

# Half Year Results For the period ended 30 June 2022 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022

### Agenda

1 Introduction and highlights
 2 Financial review
 3 Evolve strategic update
 4 Q&A
 5 Appendix

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# Introduction and highlights

# Introduction and highlights

Revenue growth across all divisions converting strongly to profit and cash

Strong revenue growth	<ul> <li>Group revenue increases by 34% to £1.3bn</li> <li>Strong growth across all divisions, and particularly in our discretionary</li> <li>Momentum building with Q2 stronger than Q1</li> </ul>
Converting strongly to profit and cash	<ul> <li>Benefits of operational leverage as we return to scale</li> <li>Operating profit up 295% to £91m</li> <li>Step up in operating margin to 7% and cash conversion increased to <sup>2</sup></li> </ul>
Continued strategic progress	<ul> <li>Strong growth pipeline - £2.1bn bidding and acquisition opportunities,</li> <li>16 new contract wins, entry into Portugal with mobilisation of Lisbon, a</li> <li>Progressing fleet decarbonisation - UK Bus business on track to 50%</li> </ul>
Confident in prospects for full year	<ul> <li>Strong first half performance provides confidence for full year</li> <li>UK Coach recovery expected to build in H2</li> <li>Remain focused on managing inflationary environment</li> <li>Continue to anticipate reinstating the dividend for FY 2022</li> </ul>
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coach businesses

70%

predominantly in ALSA and North America and one of two in final stage in Dubai zero emission by 2025

### Introduction and highlights Evolve delivering progress across all divisions

### ALSA

- Demand recovery in Long Haul and strong Morocco performance driving revenue growth
- Record revenue per km, up 19% yoy
- Entered paratransit market via acquisition in Spain
- Lisbon first of 2 contracts mobilised in Portugal
- 'Best Place to Work' certification in Morocco

### **North America**

- Revenue and profit in Shuttle ahead of 2019...
- ...9 new contract wins will boost this going forward
- Asset light paratransit contract win in Richmond, Virginia
- Achieving rate increases ahead of expected wage inflation in School Bus
- 25% reduction in speeding events, year on year

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### **UK & Germany**

- UK Bus patronage performing ahead of industry average
- Strong recovery in UK Coach provides momentum into H2
- Further progress on transition to ZEVs and achieving greater than expected efficiencies
- Improving NPS in Coach, ahead of 2019
- Successful mobilisation of Emergency contract award in German Rail

# Financial review

## **2022 interim financial review** Summary

Underlying £m	H1 2022	H1 2021	Change
Revenue	1,324.3	992.4	33.6%
EBITDA	197.8	128.2	54.3%
Group Operating Profit	90.5	22.9	295.3%
Group PBT	68.7	0.1	68.6m
Basic EPS	6.2p	(2.1p)	8.3p
Statutory £m	H1 2022	H1 2021	Change
Group Operating Profit/(Loss)	42.3	(26.1)	68.4m
Group PBT	20.5	(50.2)	70.7m
Group PAT	15.8	(24.1)	39.9m
Basic EPS	0.4p	(5.8p)	6.2p
Free cash flow	63.8	36.1*	27.7
Covenant net debt	946.8	873.1	73.7

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\*2021 is restated for the reclassification from payables to net debt of amounts due under advance subsidy factoring arrangements

### **2022 interim financial review** Divisional summary

#### **Revenue\***

### **Underlying Operating Profit/(Loss)**

	alsa <b>£444m</b>	+59.8%		H1 2022	H1 2021	Change
	North America	ALSA	£50.3m	£17.1m	£33.2m	
	£519m	+7.5%	North America	£57.4m	£41.5m	£15.9m
	uk £237m +37.3%	UK	(£12.8m)	(£19.9m)	£7.1m	
		German Rail	£3.0m	(£7.6m)	£10.6m	
	German Rail		Central functions	(£7.4m)	(£8.2m)	£0.8m
	£124m	+59.0%	Group	£90.5m	£22.9m	£67.6m

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\*Year-on-year revenue change shown in constant currency

### **2022** interim financial review Separately disclosed items

	Income S	statement	Cash
£m	2022	2021	2022
Amortisation of intangibles arising upon acquisition	(18.7)	(19.4)	-
Covid-related costs	(3.3)	(15.4)	(8.3)
North America driver shortages	(19.7)	-	(2.7)
Restructuring costs	-	(10.1)	(4.3)
Re-measurement of RRX onerous contract provision	(4.9)	(3.2)	(4.7)
Other separately disclosed items	(1.6)	(0.9)	(3.2)
Separately disclosed items within operating profit	(48.2)	(49.0)	(23.2)
Interest charges directly resulting from Covid-19	-	(1.3)	-
Total <u> national express</u>	(48.2)	(50.3)	(23.2)

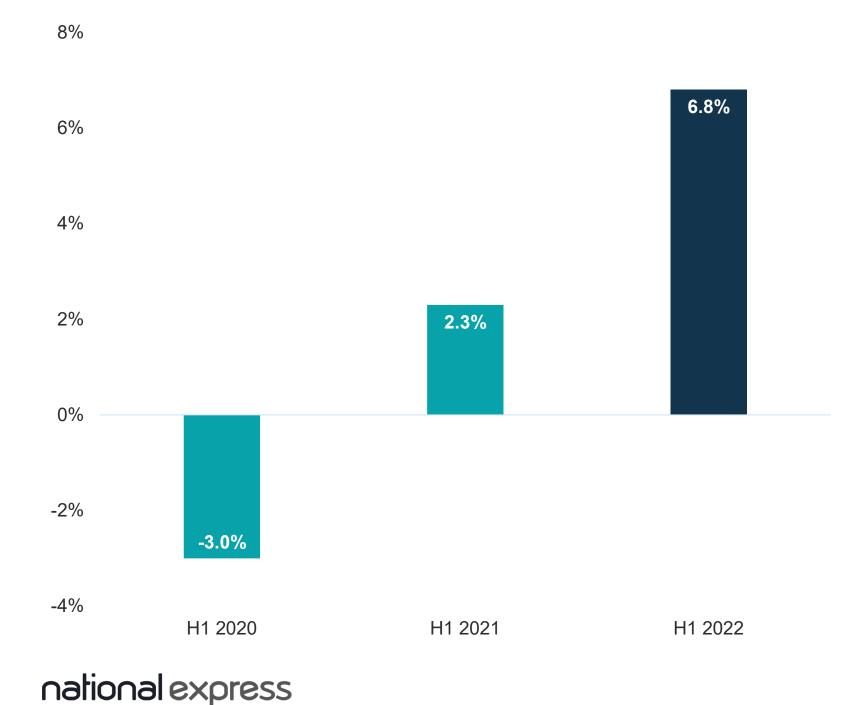
- \_ items
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No further Covid-related items other than re-measurements of previously recorded

