

Full year results presentation

Presented by

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July 2024



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Highlights – a decade of profitable growth

REVENUE

£136.7m (+12%) (2023: £121.8m)

- Overall revenue growth of 12% (6% organic)
 - Business recovery and advisory 7% revenue growth
 - Led by business recovery up 13%

ADJUSTED PROFIT BEFORE TAX

£22.0m (+6%) (2023: £20.7m)

- Record year for property division with 26% revenue growth

ADJUSTED DILUTED EPS

9.9p (-2%) (2023: 10.1p)

- Four value accretive acquisitions in the year
 - Contributed £5m to reported revenue

PROPOSED TOTAL DIVIDEND

4.0p (+5%) (2023: 3.8p)

- Net debt lower than originally anticipated
 - Absorbed acquisition payments and funding EBT share purchases

FREE CASH FLOW

£12.4m (2023: £14.1m)

- Seventh consecutive year of dividend growth, 5% increase in dividend

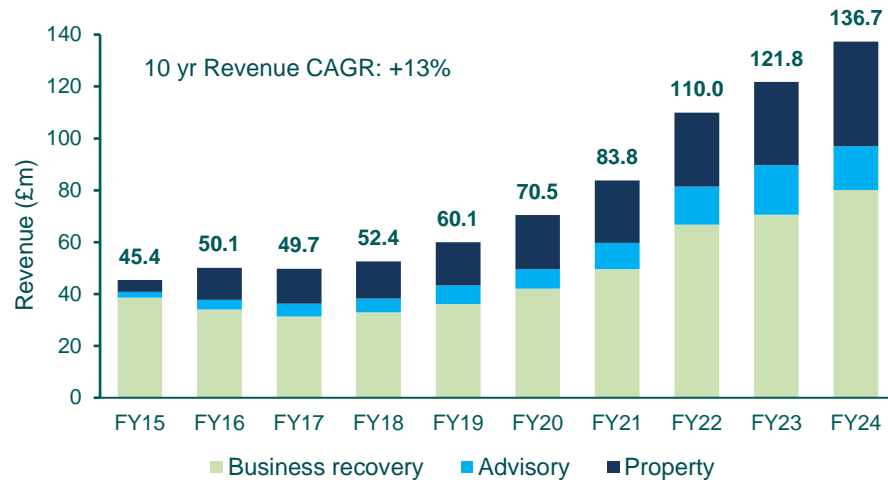
NET (DEBT) CASH

£(1.4m) (2023: £3.0m)

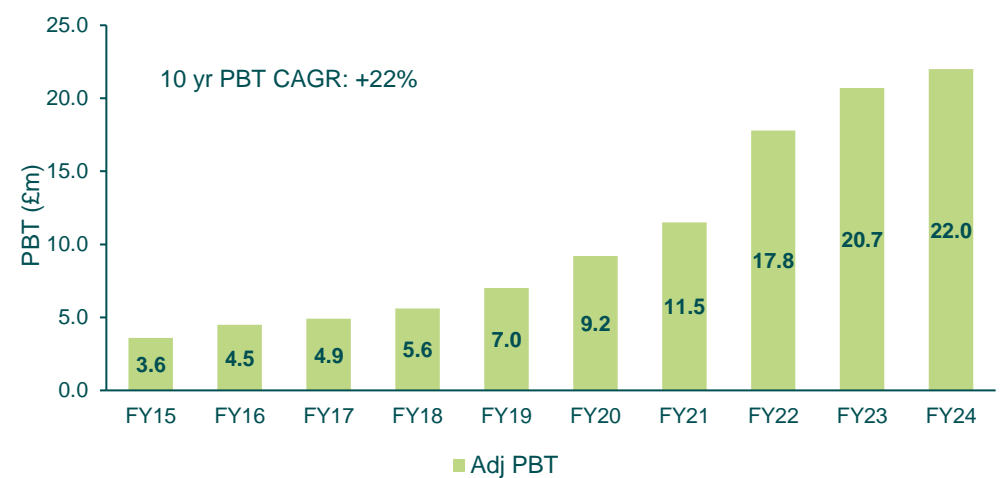
Another successful year of strong financial performance, confident of further year of growth

Consistent profitable growth across the cycle....

