







# **OVERVIEW**

#### Introduction

Tim Stacey

#### **Financials**

Marie Wall

#### Strategy & Operational update

Tim Stacey

#### **Future Growth, Outlook & Summary**

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#### **Questions & Answers**







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### INTRODUCTION

#### **EXECUTING OUR STRATEGY HAS DRIVEN SIGNIFICANT PROFIT GROWTH AND LEVERAGE REDUCTION**

#### Growth in market share, margins and profitability:

- Outperforming a market in slight decline; order intake +10.2% YoY<sup>1</sup>
- Continued gross margin rate improvement; +70 bps YoY
- Delivered our £50m cost saving target a year ahead of plan

#### Financial position strengthened:

- Disciplined capital investment
- Absolute debt reduced by £58m
- Significant reduction in leverage

#### Optimistic about the future:

- Expect to grow FY26 profit through cost & efficiency actions and our compelling customer proposition
- Well positioned for market recovery; market leadership position, scale benefits and high operational gearing driving 40% revenue to profit drop through
- Strong FCF expected: well invested asset base & negative working capital model

£30M PBTU(A)
UP +£20M YOY

1.4X LEVERAGE DOWN FROM 2.5X AT FY24

MEDIUM-TERM TARGETS: £1.4BN REVENUE & 8% PBT MARGIN



sofology



### **HEADLINES**

+9%

+16%

DFS YoY order intake<sup>1</sup>

Sofology YoY order intake<sup>1</sup>

+21%

**54.1%** 

Home Q4 YoY order intake<sup>1</sup>

DFS Established Customer NPS score

 $1\,$  Measured on a 52 week vs 52 week basis to enable a like for like comparison YoY (FY24 was a 53 week period)









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# **RESULTS OVERVIEW**

(£m) unless otherwise stated	FY25 (52 weeks)	FY24 (53 weeks)	YoY
Revenue	1,030.3	987.1	4.4%
Underlying PBT(A) <sup>2</sup>	30.2	10.5	19.7
Reported PBT	32.9	(1.7)	34.6
Neported FB1	32.9	(1.7)	34.0
Underlying basic EPS	9.2p	1.5p	7.7p
Net bank debt	107.0	164.8	(57.8)
Leverage <sup>3</sup>	1.4x	2.5x	(1.1x)

- Strong trading performance driving revenue growth of 4.4% in a subdued market
- PBTu(A) and EPS growth driven by trading performance, gross margin progression and disciplined cost management
- Strong cash flow generation used to pay down debt; significant improvement in leverage

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excludes brand amortisation of £1.4m in each of FY24 and FY25

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Leverage per banking covenant definition (Pre-IFRS 16)

# **REVENUE**REVENUE GROWTH OF 4.4%, AHEAD OF THE MARKET

Order intake growth	FY25 YoY		
DFS	8.7%		
Sofology	16.2%		
Order Intake (LFL <sup>1</sup> )	10.2%		
Order Intake (Reported²)	8.7%		

Gross sales & revenue growth <sup>2</sup> (£m)	FY25	FY24	YoY
DFS	1,091	1,047	4.2%
Sofology	297	265	12.2%
Gross Sales	1,388	1,312	5.8%
Revenue	1,030	987	4.4%

- Both brands delivering strong order intake growth across the period
- Gross sales increased to a lesser extent than order intake due to a late Easter and customer demand for longer lead time products resulting in a resilient order bank ending FY25
- Revenue growth reflects the DFS brand's investment in market leading interest free credit proposition to stimulate demand & higher average order values,









# COST TO OPERATE EFFICIENCIES: £50M TARGET ACHIEVED A YEAR AHEAD OF PLAN

#### **Gross margin**

 Optimisation of product margins through redistribution of volumes with key supplier partnerships

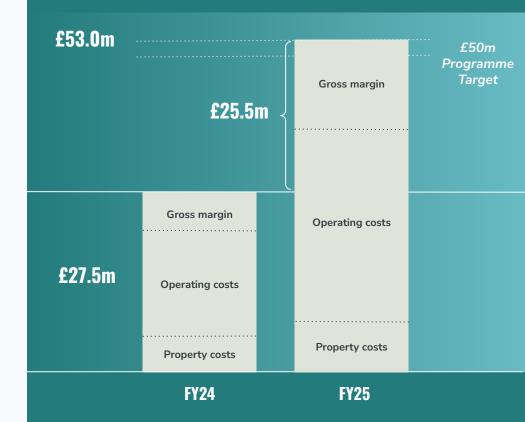
#### Operating and property costs

- Optimising labour models across our brands, operations and head office
- Brand systems alignment
- GNFR improved procurement
- Sofa Delivery Company efficiencies
- Property regears