North America driver shortages primarily relates to onerous contract provisions and associated impairments where the shortages resulted in losses over the remaining contract term

Increase to the RRX onerous contract provision due to energy price rises

### **2022 interim financial review** Sequential margin improvement

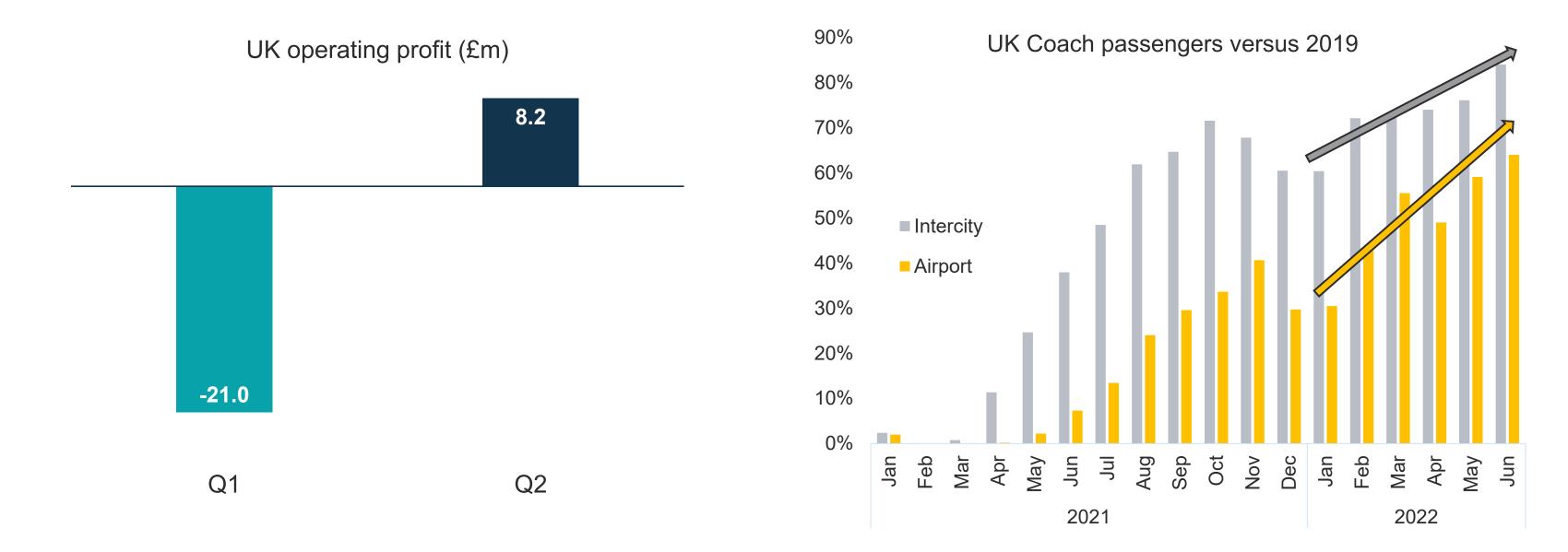


- Underlying operating margin up 450 bps to 6.8%
- Below 2019 leve
   UK losses
- Operational leverage in UK driving positive Q2 and momentum into H2
- NA H1 margin b for the FY
- Expect slight increase in Group margin for the FY and continuing to build thereafter

Below 2019 levels driven by business mix and H1

NA H1 margin boosted by CERTS...will be lower

## **2022 interim financial review** UK impacted by Omicron in Q1; rebounding strongly into H2



### **2022 interim financial review** School Bus driver shortages and wage inflation

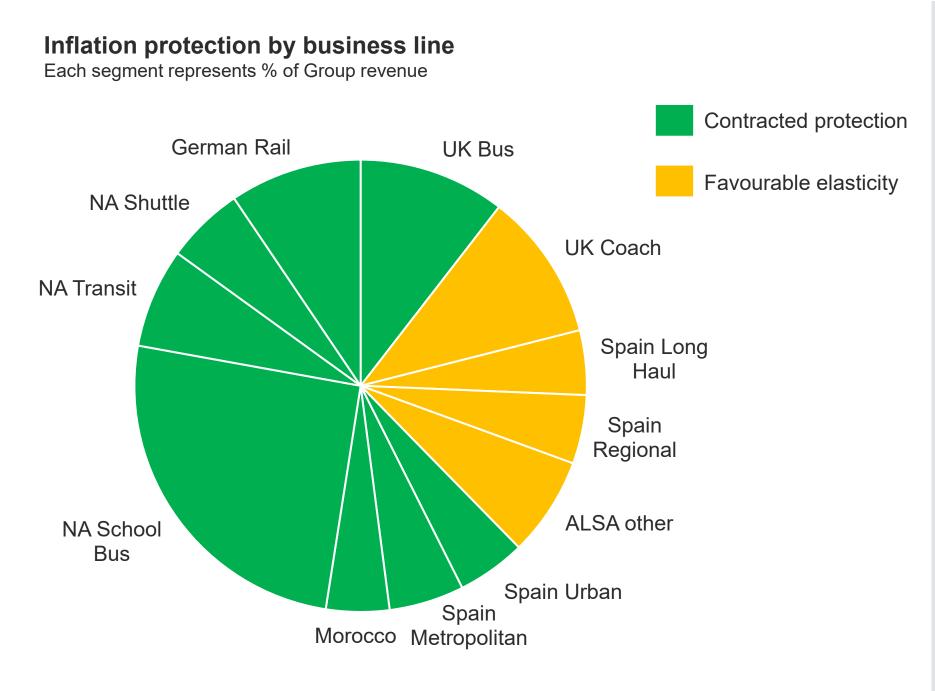
### Wage inflation covered as contracts renew