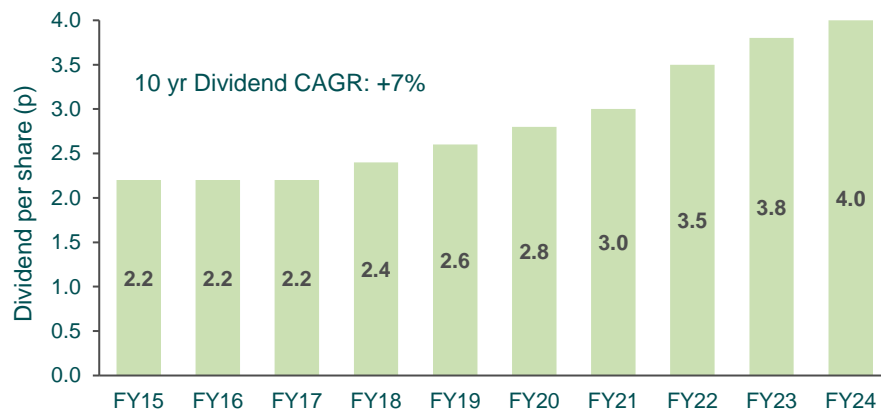
Revenue Growth and Diversification



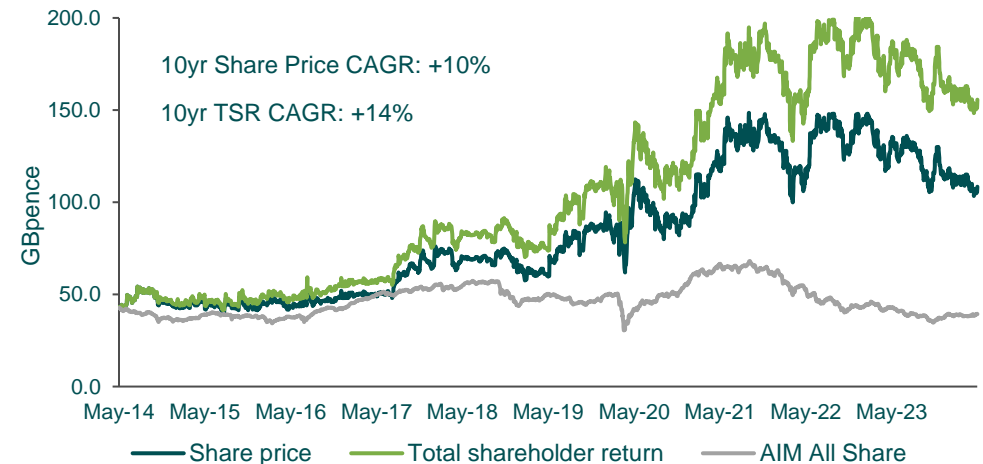
Profit Growth



Dividend Growth



Share Price Performance



....resulting in a leading UK advisory firm

Business recovery and advisory		Property advisory		
Business recovery	Advisory and corporate finance	Valuations	Asset sales	Property consultancy
Corporate and personal insolvency	Debt advisory and finance broking	Property	Property auctions	Building consultancy
Business restructuring and turnaround	Corporate finance	Assets	Plant and machinery auctions	Transport planning
Contentious insolvency	Special situations M&A	Businesses	Commercial property agency	Commercial property management
Creditor services	Financial advisory	Loan security	Business sales agency	Insurance and protection

Proportion of FY24 revenue



Financial review

Financial highlights – growth across both divisions

£m	2024	2023
Revenue	136.7	121.8
Adjusted EBITDA	28.5	26.6
Operating profit	23.9	21.8
Adjusted profit before tax	22.0	20.7
Adjusted diluted EPS	9.9p	10.1p
Dividend per share	4.0p	3.8p
Net (debt) cash	(1.4)	3.0

- Revenue growth of 12% (6% organic)
- Operating margins of 17.5% (2023: 17.9%)
 - Increases across business recovery and property offset by subdued M&A advisory
 - Central costs as percentage of revenue 6.7% (2023: 6.6%) due to investing in IT and HR capability
- Adjusted profit before tax growth of 6%, reflecting increased finance costs
- Adjusted tax rate of 26% (2023: 21%), reflecting the increase in UK corporation tax (CT) rates
- EPS reduced due to CT rate increase
 - On a constant tax rate EPS would have been 10.6p (an increase of 5%)
- Proposed increase in dividend of 5% - cover of 2.5x (2023: 2.7x)

Reconciliation of adjusted to statutory profit

£m	2024	2023
Adjusted profit before tax	22.0	20.7
Acquisition consideration	(11.1)	(12.3)
Negative goodwill (gain on acquisition)	0.8	4.3
Transaction costs	(0.3)	(0.4)
Amortisation of acquired intangibles	(5.6)	(6.3)
Non-underlying items	(16.2)	(14.7)
Statutory profit before tax	5.8	6.0

- **Acquisition consideration**

- Charged to profit rather than capitalised if contingent on selling shareholders remaining with the group
- Designed to preserve value of goodwill and customer relationships acquired
- Payments agreed in sale and purchase agreements

