.0% at HY21
- Longcross Film Studio at £16.0m vs £10.0m
- Build completion slipped into FY22
  - OV and SW both NRV schemes
  - Margin accretive to FY21
  - Both contracted bulk deals
- Underlying enhancements coming through
  - Pricing
  - Lower S&M costs
- Expect FY22 Gross Margin % in-line or slightly higher



### **BALANCE SHEET** ROBUST FINANCIAL POSITION TO SUPPORT FUTURE GROWTH

- Net cash at £252.8m (FY20: £142.2m)
- Net cash and land creditors at £29.9m (FY20: £63.5m credit)
- Average net cash at £78.4m (FY20: average net debt at £99.6m)
- £46.0m cash received from sale of Longcross Film Studio
- IAS 19 pension surplus at £16.7m (FY20: deficit at £13.8m)
- Balance sheet to support growth, dividend and resilience



#### LAND CREDITOR ROLL OUT BY YEAR (£m)

### LAND PORTFOLIO A STRONG STORE OF FUTURE VALUE



- 1,510 plots added to the short-term land portfolio
  - 491 plots at Moortown Lane, Ringwood
  - 360 plots at Eastboro Way, Nuneaton
- >1,500 plots added to the short-term land portfolio in FY22 YTD
- 74.2% owned vs controlled (FY20: 62.5% owned)
- GDV & ASP drivers
  - NRV reversal YoY
  - Sales price inflation
  - Completions > Additions
- JV plots reflect 100% count vs 50%



1 Plot numbers based on management estimates of site capacity.

FY21 includes joint venture units at full unit count (FY20: Group's share of joint venture units). FY21 is presented on an equivalent unit basis which allocates a proportion of the unit count for a deal to the land sale element where the deal contains a land sale (FY20: no equivalent unit allocation to land sale element).

# **FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL TARGETS**

#### STRONG STRATEGIC PROGRESS REINSTATES MEDIUM-TERM GUIDANCE

	FY21		FY24	FY26	
HOME COMPLETIONS (UNITS) TRADING DIVISIONS	2,407 5	>	>3,000 5+	>4,200 8	<ul> <li>Targets to reflect 2-phase growth agenda</li> <li>Aspiration to deliver &gt;4,200 units by FY26</li> </ul>
<b>REVENUE COMPOSITION</b>		>		VATE AFFORDABLE PRS/BULK	<ul> <li>Growing partnerships business <ul> <li>Significant market opportunity</li> <li>Resilience through the cycle</li> </ul> </li> <li>Operating margins back to industry levels in Phase 1</li> </ul>
<b>OPERATING PROFIT MARGIN</b> <sup>1</sup>	14.6%	>	18-2	:0%	<ul> <li>ROCE to improve across the plan period</li> </ul>
<b>RETURN ON CAPITAL EMPLOYED</b> <sup>1</sup>	17.2%	>	22-2	25%	<ul> <li>Land creditors &lt;30% of net assets</li> <li>Strong earnings accretion from enlarged group</li> </ul>
LAND CREDITORS (% OF NET ASSETS)	24.7%	>	<30	)%	
DIVIDEND POLICY (COVER)	2.5x	>	2.!	5x	1 FY21 operating profit margin and return on capital employed are presented before exceptional items as disclosed on slide 9

## SUMMARY

- Strong rebound in performance post COVID-19
  - Low margin sites identified and remedied
  - Operational efficiencies starting to take effect
  - Medium-term guidance reinstated
- Forward sales at 14 January 2022
  - 2,702 units and £719.0m GDV
  - c.63% of FY22 covered
- Transformed balance sheet
  - ROCE up to 17.2% (FY20: 7.6%)
  - £252.8m net cash to fuel growth
  - Growth, dividend, resilience



# MARKET CONTEXT

#### **PETER TRUSCOTT** Chief Executive



# MARKET CONTEXT FACTORS AFFECTING THE SECTOR

- Political and economic environment
  - Housing supply remains a priority
- Operational disruption
  - Materials and labour shortages
  - Build cost inflation
  - Planning and regulatory delays
- Lending backdrop
  - Further interest rate rises could affect sentiment
- Land market
  - Remains competitive
- Regulatory change