Short term drag as vacancies filled

Robust over the cycle

- Wage inflation running at 10-12%
- Average 10% price increase on contracts renewed this year; exceeding wage inflation in those locations
- Non-expiring contracts (c.60% of total) either have fixed rate or CPI-linked increases in the contractual terms; average price increase of c.4%
- Overall, average 7% price increase on total portfolio, which offsets cost inflation
- Temporary profit and margin impact from lost routes; recovered as driver shortages filled
- 2,000 drivers short at end of last school year
- Forecast filling a third of vacancies in upcoming school; balance within 18 months
- Structural boost to margin boosted as remaining contracts renew over next two years
- Weaker economic backdrop likely a tailwind

### 2022 interim financial review Medium tern inflation protection



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Other than School Bus, wage inflation running at low to mid single digit growth and generally subject to multi-year agreements

c.60% of Group revenue is contracted with annual escalators based on CPI or some other indexation

c.50% of contracted revenue effectively inflation protected - costs are passed through or escalators are based on actual fuel or wage increases

Track record of recovering inflation in School Bus when contracts renew if not before

Non-contracted parts of the Group cover costs by increasing passenger fares; elasticity currently favourable vs. private car and rail

### **2022** interim financial review Continued strong free cash flow

£m			
	H1 2022	H1 2021*	FY 2021
EBITDA	197.8	128.2	300.0
Working capital	(24.9)	(9.0)	33.0
Net maintenance capex	(88.3)	(56.7)	(142.1)
Pension deficit	(3.6)	(3.6)	(7.2)
Operating cash flow	81.0	58.9	183.7
Tax & interest	(17.2)	(22.8)	(60.3)
Free cash flow	63.8	36.1	123.4

- £70m improvement in EBITDA reflecting strong growth in revenue and Underlying Operating Profit

- Working capital outflow reflecting unwind of CERTS deferred income partially offset by strong cash collection

- Maintenance capex at 0.8x depreciation as guided
- £64m free cash flow, representing conversion of 70%

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\*2021 is restated for the reclassification from payables to net debt of amounts due under advance subsidy factoring arrangements as explained in our 2021 annual report and accounts

## 2022 interim financial review Leverage returns below covenant levels

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	H1 2022	H1 2021	FY 2021
Free cash flow	63.8	36.1	123.4
Net growth capital expenditure	(29.2)	(74.9)	(134.4)
Net acquisitions and disposals	(25.6)	(46.9)	(54.3)
Separately disclosed items	(23.2)	(34.3)	(44.4)
Payment on hybrid instrument	(21.3)	(5.3)	(5.3)
Other (mainly FX)	(62.2)	60.9	59.8
Net funds flow	(97.7)	(64.4)	(49.9)
Net debt	(1,167.5)	(1,084.3)	(1,069.8)
Net debt for covenant purposes	(946.8)	(873.1)	(866.6)
Gearing	3.1x	5.6x	3.6x

- Growth capex reflects Casablanca fleet
- Acquisitions include £6m for a Spanish paratransit business and £18m for further 10% share in WeDriveU
- £23m of cash costs for separately disclosed items, principally associated with residual Covid-19 and restructuring costs, and onerous contracts
- Other outflows of £62m predominantly relate to FX on foreign debt translation
- Gearing back within pre-amended covenant tests

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\*2021 is restated for the reclassification from payables to net debt of amounts due under advance subsidy factoring arrangements

### **2022 interim year financial review** Disciplined capital allocation

Invest for growth (targeting investments that deliver 15% returns) Return to Shareholders (dividend at least 2.0x covered)

Pipeline of opportunities worth an annualised £2.1bn revenue, mainly organic

Intention to reinstate dividend for full year 2022, based on expectations for 2022 performance Anticipate significant deleveraging during 2022 with gearing between 2.5x and 3.0x at 31 December

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Maintain a prudent balance sheet (net debt to EBITDA in a range of 1.5 to 2.0 times)

# **2022 interim year financial review** 2022 guidance reiterated

- Full year revenue in line with 2019 levels
- Around 7% margin
- Maintenance capex around 0.8x depreciation
- Around £100m of growth capex
- Gearing between 2.5x and 3.0x
- Intention to reinstate dividend in respect of full year 2022

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# Evolve strategic update

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### **Business and strategic update** Evolve recap

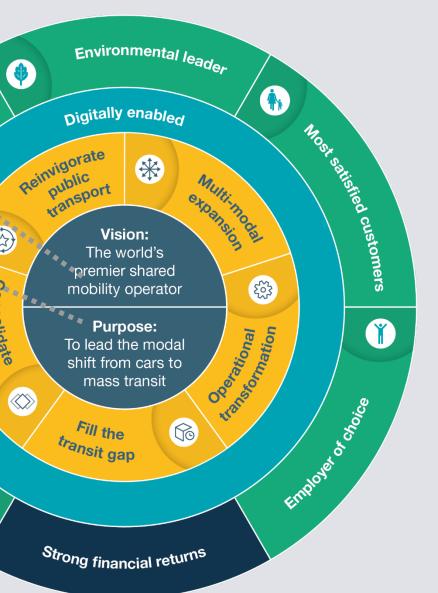
Our Evolve strategy is rooted in our vision – to be the world's premier shared mobility operator