- **Negative goodwill (non-cash)**

- Consideration not being capitalised results in exceptional gain

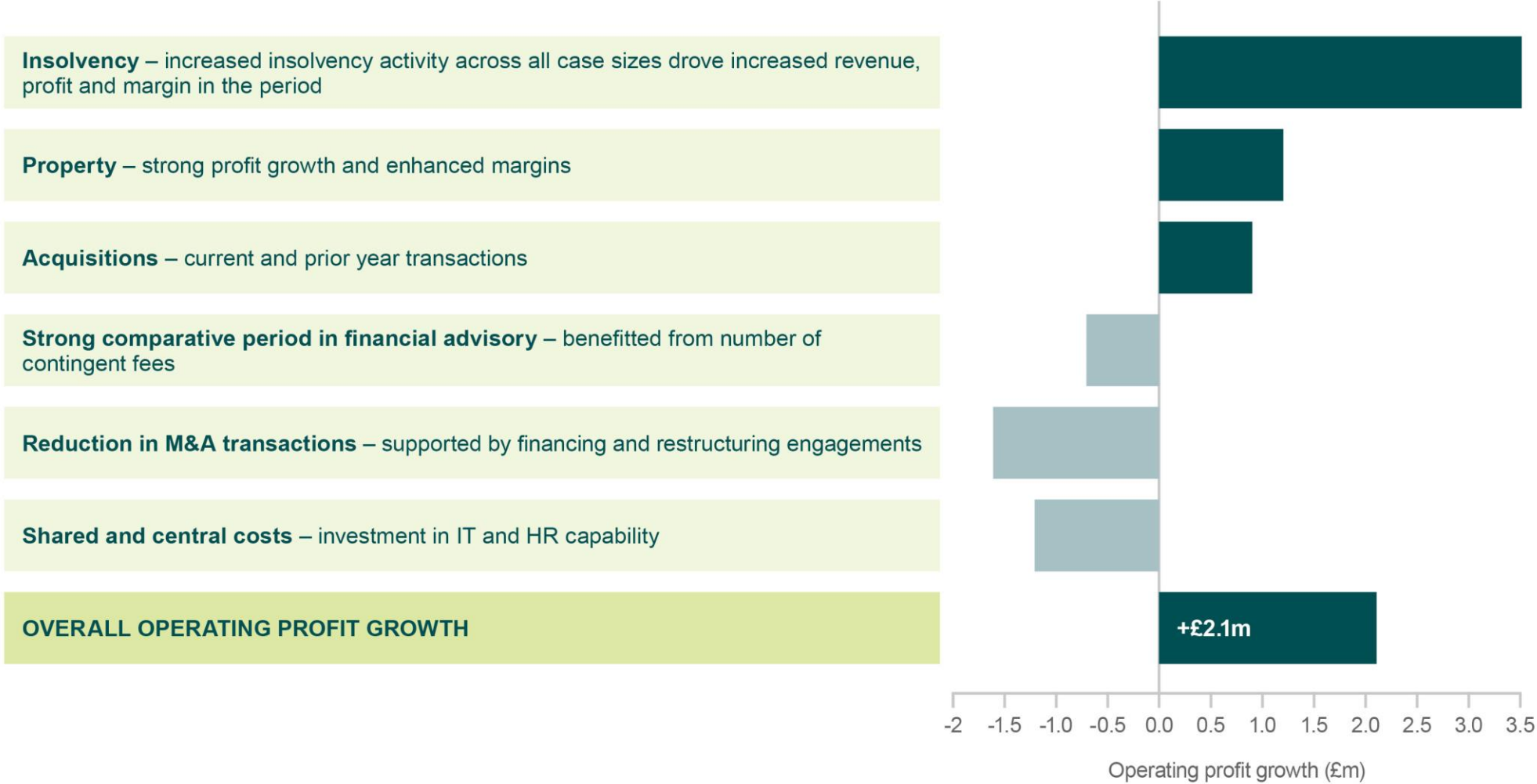
- **Transaction costs**

- Legal and professional fees

- **Amortisation of acquired intangibles (non-cash)**

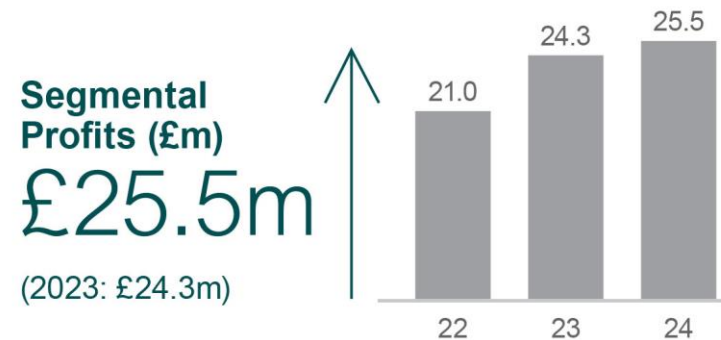
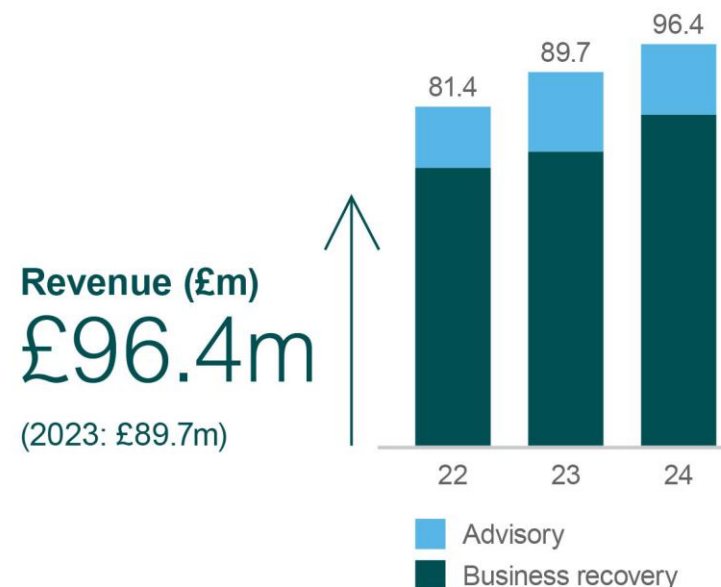
- Intangible assets recognised through acquisition accounting (typically brands, customer relationships, order books and websites)

Balanced mix of services driving double digit growth



Business recovery and advisory – a further successful year

- Revenue growth of 7% (6% organic)
- Profit increase of 5% with margins of 26.5% (2023: 27.1%)
- Higher levels of insolvency activity driving
 - Revenue increase of 13% to £79.5m (2023: £70.6m)
 - Order book increase of 8% to £71.9m (2023: £66.7m)
 - Improved margins
- Advisory revenue reduced by £2.2m to £16.9m (2023: £19.1m)
 - Quieter M&A market and transactions supported by refinancing and restructuring
 - Giving a resilient and profitable performance
 - Margins reduced due to:
 - Strong comparative period (benefitted from number of contingent fees)
 - Reduction in M&A transactions
- Year end headcount increased to 732 (2023: 694)

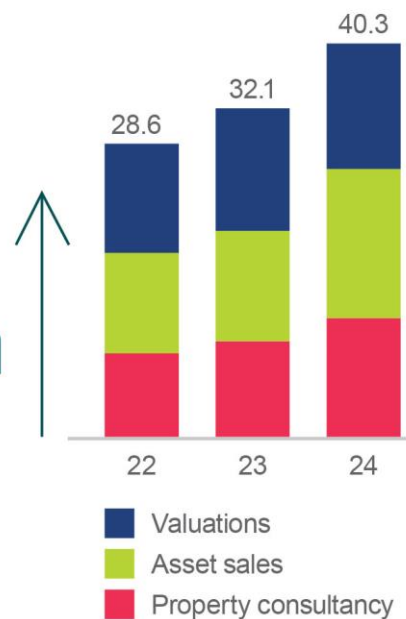


Property advisory – a record year

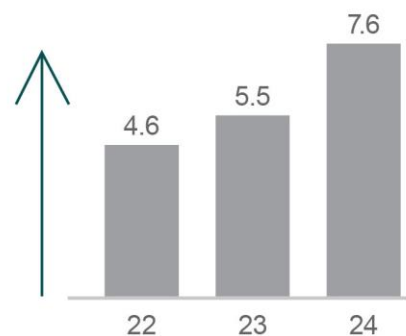
- Revenue growth of 26% (7% organic)
- Profit increase of 38% with margins improved to 18.9% (2023: 17.1%)
 - Additional consultancy fees of £0.5m benefitting the year with underlying margin of 18%
- Consultancy (40%*)
 - Significant revenue growth of over 20%
 - Continued development of service offering, notably to key clients in education sector
- Asset sales (35%*)
 - Significant revenue growth of over 30% principally driven by on-going investment in auction business
 - Resilient agency performance reflecting strength of local teams and sector focus
- Valuations (25%*)
 - Revenue growth of 10%, principally from Andrew Forbes acquisition
 - Robust organic performance reflecting resilient business and strong panel positions
- Year end headcount increased to 442 (2023: 338)