TANGIER GARDENS BISHOP'S WALTHAM, SOUTHAMPTON

# STRATEGY UPDATE

#### **PETER TRUSCOTT** Chief Executive



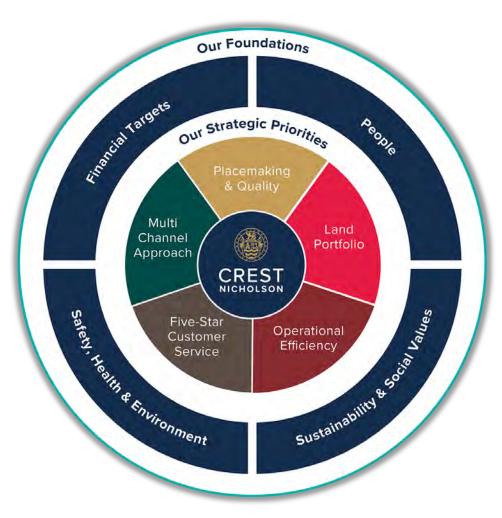
## TURNAROUND NOW COMPLETE TRANSFORMATIONAL PROGRESS

- Delivered what we said we would do
  - Efficient, scalable operating platform
  - Robust balance sheet with resources to grow
  - Experienced leadership team in place
- New house type rollout on track
  - Reduce build time by average of 7 weeks
  - Plots re-planned: over 6,800 (FY20: 5,500)<sup>1</sup>
- Trading out of low margin legacy schemes
- Another year of five-star customer service

#### **1** Units plotted in short-term land portfolio



## THE NEXT PHASE OF OUR STRATEGY MAINTAIN OUR STANDARDS AND DELIVER GROWTH



#### **OUR AGENDA**

- Retain operational efficiencies and principles through growth
- Accelerate operating margin recovery
- Disciplined land acquisition that drives profit growth
- Geographical expansion
- Develop multichannel capability and order book
- Deliver ambitious sustainability targets
- Combustible materials remediation



### MARGIN AND VOLUME FOCUS TWO PHASES OF GROWTH

#### Phase 1

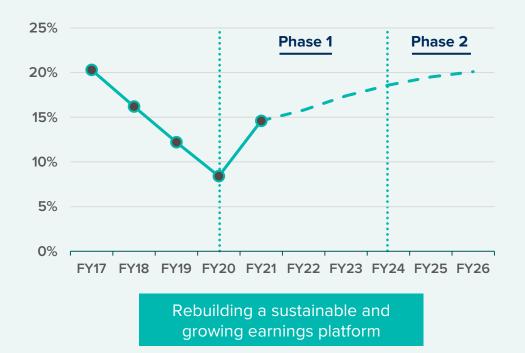
- Rebuilding operating margin to 18% by FY24
- Volume growth from existing divisions
  - Total capacity of 3,250 units pa

#### Phase 2

- 2 new divisions established in FY22
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> new division identified in FY23
- Margin growth ambition of 20% by FY26
- Volume to grow to 4,200 by FY26
  - Accelerated growth from new divisions

#### **Operating Margin**

FY17 – FY26e







- Land to enable existing divisions to reach maturity
  - Competition increasing
  - Operational efficiencies key to hurdle rates
- 4,332 plots approved for purchase in FY21 at an average of 26.7% GM (after S&M)
- c.£100m of cash spent on land since year end
  - Timing differences on approvals and exchange
- Short-term land portfolio at c.5 years

#### **Short-Term Land Portfolio**





## **MULTI CHANNEL APPROACH**

STRONG PROGRESS DEVELOPING CAPABILITIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

- CN approach to partnerships outlined at CMD in October
  - Complementary to open market delivery
  - Lower risk profile and enhanced ROCE
  - Shrinking discount to open market pricing
  - No exposure to low margin contracting schemes
- Successful divestment of existing apartment schemes
  - £120m deal with Oaktree Capital, a total of 403 units across three sites
    - Brightwells Yard, Farnham
    - Centenary Quay, Southampton
    - Walton Court, Walton-on-Thames
- Growing reputation as a trusted partner





- Retained five-star customer satisfaction rating
- Positive customer feedback on new house type range
- New, consistent brand messaging and guidelines
- Enhanced CRM system implemented
  - Increased lead generation and conversion
- Growing digital marketing capability and assets