We have a clear purpose: to lead the modal shift from cars to mass transit

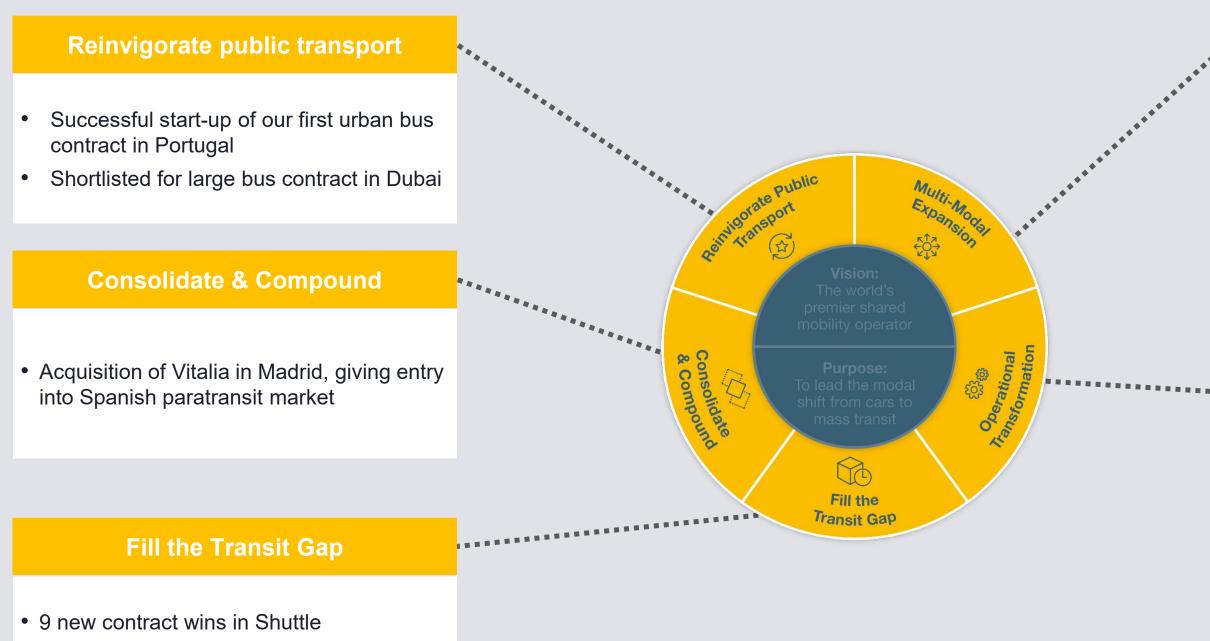
We do this through five customer propositions, underpinned by, technology

All of which drives our target outcomes of being the best-inclass operator with strong financial returns Consolidate & compound

Most reliable



### Business and strategic update Good progress on developing our customer propositions



Asset light paratransit contract win in North
 America

#### **Multi-modal expansion**

- Awarded an all-electric urban bus contract in Geneva
- Expansion of Transport Solutions to West Midlands, UK

#### **Operational transformation**

 Successful mobilisation of two emergency contracts in German Rail

## **Business and strategic update** Evolve - Successful mobilisation in a new market

- Successful mobilisation on time and ahead of other operators •
- Operating urban bus services in Lisbon
  - 227 buses including 23 ZEVs, 153 routes
  - Providing mobility for nearly 400,000 people, employing 350 people
- 7-year contract, with 2-year extension, revenue protected ○ €185m revenue over 7 years
- Second contract, Porto, to start operating in H1 2023
  - 7-year contract, revenue protected
  - €119m revenue over 7 years
- Demonstrating our reputation for reliability and ability
- Strong credentials for bidding further contracts in Portugal and other new markets



## Business and strategic update Evolve – Delivering operational transformation in German Rail

- Successful mobilisation of 2 emergency award contracts in German Rail:
  - RRX 1 and 11, 6.2 million kilometres p.a.
- 2-year contracts to Dec 2023, revenue protected
   €100m revenue p.a.
- Mobilised 1<sup>st</sup> contract within 6 weeks, 2<sup>nd</sup> within 10 weeks
- Demonstrating our reputation for reliability and reinvigorating public transport
- Operating synergies with existing contracts leading to increased efficiencies
- Strong position for bidding for RRX Lot 1 on renewal and strengthening credentials for further contracts

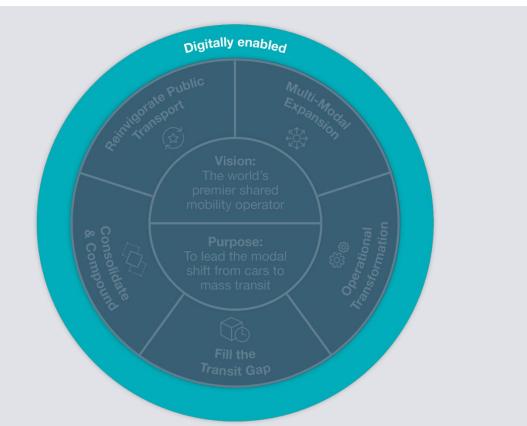


### **Business and strategic update Digitally enabling Evolve outcomes**

#### Safest

- Group-wide speed control technology
- Driver Assistance Systems: increasing automation, reducing burden on drivers
- AI & Big Data analysis of accidents & driver risk profiles
- Driver simulation training





#### **Most Reliable**

45%

- Transformation programmes to optimise operations & fleet mgmt.
- On-Demand solutions across the • Group e.g. Via, Spare and Ecolane
- CitySwift AI based network optimisation software in UK Bus, driving:







#### **Environmental Leaders**

- ZEV & AV modal shift & multimodal services
- AV shuttle Madrid University campus & AV pilots in North America
- Al network optimising tools aligned to environmental criteria & new fleet technology