* % of FY24 revenue

Revenue (£m)
£40.3m
(2023: £32.1m)



Segmental Profits (£m)
£7.6m
(2023: £5.5m)



Investing in our people, processes, sustainability and marketing

People

- Continue to invest in developing our teams
 - Developing talent and learning opportunities
 - Enhanced benefits package in the year to give more flexibility and broader range of benefits

Processes

- Investing in technology to improve processes and efficiency
 - Adoption of third-party software solutions giving increased automation
 - Utilising in-house skills to deliver successful implementation

Sustainability

- Good progress during the year across both people well-being and environmental impact

Digital marketing

- Successfully increased income from internet-led direct marketing activities
 - Bolstering our leadership of the liquidation market
 - Driving growth in property advisory

Enabling efficiencies and sustainable growth

Strong financial position with new, enhanced bank facilities

£m	2024	2023
Adjusted EBITDA	28.5	26.6
Working capital	(3.5)	(2.8)
Cash from operating activities	25.0	23.8
Tax	(6.7)	(5.3)
Other payments (interest, capex, lease payments)	(5.9)	(4.4)
Free cash flow	12.4	14.1
Dividends	(5.9)	(5.4)
Acquisition payments (net of cash acquired)	(8.5)	(10.6)
Purchase of own shares (net of proceeds)	(2.4)	0.2
Decrease in net cash	(4.4)	(1.7)

- Net debt of £1.4m at 30 April 2024 (2023: net cash £3.0m)
- New and enhanced facilities agreed in February 2024
 - £25m unsecured, committed RCF (£7m utilised at April 2024) and a £10m accordion
 - Costs broadly in line with previous facility
 - Three-year term to February 2027 with two one-year extension options giving potential maturity in February 2029

Guidance - confident of further year of growth

- Confident of outlook, in line with current market expectations*
- Business recovery well-placed to continue track record of growth
 - Insolvency activity at elevated levels
 - Well-placed to provide advice and support to the business community
- Advisory and corporate finance teams expected to improve performance
 - Encouraging pipeline of M&A instructions and an anticipated recovery in M&A activity later in the year
 - Continuing positive activity levels in debt advisory and funding
- Property advisory well-placed to build on recent strong track record
 - Good prospects for further acquisitive and organic development across all core disciplines
- Cash generation and recently renewed and enlarged debt facility gives flexibility to execute growth strategy
- Update at AGM in September 2024

** current range of analysts' forecasts (as compiled by the company) for year ended 30 April 2025 - revenue of £148m-£150m and adjusted PBT of £23.0m-£24.3m*

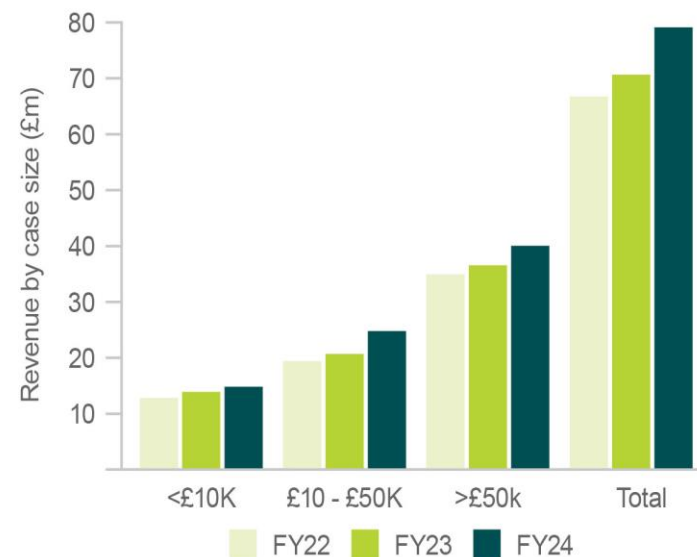
Divisional review

Business recovery and advisory: a further successful year

Business recovery

- Continuing revenue growth across all case sizes
 - Larger more complex appointments represent 50% of revenue
 - Regional network and digital marketing provide more routine cases
- Market-leading positions maintained by volume, ranked:
 - First nationally for overall appointments
 - Second nationally for administrations
- Notable cases include:
 - Administrations of Worcester Rugby Club and receivership of Britishvolt EV battery site continued
 - New administrations of Readie Construction, Breathe EV, Fortress Capital and Thought Fashion
 - Ongoing momentum with new administrations since the year end