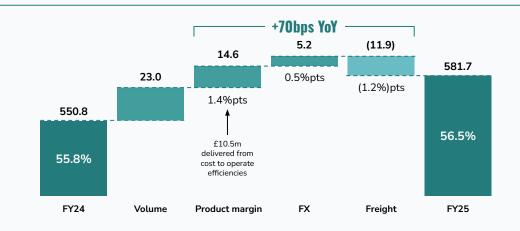
#### **Future opportunities**

- Further opportunities identified across the Group
- Pipeline of property cost savings
- Operationally we have capacity to capitalise on future market recovery

#### **CUMULATIVE COST BENEFITS VS £50M TARGET**



# **GROSS MARGIN**A THIRD YEAR OF GROSS MARGIN RATE IMPROVEMENT



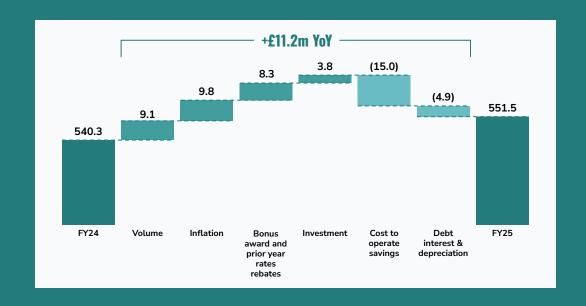
- Product margin improvements supported by consolidation of suppliers, redistribution of production across key partners and improved clear through of cancelled / damaged orders
- Net drag from Freight and FX:
  - Freight rate per container over double prior year; \$1k change in cost per container equates to c
     £7-8m annualised impact
  - FX benefit of 5 cents YoY
- Confident in achieving 58% through further initiatives, BoE base rate reductions and the potential for freight rates reducing



# **OPERATING COSTS (INC DEP & INTEREST)**

#### **COST EFFICIENCIES MORE THAN OFFSET INFLATION AND INVESTMENT CHOICES**

- Volume costs include wage commissions and delivery costs
- Strong operating cost savings have enabled us to offset inflation and invest in our customer proposition to drive future growth
- Interest reduction driven by lower average debt levels.
- Lower depreciation (non-IFRS16) from lower recent growth capital investment









### **CASH FLOW**

#### STRONG FREE CASH FLOW GENERATION RESULTS IN SIGNIFICANT DEBT REDUCTION

£m (unless otherwise stated)	FY25	FY24
Underlying EBITDA	157.2	142.0
Capex	(20.9)	(21.6)
Interest	(14.0)	(18.4)
Tax	(3.7)	(3.0)
Principal & interest paid on lease liabilities	(88.7)	(92.4)
Working capital	24.9	(17.8)
Other <sup>1</sup>	3.7	1.2
Underlying free cash flow	58.5	(10.0)
Non underlying items	(0.7)	(5.1)
Free cash flow	57.8	(15.1)
Shareholder returns	-	(9.4)
Cash flow	57.8	(24.5)
Closing net bank debt	(107.0)	(164.8)
Leverage <sup>2</sup>	1.4x	2.5x
Fixed Charge Cover <sup>2</sup>	1.8x	1.6x

 $<sup>^1</sup>$  Other of £3.7m for FY25 and £1.2m for FY24 includes losses/gains on disposal of assets, FX revaluations, share based payments expense and adjustment for non-underlying P&L charge/credit

- Debt interest reduced due to lower average net debt levels and non-recurrence of FY24 refinancing costs
- Corporation tax payments low relative to profit performance due to utilisation of historical overpayments
- Lease liability payments: prior year impacted by additional payments falling into longer 53 week accounting period
- Working capital inflows driven by negative working capital model and one fewer VAT payments (reversing FY24 53rd week impact)
- No payment of a dividend in FY25 supports deleveraging
- Significant improvement in covenant metrics with leverage reducing from 2.5x to 1.4x as we target a return to our 0.5x-1.0x target

<sup>2</sup> IAS17 based covenant metrics

Cash capex focused on lower risk, short payback growth investments consistent with prior year