#### **Employer of Choice**

Training models using AI & ML for individual driver behaviours Optimisation tools for shifts & rosters improving work-life balance



#### **Most Satisfied Customers**

Continual improvement of B2B & B2C digital channels Mobility as a Service apps integrating travel and payment Mobi4U already launched in Spain & Morocco; UK Bus developing app in partnership with TfWM



# Business and strategic update Developing scalable digital assets with Group-wide applicability



	Development & improvement of operational tools	Channels & Customer information
Ч	<ul> <li>Optimising Fleet Management with IBM Maximo</li> <li>Rolling out planning solutions to optimise resources</li> <li>Improving B2C journeys &amp; B2B customer mgmt. with Salesforce</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Development of web, app and or digital channels</li> <li>Revenue Management optimisa</li> </ul>
item	Platforms Management	Data Management
	<ul> <li>Move to cloud solutions to accelerate the deployment of new initiatives</li> <li>AI &amp; Analytics: AI models &amp; IoT / Automation</li> <li>Safety &amp; Payroll: Connecting existing tools to work as a platform</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>AI Models: Forecasting, Clustering predictive maintenance, etc</li> <li>RPA &amp; Process automation</li> <li>Processes KPI &amp; Dashboards</li> <li>Early warnings and real time management</li> </ul>



### Business and strategic update We continue to make progress on our Evolve outcomes

#### The safest

- FWI pmm\* improved by 50%
- Morocco 28% improvement in accidents at fault, driven by mobilisation in Casablanca
- North America 25% reduction in speeding events

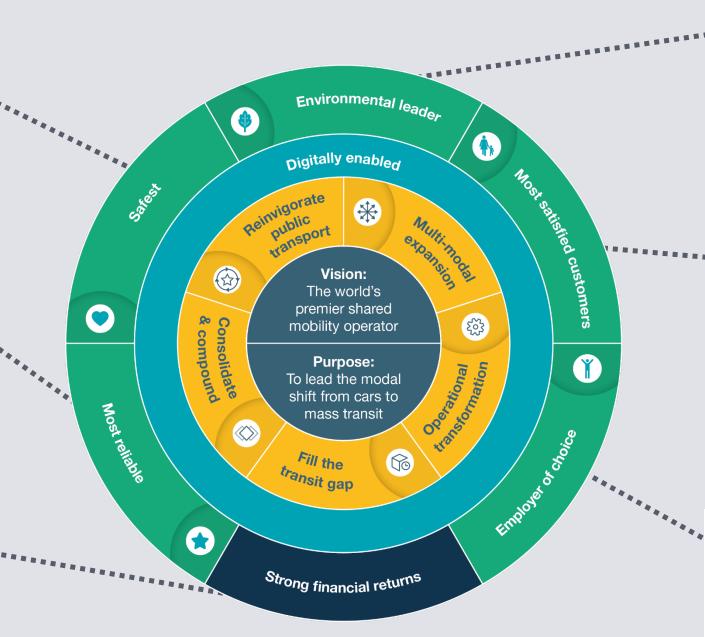
#### The most reliable

- Punctuality and lost miles KPI performance ahead of pre-pandemic levels
- UK Bus punctuality improved by 3%

#### **Strong financial returns**

- Revenue up 34%
- Converting strongly to profit and cash

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\* Pmm = per million miles

#### The environmental leader

- Plans approved for 1,500 ZEVs by 2024
- UK Bus 50% ZEV by 2025
- ZEV efficiencies greater than anticipated, reducing TCO to 15% below diesel

#### The most satisfied customers

- UK Coach NPS 7% higher and Trust Pilot score of 4.5/5
- ALSA customer satisfaction score up 5%

#### The employer of choice

- Global people strategy refreshed and Global Engagement Survey completed
- Morocco awarded 'Best Place to Work' certificate

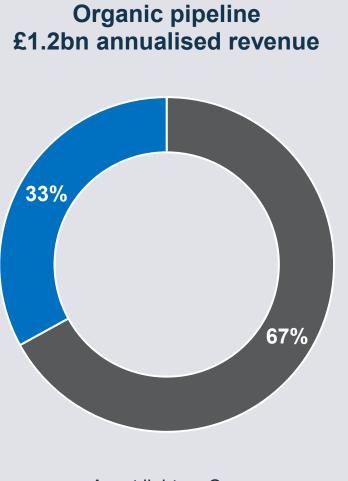
### **Business and strategic update** Strong pipeline of £2.1bn in annualised revenue...

18-month pipeline by division:





### **Business and strategic update** ... Of which £0.8bn asset light bidding opportunities



Asset light Capex

- Significant pipeline of asset light bidding opportunities including:
  - North America transit (Las Vegas, Houston, Orlando)
  - Dubai urban bus
  - Manchester urban bus
  - o German rail
- Offer higher ROCE and minimal cash outlay
- A range of operating margins depending on the level of demand risk and other factors
- 7 such contracts won this half
- Provide growth opportunities whilst deleveraging

### An attractive investment case



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We are taking environmental leadership We have a track record of delivering strong financial outcomes



#### Strong revenue growth

#### Converting strongly to profit and cash

#### **Continued strategic progress**

**Confident in prospects for full year** 









# Appendix

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### **ALSA** Very strong recovery in Long Haul

#### Summary

- Very strong recovery in trading, profit tripled
- Long Haul revenue up 172%, passenger demand up 162%:
  - Occupancy up 37%; yield up over 8%; revenue per km up 19%
- Morocco revenue up 25% record revenue and passengers
- Successful mobilisation of first contract in Portugal; Porto to follow in H1 2023
- 2 new contract wins and 1 contract renewal on improved terms
- Acquisition of paratransit business in Madrid, a new market entry
- In final stage of bidding process for urban bus contract in Dubai

#### New opportunities

- Further opportunities in **Regional and Urban**
- Opportunities in Intercity and further cities in Morocco
- Opportunities in adjacent Rail markets: Portugal, France & Italy – Wage inflation

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#### Risk

- Intercity concession renewal but no intention to restart process in the near term
- Competition from High Speed

### Returns

#### Revenue

Underlying Op profit

Underlying Op margin

Revenue: Up 60%, at constant currency with strong recovery in demand in Long Haul and, in Morocco, with growth from mobilisation of Casablanca and existing contracts.

