

## **Crest Nicholson Holdings plc** May 2014

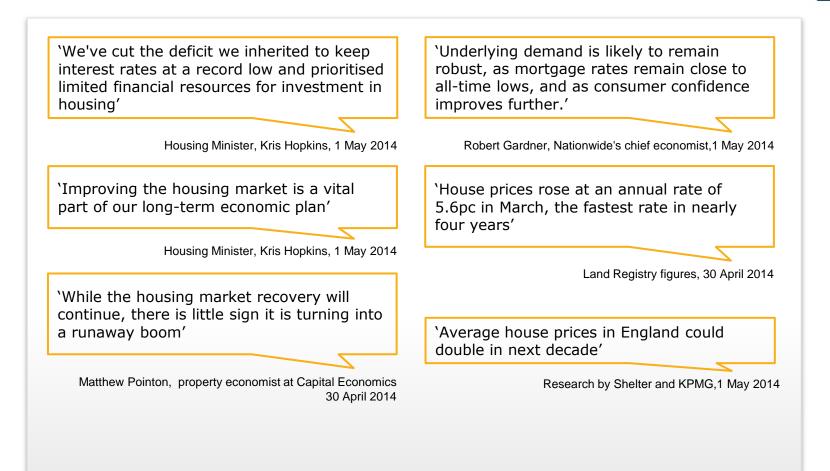




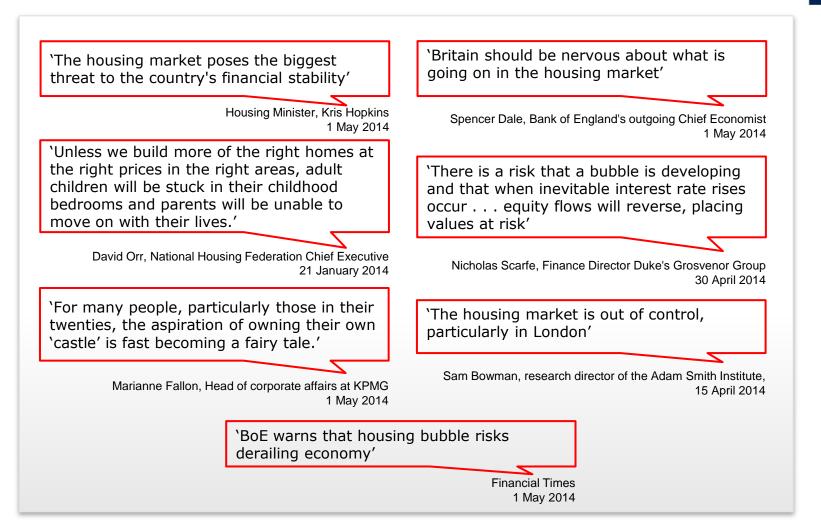
- 1) What's going on in the Housing Market?
- 2) Employment & Mortgage access
- 3) Interest Rates assessing potential impact
- 4) Land, Planning and supply chain
- 5) Recap on the proposition
- 6) Balanced growth
- 7) Conclusions

### Housing Market in good health





### ...but with recovery comes concerns







## Two key factors in the house buying decision:

- Have I got a job?
- Can I get a mortgage?

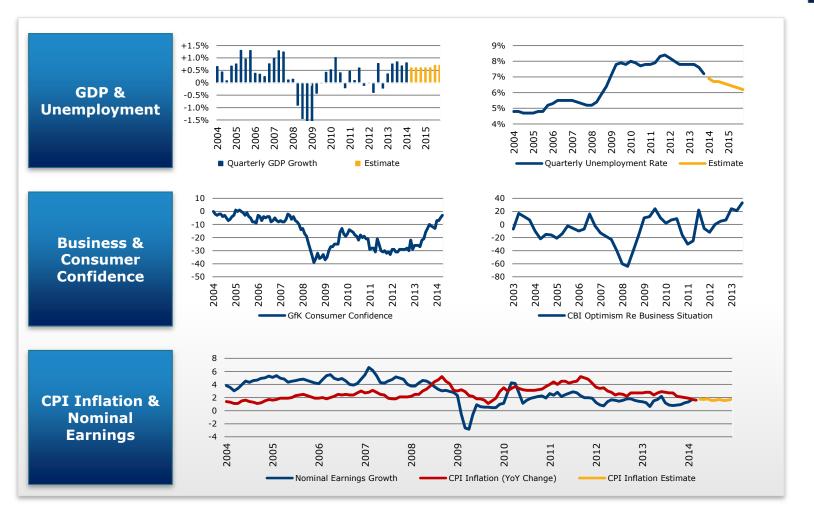
### **Employment – incidence and changes**