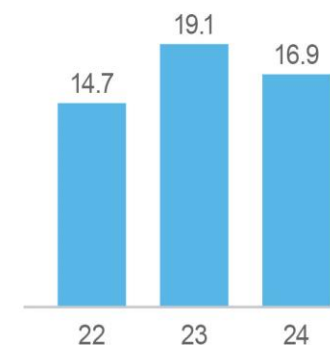
Business recovery revenue by case size



Advisory

- Well-placed to deliver further growth
 - Senior recruitment ongoing and potential acquisitions
 - Encouraging pipeline of M&A advisory transactions and anticipated recovery in M&A instructions

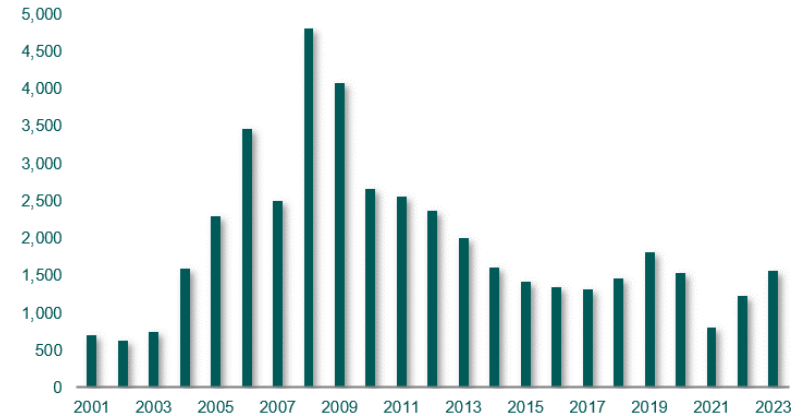
Advisory revenue (£m)



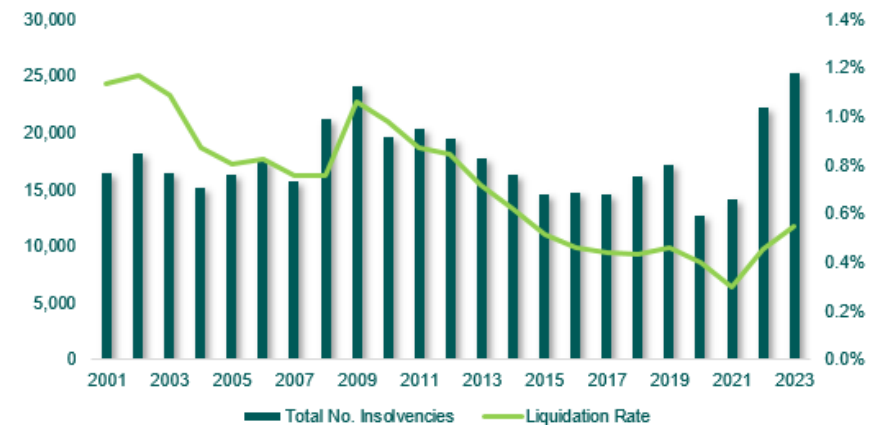
Elevated level of insolvencies expected to be maintained

- Administrations (typically larger insolvencies) remain significantly below previous peak (2008)
- Liquidation rate at c.0.5% is less than half previous recessionary peak of >1.0%
- Normalised interest rates anticipated to sustain higher activity
 - Contrasts with benign environment during and following 2008-2010 recession
 - Red Flag research showing increase in distress levels
 - Allianz Trade forecasting further 10% increase in 2024 and remaining at elevated levels in 2025
- Increased insolvency practitioner capacity to 98 from 93 last year
 - Total professional team of 625 (2023: 597)