Profit: €40m improvement reflecting the very strong recovery in Long Haul demonstrating benefit of operational gearing. Margin improved by 530 bps.



H1 2022	H1 2021
€527.5m	€331.1m
€59.7m	€19.8m
11.3%	6.0%

### North America Significant improvement in financial returns

#### Summary

- School Bus and Shuttle revenue strongly ahead
- Transit operating at around 83% of services
- Shuttle revenue up 28% yoy and profit ahead of 2019\*
- School bus operational challenges with driver shortages
- H1 school driver wage pressures offset by CERTS funding
- Price rises above expected wage increases for 2022/23 bid season:
  - 40% of contracts renewed
  - 30% to renew in 2023/24 bid season
- 10 asset light contract wins worth \$80m revenue over contract lives:
  - 9 in Shuttle, 1 in paratransit

#### New opportunities

- Strong pipeline of bidding opportunities worth > \$600m: mainly in Transit and Shuttle
- Potential for growth from customers looking to outsource

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#### Risk

- WFH in Shuttle
- Reduced discretionary travel in Transit
- Driver shortages causing lost routes
- Wage inflation

### Returns Revenue Underlying Op profit Underlying Op margin

Revenue: Up 8% in constant currency, reflecting growth in School Bus, up 8%, Shuttle, up 28% and in Transit, up 5% excluding exited contracts.

Profit: Up 30%, reflecting improved trading and CERTS funding in H1. Margin up 190 bps.

\*Revenue and profit in Shuttle ahead of Q2 2019. We Drive U acquired at the start of Q2 2019.



H1 2022	H1 2021
\$673.5m	\$627.8m
\$74.6m	\$57.5m
11.1%	9.2%

## **UK** Strong recovery in Coach – Q2 in profit

#### Summary

 Very strong recovery in Coach revenue and passenger demand, up 359% and 515% yoy

- Passenger demand back to 75% pre-pandemic levels; higher demand on intercity (84%) versus airport routes (64%)
- Occupancy approaching 70% and yield up 20% yoy
- Commercial bus patronage back to 87% pre-pandemic levels
- BSIP and CRSTS funding secured over next 3 years: supportive to modal shift through doubling of priority lanes and low fares strategy
- Funding secured for a further 124 hydrogen buses, first tranche of 130 electric buses for Coventry now in operation

#### New opportunities

- Transport Solutions private hire, holidays & corporate
- Accessible transport market
- NBS presents opportunities to grow patronage through modal shift

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#### Risk

- WFH

- Competition in coach market
- Wage inflation

Returns	
Revenue	
Underlyin	g Op profit
Underlyin	g Op margin

Revenue: Up 37%, driven predominantly by Coach with rapid rise in demand from March onwards. Profit: Reduced loss by £7m. Q1 profitability impacted by Omicron variant in January and February, but rapid recovery in revenue in Q2 saw UK return to profit in the quarter. Impact of operational gearing, higher occupancy and yield in Coach.



H1 2022	H1 2021
£237.3m	£172.8m
£(12.8)m	£(19.9)m
(5.4%)	(11.5%)

### Germany Strong revenue growth



#### Summary

- Strong revenue growth reflecting emergency award of 2 contracts within RRX Lot 1

- Successful mobilisation at very short notice
- 2-year contracts worth €100m revenue p.a.
- Revenue partially protected: RRX contract being a gross cost contract
- Continued to build our reputation for high performance and reliability and strengthening relationships with stakeholders and PTAs
  - Strong position for bidding on renewal of RRX Lot 1

#### Returns

Revenue

Underlying Op profit

Underlying Op margin

#### New opportunities

- Pipeline of German rail tenders

#### Risk

- Failure to win bids in Germany at acceptable rates
- Mobilisation of new contracts
- Energy costs

**Revenue:** Up 59%, largely reflecting the 2 emergency contract awards.

Profit: Up €12m, reflecting subsidy phasing in 2021 and the emergency contract awards in 2022.



H1 2022	H1 2021
€147.3m	€92.6m
€3.5m	€(8.8)m
2.4%	(9.5%)

### **2022 interim year financial review** Our long-term financial targets remain unchanged

Revenue back to 2019 levels in 2022, targeting

at least £1bn additional revenue by 2027

Margin averaging 9% for 2022 to 2027, significantly more than £100m additional profit by 2027 Free cash conversion reaching over 80% by 2027

£1.25bn of free cash generation from 2022 to 2027

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The statements on this page regarding future financial performance are aspirational targets and are not intended to be profit forecasts or estimates for any period and no statement should be interpreted to mean that earnings or earnings per share for National Express, as appropriate, for the current or future financial periods would necessarily match or exceed the historical published earnings or earnings per share for National Express.

#### Paying a dividend at least

### 2x covered,

#### targeting 2022 reinstatement

A lower levered business: targeting a net debt to EBITDA range of

### **1.5 to 2.0x**

## **Cash flow** Navigating our reported cash flow (1/2)

The following is an example of the cash flow that we report in our announcements and presentations. This is on a "funds flow" basis and differs to the statutory cash flow statement. A reconciliation between the two is presented on the next page

	Six months to 30 June 2022	This comprises amou leases taken out durir
	£m	Capital expenditure is
EBITDA	197.8	existing business / co
Net maintenance capital expenditure	(88.3)	become aged, or rene
Working capital movement	(24.9)	This also comprises a
Pension contributions above normal charge	(3.6)	leases taken out durir
Operating cash flow	81.0	
Net interest paid	(13.2)	Capital expenditure is business. E.g. vehicle
Tax paid	(4.0)	In H1 2022 this growt
Free cash flow	63.8	vehicles for the Casal
Growth capital expenditure	(29.2)	
Acquisitions and disposals (net of cash acquired/disposed)	(25.6)	Treatment of leases: In this funds flow format the
Separately disclosed items	(23.2)	all incurred in the year in wh shows the movement on net
Payment on hybrid instrument	(21.3)	
Other, including foreign exchange	(62.2)	Using a simple example: we the funds flow format, this we
Net funds flow	(97.7)	incurring a lease debt obliga maintenance capex.