Total Employme	ent by	Regior	<b>1</b> (,000)
Region	2010	Q4-13	Change
East	2,796	2,961	+5.9%
East Midlands	2,096	2,166	+3.4%
London	3,738	4,001	+7.1%
North East	1,152	1,174	+1.9%
North West	3,156	3,146	-0.3%
Northern Ireland	775	801	+3.5%
Scotland	2,462	2,556	+3.8%
South East	4,167	4,362	+4.7%
South West	2,518	2,559	+1.6%
Wales	1,316	1,387	+5.4%
West Midlands	2,428	2,486	+2.4%
Yorkshire & the Humber	2,418	2,541	+5.1%
Total	29,018	30,140	+3.9%

Source: ONS. Note: 2010 figure refers to average quarterly total employment figure

### **Resilience in earnings**

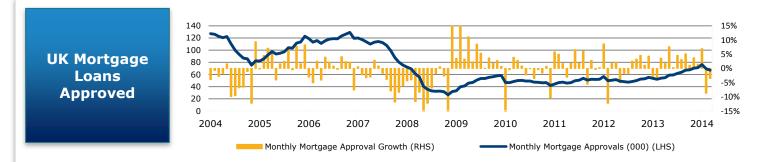


Source: OFS, GfK, CBI Note: All estimates based on Barclays economists



### Mortgage access





- Mortgage access has steadily improved since low of 2009 and grown strongly since last year
- Uplift in mortgage approvals has dipped recently but shortages of stock for sale may hold key(?)
- Key hurdle in environment of rising prices and static real incomes is raising a deposit – so high LTV mortgages at affordable rates to stimulate First-Time buyers in particular very helpful.....

## Help to Buy – redressing the imbalance

Help to Buy (HTB) is recalibrating the market:-

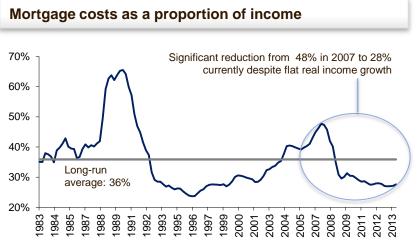
Abnormal

Normal



- Help where help is needed: 87.5% of all HTB transactions have been First-Time Buyers; activity in this group traditional driver of healthy housing market
- Stimulating wider organic housing market recovery & growth - HTB just 2% of housing transactions
  - Average Crest Nicholson HTB price £227K (HYFY14)
  - 5% deposit still £11,350 so 'skin in the game'
  - HTB interest rates at low levels: c.3% affordable start point

### Mortgage affordability



Source: Halifax

Mortgage costs as a percentage of average disposable income

Mortgage costs calculated based on average house prices and mortgage rates over the applicable period. Mortgage payments include capital and interest

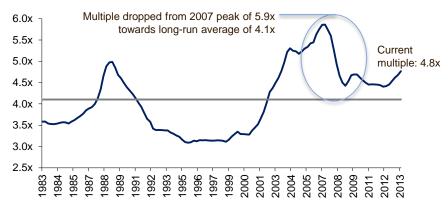
#### The impact of interest rate rises...

- Current household spend on mortgages is 28%
  - assuming a 70%LTV and average rate of 3.1%
- If interest rates were to rise, this would result in....

#### Mortgage rate 3.1% 3.6% 4.1% 4.6% 5.1% 150bps 200bps Uplift 0bps 50bps 100bps Household spend 28% 30% 31% 33% 34%

• Limited impact on the household spending ratio – a 200bps rise would result in a household spend ratio below the long run average of 36%

#### UK house prices to income ratio



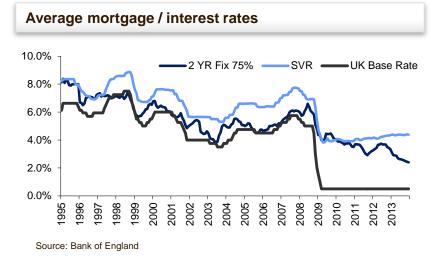
Source: Halifax Based on UK average house prices to household earnings



#### Source: Bank of England Mortgage volumes seasonally adjusted

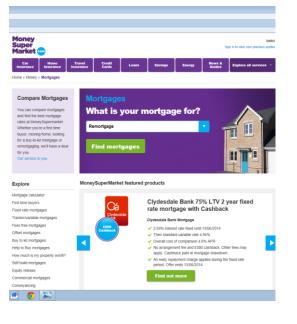
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### Mortgage affordability





UK mortgage volumes (house purchases)



- Limited (but positive) correlation between changes in interest rates and mortgage lending for new home purchases
- Wider spreads over base rate may cushion effect of base rate rises







### Mortgage Market Review

Enshrines best practice progressively adopted post credit-crunch

Affordability checks, greater applicant scrutiny, a longer term view of buyer finances = Responsible Lending



### Land available at or above our hurdle rates:

- London market continues to be highly competitive
- Strategic land opportunities good for experienced teams with proven track record
- Regional short term land markets are more variable

### However: -

### There are more land opportunities in the market..

### ....but fewer developers

- Only 8 quoted 'majors' delivering over 2,000 dwellings per annum (down from 13 in 1988)
- Circa 95 medium-sized developers (down from 260 in 1988)
- Only 2,800 SME's, (delivering between 1 and 100 dwellings p.a.), down significantly from 12,000 in 1988.