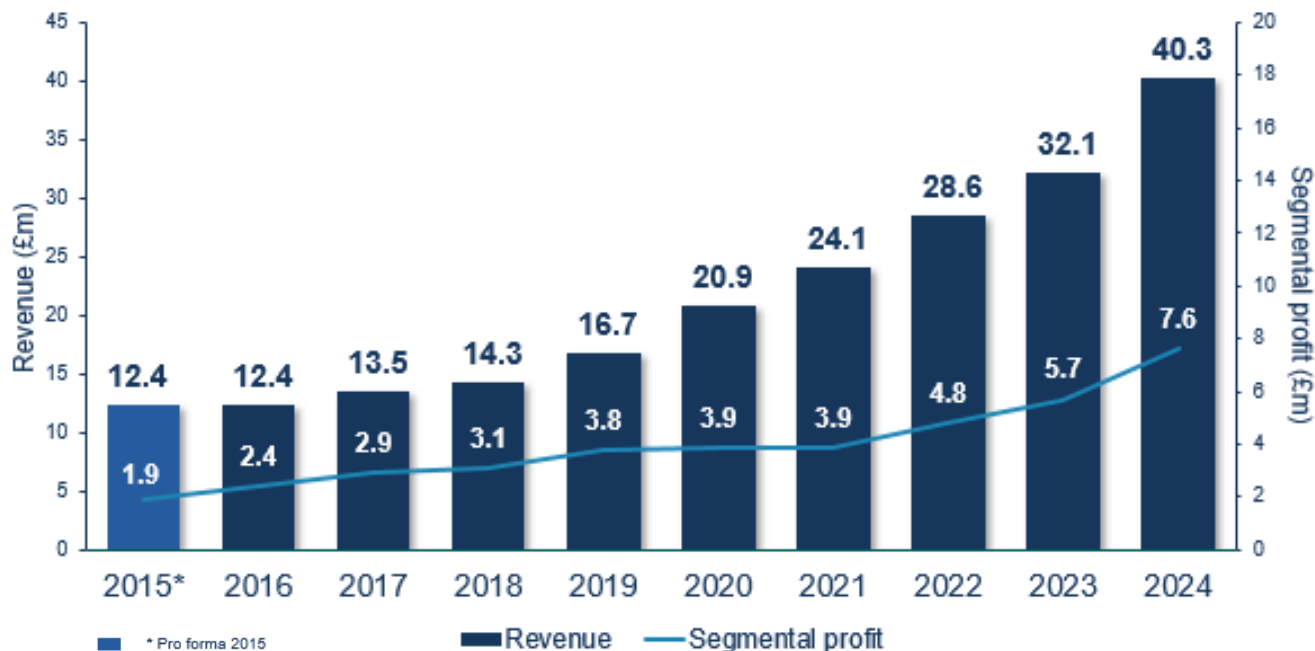
Administration appointments



Corporate insolvencies



Ten years of accelerating growth in property advisory

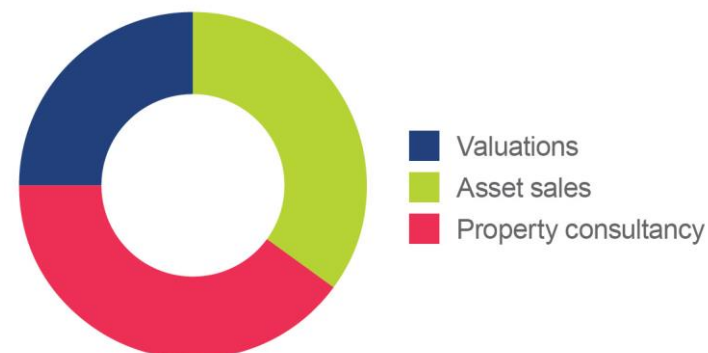


- Division created through acquisition of Eddisons in Dec 2014
- Significantly increased scale from £12m at inception to current run rate of £45m
- Grown from a Yorkshire-based multi-disciplinary property consultancy to a well-regarded mid-tier national firm, retaining and operating under the Eddisons brand
- Demonstrated resilience through the cycle, reporting strong growth and improving profitability
- Completed 15 acquisitions in ten years with an investment cost of £34m
- Team increased from 135 to 442 – reflecting the expanded range of services and coverage

A record year for our property team with continuing expansion

- **Asset sales** - further investments to boost team

- Auctions now national practice with pro-forma revenue c.£10m
 - Property, plant and machinery sales
 - Acquisition of SDL in Dec 2023, follows Mark Jenkinson (prior year)
 - Now marketing over 250 lots per month
- Acquisition of Banks Long in May 2023 – general practice
 - Strong commercial property agency team
 - Strengthened presence across Eastern England and South Yorkshire
- Capital value of over £300m of assets sold – increase of 50% from FY23
 - Ranked a top 5 agent in 2024 by volume (Source: Estates Gazette)



- **Property consultancy** - growth continues with plans for further development

- Continuing growth to key clients in education sector - recruited head of sustainability and decarbonisation
- Synergy and cross-selling benefits from growth in wider business

- **Valuations** - geographic expansion

- Andrew Forbes acquisition in November 2023 - extended into South West region
 - Expect to benefit from enhanced panel exposure to deliver revenue synergies
- Ongoing recruitment plans to increase the team