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Any leases that are <u>not on</u> balance sheet are shown as lease payments netted within EBITDA and are annual outflows, rather than being only upon signing the lease. This is because no lease debt obligation is recorded on the balance sheet when those leases are signed. Note that the majority of leases are <u>on</u> balance sheet.

ounts paid in cash <u>plus</u> the capitalisation of any ring the period

is classified as "maintenance" if it relates to contracts. E.g. replacement of fleet that have newing leases on vehicles or depots

amounts paid in cash <u>plus</u> the capitalisation of any ring the period

is classified as "growth" if it relates to new cles, or a lease on a depot, to fulfil a new contract. with capex was principally payments to acquire ablanca contract

e "cash" outflows in respect of leases that are <u>on</u> balance sheet are which the lease is signed. This is because the funds flow format et debt in the period.

ve sign a 10 year lease of £1m a year to renew an existing depot. In would be a c.£10m outflow upon signing the lease because we are gation of c.£10m. This would show as a c.£10m outflow in

## **Cash flow** Navigating our reported cash flow (2/2)

The following is a reconciliation between the "funds flow", which is the format of cash flows that we focus on and is what we present in our announcements and presentations, and the statutory cash flow statement contained within the financial statements

	Six months to 30 June 2022	These are the amounts sho just the payments made in
	£m	just the payments made in
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(70.0)	
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	5.5	
Payments to acquire intangible assets	(5.7)	These are the adjustments
Proceeds from disposal of intangible assets	4.1	flow format. The funds flow capex rather than just the p
Net capital expenditure in statutory cash flow statement	(66.1)	adjustments here are:
Add: profit on disposal of fixed assets	(10.5)	<ol> <li>Any profit or loss on di because these are refl</li> </ol>
Add: capitalisation of leases initiated in the year, less disposals	(15.2)	<ul><li>2) Capitalisation of lease</li></ul>
Add: cash payments in respect of IFRIC12 purchases	(25.7)	leases). So, for examp immediate impact on r
Net capital expenditure in the funds flow	(117.5)	we incur a lease debt
Split as:		3) In certain contracts the
Net maintenance capital expenditure	(88.3)	requires us to classify not shown as capex in
Growth capital expenditure	(29.2)	movement in working of transfer these amounts

on the previous page

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hown in the statutory cash flow statement. These are in cash and exclude the impact of capitalising leases

ts to get from the statutory capex cash flows to the funds by format shows the movement of net debt in respect of physical cash payments made in the period. The three

disposal of fixed assets is added back here; this is eflected in EBITDA in the funds flow format ses initiated in the period (less impact of disposing of nple, if we sign a lease for £1m a year for 10 years, the net debt would be circa £10m (simplistically because t obligation of 10 x £1m)

here is an accounting standard called IFRIC12 which y any purchases of assets in contract assets. These are in the statutory cash flow; instead they are shown as a capital. Therefore, for ease of understanding, we nts to capex in the funds flow format

These are the amounts shown as capex in the funds flow format - as presented

### **Risk management** Fuel risk largely fixed until 2023

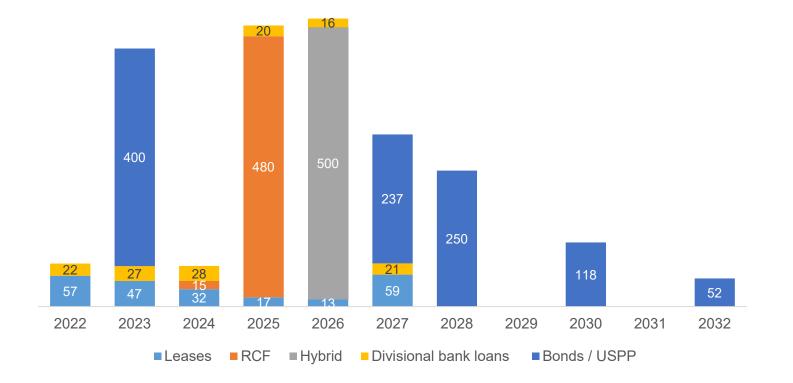
Fuel hedging

	2021	2022	2023	2024
% hedged*	100%	100%	75%	35%
Price per litre**	37.8	36.1	36.5	41.6

- Average weighted hedge price of 37.2p, similar to 2021

### **2022** interim financial review Significant liquidity headroom

#### Maturity profile – committed facilities



- £0.8bn cash and committed headroom:
  - RCF undrawn £0.5bn
  - Cash £0.3bn
- Average maturity of 4.6 years