### **Planning context**



### Improving supply of consented land

- NPPF starting to take effect
- Planning consents in England up 24% from 140,555 plots in 2012 to 174,471 plots in 2013

### ... but tighter in Southern England

- Increases not evenly spread
- Midlands increases 59% to **30,562** plots whilst Southern England only increased 18%, but to **97,605** plots

# ... and planning remains a significant barrier to entry in time, cost and complexity terms.

- Much of costly processing arises from European Directives which are not subject to UK "red tape challenge"
- Cost & complexity have contributed much to reduced number of SME's & medium sized developers

## **Supply Chain**

- Build costs c.50% of Revenue
- Build cost inflation weightedaverage increases of c.5% through 2013
- Need 2.5% Sales Price inflation to maintain margins
- Supply chain has now had longer to respond to the sudden uplift in activity



Bricklaying rates per '000 still below 2006 peak in real terms

Great B	ritain						
		Production		Deliveries (from)		Stocks*	
(a) Bric	к Туре						
				All Types			
2009		1,257		1,469		887	
2010		1,430		1,606		702	
2011		1,554		1,646		610	
2012		1,459		1,551		515	
2013		1,555		1,736		339	
2012	Q4	311	K	345		515	
2013	Q1	342	(R)	345	(R)	513	(R)
	Q2	389	(R)	459	(R)	443	(R)
	Q3	416	(R)	498	(R)	362	(R)
	Q4	408	(R)	434	(R)	339	(R)
2013	January	101	(R)	97	(R)	518	(R)
	February	113	(R)	116	(R)	516	(R)
	March	129	(R)	131	(R)	513	(R)
	April	126	(R)	142	(R)	497	(R)
	May	130	(R)	159	(R)	469	(R)
	June	133	(R)	158	(R)	443	(R)
	July	134	(R)	181	(R)	396	(R)
	August	134	(R)	156	(R)	375	(R)
	September	148	(R)	161	(R)	362	(R)
	October	152	(R)	175	(R)	339	(R)
	November	149	(R)	152	(R)	336	(R)
	December	107		108		339	
	January (P)	128		133		322	



#### 31% increase in outputs

Slowing rate of inventory erosion

Source: BIS statistics

## **Elections can create uncertainty...**

- Potential for policy changes can create uncertainty and a temporary drop in activity
- Sales rates in 8 weeks prior to General Election in 2005 were 25% lower than prior year – but recovered to match prior year post-election
- Outcome of 2015 elections very hard to call at this stage



## ... but Housing remains on the agenda





Jan 2014 – "as part of our long-term economic plan we introduced the Help to Buy scheme, so hardworking people with sufficient earnings can get on, fulfil their aspirations and enjoy the security of owning their own home."



April 2014 – "We have got to do more to tackle Britain's chronic lack of housing, and to build high-quality homes in thriving new communities."



May 2014 – "A Labour government will make sure that Britain builds 200,000 more homes a year by the end of the next Parliament so that more families can fulfil their dream of home ownership".





### **Implications for Crest Nicholson**

Positive environment in which to continue growing shareholder value

New division in 2014 next phase of the growth story

### Maintaining focus on our Differentiation





### Strategic positioning

- Scale and nature of future housing provision kept under review
- Garden Village concepts being developed on larger sites

ILD TO RENT

 Continuing to engage on Private Rental Sector

MODERN VILLAGES FOR TODAY







### **Previously reported projections**

- Revenue growth of 50% in three years from October 2013; ASP (primarily mix) and Volume
- 2,500 units to deliver this year
- Double-digit NAV and EPS growth across forecast horizon
- Progressive Dividend policy: funding growth & yield

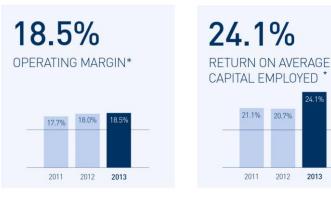
2014 LTIP targets – mid-range requires ROCE% at 21% and PBT growth at 20% per annum over three years

### **Experienced team focused on returns**



- Re-growing business to a 'natural scale' that fits with hands-on management style
- Leveraging overhead to sustain strong EBIT margins and sweating assets to drive ROCE
- Deep industry experience; maintaining capital and operational disciplines





2013

### **Balanced growth: new Division**



- Additional Division will enable Crest Nicholson to mine known, strong areas more intensively
- Supports Outlet breadth and growth beyond 3,000 units
- Land to pump prime largely in place; re-financing completed to fund
- Key individuals identified; development opportunities help with retention of good staff



### Conclusions



- Fundamentals of Housing Market are sound; strength based on economic recovery and mortgage access, aided by 'Help to Buy'
- Interest rate movements should not derail momentum; affordability remains good even at 200bps higher
- Improving supply of consented land underpins returns
- Crest Nicholson well positioned to grow its business; stretching but achievable ambitions for the next three years









#### Disclaimer

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