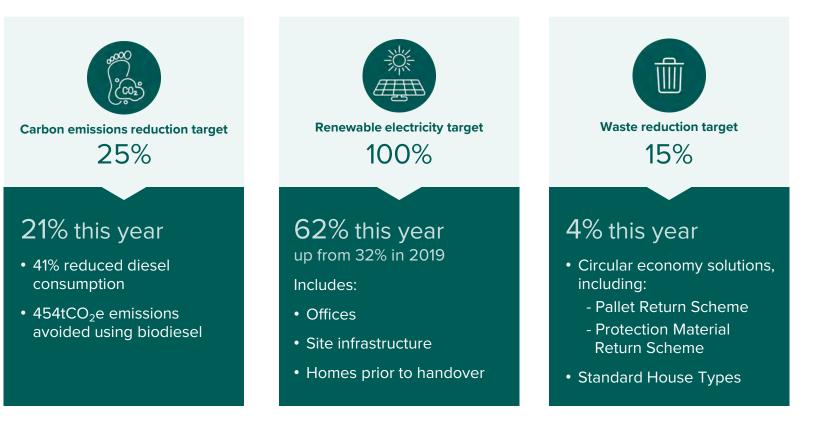


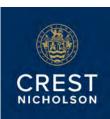




#### SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL VALUE STRONG PROGRESS AGAINST EXISTING CLIMATE CHANGE TARGETS

#### 2025 targets

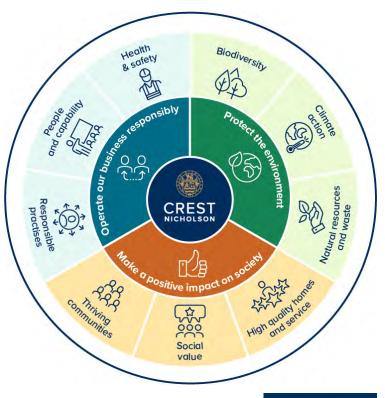






# SUSTAINABILITY & SOCIAL VALUE RECOGNISING OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO GO FURTHER

- Signed up to Race to Zero
  - Net zero emissions no later than 2050
  - Science-based targets to be announced later this year
- Well placed for impact of Future Homes
  - New house types complement 'Fabric First' approach
  - R&D programme in places
  - Provision of costs in land acquisition assumptions
- Strong governance and incentives
  - Sustainability Committee oversees progress
  - Remuneration targets to reflect ambition





# DELIVERING GROWTH

#### **PETER TRUSCOTT** Chief Executive



# OUR PRINCIPLES FOR GROWTH A CLEAR FRAMEWORK FOR EXPANSION

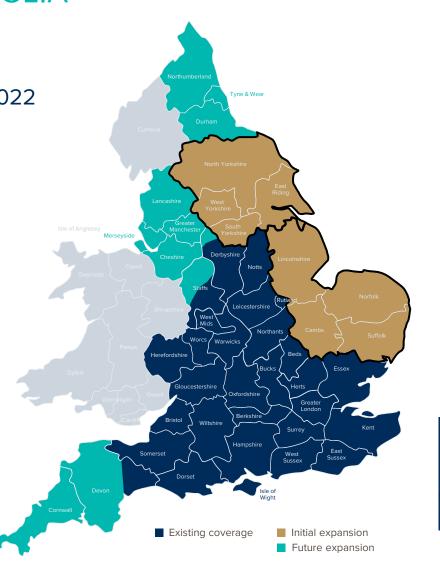
- Build on our positive legacy
  - Strong brand
  - Reputation for placemaking
  - Customer service and build quality
  - High quality land portfolio
- Leverage our scalable model
  - Standardised operating procedures and processes
  - New house type range
  - Multi channel approach to be utilised
- Maintain KPI discipline
  - Margins and ROCE
  - Operating efficiency





### **DELIVERING GROWTH** MOBILISING IN YORKSHIRE AND EAST ANGLIA

- Senior team recruitment progress
  - New divisional leader for Yorkshire joined in January 2022
  - Search for East Anglia equivalent in flight
- Early land acquisition opportunities
  - Norwich: first site agreed with 153 plots
- Regional market opportunities remain compelling
- Further progress to be shared at HY22





# SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

- Turnaround now complete
- Strong performance in FY21
  - Delivered ahead of expectations
  - Operational efficiencies taking over
  - Low margin legacy sites receding
- Enter FY22 in good shape
  - Strong forward order book of 2,702 units at £719.0m GDV
  - Robust financial position and strong balance sheet
- Exciting year ahead as we focus on growth