Significant opportunities to consolidate in our fragmented market

Strategy for growth

Proven growth strategy executed successfully since 2014

Organic growth

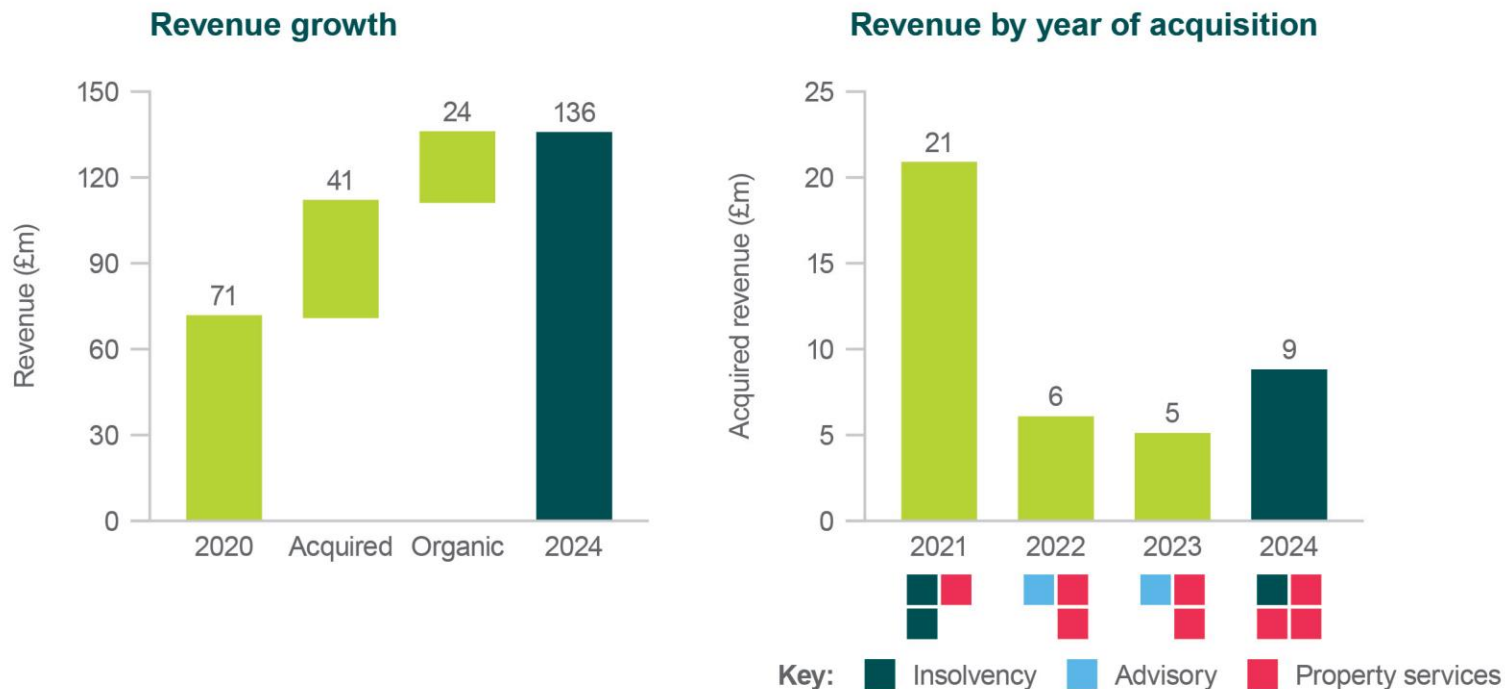
- Retention and development of our existing partners and employees
- Recruitment of new talent
- Enhanced cross-selling of our service lines and expertise to our wider client base
- Investment in technology and processes to enhance working practices and improve the service to our clients

Acquisition strategy

- Value-accretive acquisitions in any of the following market segments
 - Existing service lines to enhance market share, expertise and geographical coverage
 - Complementary professional services businesses to continue the development of the group and its service offering

Ambition to maintain growth track record with medium term revenue target of £200m

Acquisitions accelerating growth, diversification and resilience



- Significant increase in scale of group resulting from growth strategy
 - Well-established process for identification, valuation, acquisition and integration of target businesses
 - 13 value enhancing acquisitions delivering revenue and operating synergies
- Cash generation, strong balance sheet and facility headroom underpin capacity for further acquisitions

Summary - confident in our strong platform for future growth

- Successfully executed growth and diversification strategy since 2014
 - Driven material growth over the period
 - CAGR of 13% revenue and 22% adjusted PBT
- Results for the year built on strong track record with growth across both divisions
 - Delivering seventh successive year of dividend growth
- Started FY25 with encouraging activity levels in all service lines and positive momentum
 - Market conditions for the group's services remain positive
 - Strong cash generation and enlarged debt facility gives flexibility to execute growth strategy

Ambition to maintain growth track record with medium term revenue target of £200m

Investment case

- Strong track record of cash generative, profitable growth
 - Well-established progressive dividend policy
- Strongly positioned for further growth
 - Market leading business recovery practice
 - Strong growth in non-insolvency activities
- High levels of repeat business
 - Extensive, long-established client base and referral network
- Highly experienced board and leadership team
- Proven growth strategy
 - Continued organic investment complemented by earnings-accretive acquisitions

Ambition to maintain growth track record with medium term revenue target of £200m



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