### national express

**Financing activity** 

maturity in H2 2023

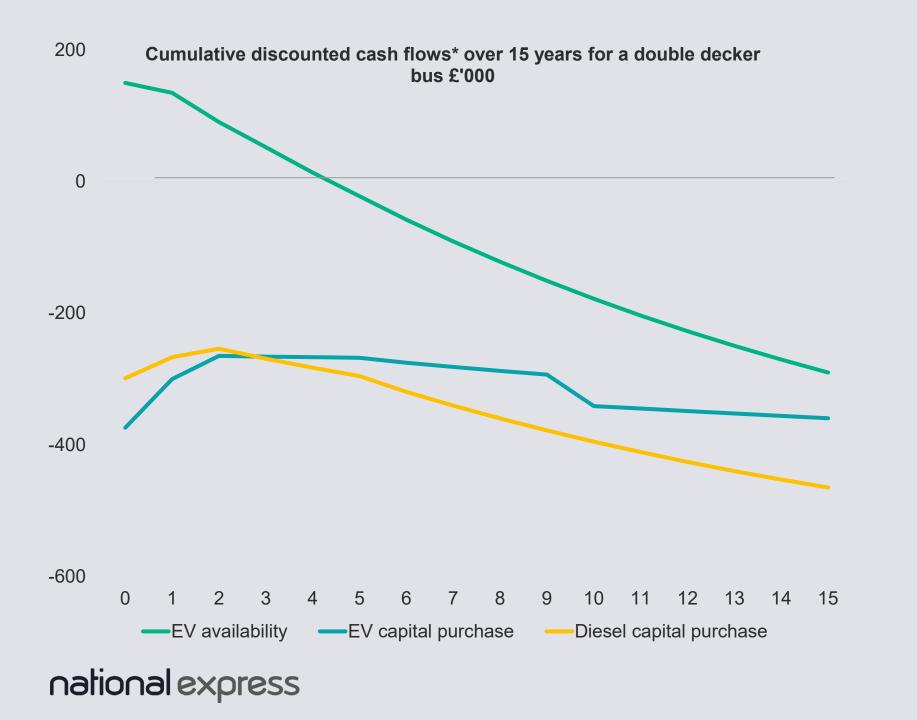
### - No material refinancing requirement before the £400m bond

### **Covenants and ratings** Robust Balance Sheet; Investment Grade ratings reaffirmed

Covenant ratios	2022 half year	2021 year end	Ratings	Grade	Outlook
Gearing	3.1x	3.6x	Moodys	Baa2	Stable
			Fitch	BBB	Stable
Interest cover	8.2x	6.3x			

- Gearing now back within pre-amendment limit of 3.5x. Gearing covenant test amended to 5.0x for June and December 2022
- Interest cover covenant returned to pre-amendment level of 3.5x for June 2022 onwards
- Quarterly liquidity tests and bi-annual maximum net debt tests during amendment period. No dividend to be paid if gearing exceeds 3.5x
- Remain committed to a robust financial strategy:
  - Strong commitment to Investment Grade debt rating
  - Medium term commitment to reduce gearing to 1.5x-2.0x EBITDA
  - Prudent risk planning rolling fuel hedge and pension deficit plan in place

## **2022 interim financial review** Availability contracts offer the optimal cash flow solution



- EV's operated via availability contracts provide a better cash flow outcome than EV's or diesels purchased outright
- Even without grants, EV is preferential to diesel for cash flow
- EV availability solution is slightly dilutive for operating margin in the early years versus diesel capital purchase, but:
- parity at PBT margin
- parity at operating margin in later years (due to lower maintenance costs for EV)
- avoids capital outlay
- far superior for ROCE

\* Cash flows include current grants. All cash flows discounted at the Group's weighted average cost of capital

## Modal shift potential Significant potential for passenger growth



national express

CPT\*estimates 41% increase in local bus passenger Kms by 2030, and 83% by 2050 through modal shift for Great Britain and....

.... In the West Midlands, an increase of 65% by 2030 and 120% by 2050

Modal shift is already happening

TfWM survey suggests:

- 73% of people are now using the car less
- 37% of people are now using public transport more
- 48% of people are already modal shifting and a further 27% are considering doing so

### 1% modal shift from a car = 23% increase in bus passenger mileage<sup>\*\*</sup>

\*Source: WPI Economics/Confederation of Public Transport – The decarbonisation dividend: Forecast 41% increase by 2030 versus 2019, and 83% by 2050 for local bus passenger Kms across Great Britain to meet the UK net zero emission goals. \*\*DfT's 'Passenger transport by mode' study

# **External sustainability recognition**

#### Sustainability is integral to what we do and we are recognised for this by a number of external bodies.

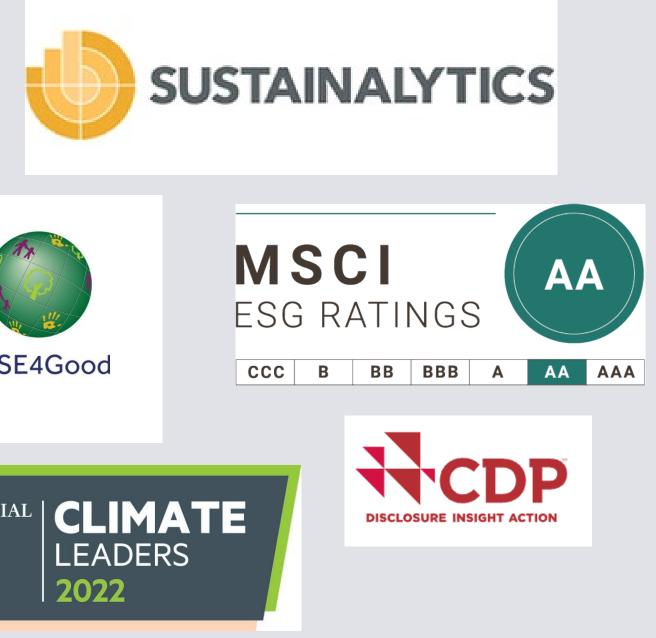
Sustainalytics rates National Express as 'low risk' for ESG overall and in every single subcategory. We are rated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> percentile of all transport companies (out of a total of 349) and in the 5<sup>th</sup> percentile of over 14,000 companies in the Sustainalytics global universe.

MSCI – In November 2021, MSCI rated us AA, the second possible highest rating, with an industry- adjusted score of 8.5 out of 10.

National Express is a constituent of the FTSE4Good Index Series.

CDP (formerly the Carbon Disclosure Project) rates us as B- for climate change and C for water security: we are working hard to improve our future responses.

Recognised as one of Financial Times Europe's Climate Leaders.







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