# CAPITAL ALLOCATION

FOCUSED ON STRENGTHENING OUR BALANCE SHEET



	FRAMEWORK	CURRENT POSITION		
LEVERAGE <sup>1</sup> (EXCLUDING LEASES)	0.5x-1.0x	<ul> <li>Expect to continue operating outside the Group's target leverage range in the near-term</li> <li>Making progress towards reducing the ratio and deleveraging remains a high priority</li> </ul>		
ORGANIC INVESTMENT	Strategic organic capital investment to deliver attractive returns	<ul> <li>Maintenance capital requirements c.1.5%-2.0% of revenue</li> <li>In the near-term expect to continue to incur prudent levels of capex, up slightly from low recent levels to £24-28m to pursue growth opportunities where risk adjusted returns are attractive</li> </ul>		
DIVIDEND	Dividend payout ratio of 2.25x - 2.75x	<ul> <li>No FY25 dividend recommended</li> <li>A decision will be made on the payment of an FY26 interim dividend based on profit &amp; leverage outturn for the full year and outlook</li> </ul>		
SUPPLEMENTARY SHAREHOLDER RETURNS	When operating below target leverage special dividends / buybacks will be considered by the Board	No supplementary returns expected given the Group will be operating above its target leverage ratio in the near term		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> IAS17 based covenant definition

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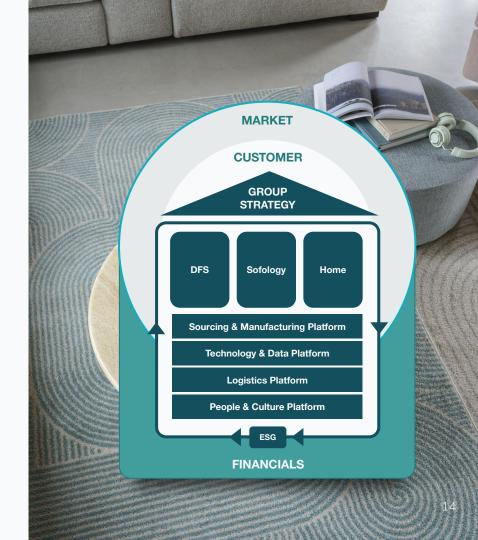
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# STRATEGIC PROGRESS RESULTING FROM OUR FOCUS IN THREE KEY AREAS

**SCALE AND VERTICAL INTEGRATION** 

**DATA AND TECHNOLOGY** 

**PEOPLE & CULTURE** 

OUR KEY
ENABLERS THAT
HELP US SUCCEED



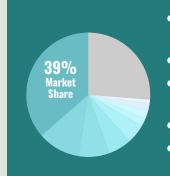






# **LEVERAGING OUR SCALE**

#### **ENABLING US TO LEAD THE MARKET WITH NPD, INNOVATION AND GROSS MARGINS**



• Exclusive brand partnerships; over 40% of DFS sales mix

- Priority access to best products
- Own manufacturing gives agility and cost insight
- Cost of goods benefits
- Market leading interest free credit proposition





FRENCH CONNECTION













# LEVERAGING OUR VERTICAL INTEGRATION

#### COMBINING VOLUME WITH OUR VERTICALLY INTEGRATED BUSINESS MODEL DRIVES EFFICIENCY AND PROFITABILITY

- Design driven efficiency
- Largest sofa manufacturer in UK
- Best in class two person delivery service
- Customer service and repair scale















### **UTILISING DATA**

#### BUILDING OUR DATA AND INSIGHT PLATFORMS TO DRIVE EFFICIENCY AND IMPROVE OUR CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

- Central hub capturing 85 internal and external data sources
- Detailed product productivity and elasticity models
- Data driven marketing
- Store level dynamic balanced scorecards
- The Sofa Delivery Company drill down dashboards and AI driven delivery routing software











### DRIVING TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

#### **OUR PROPRIETARY TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS CONTINUALLY IMPROVE OUR CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE**

- New tech based sofa innovations
- Al driven homepage personalisation
- CRM Al driven marketing
- Intelligent Lending Platform
- Al enhanced customer service















# HARNESSING OUR UNIQUE CULTURE TO DRIVE PERFORMANCE

#### **OUR PEOPLE AND CULTURE DELIVER EXPERTISE AND CARE**

- Customer led values
- Colleague listening
- Leadership development
- Everyone Welcome















### **SUSTAINABILITY**

#### **SHAPING SUSTAINABILITY TOGETHER**

#### SBT

- Near-term science-based emissions reduction target approved by SBTI
- Commitments secured from partners to develop their own science-based Net Zero plans covering 59% of our scope 3

#### Scope 1

- Electric-only company car scheme
- o Introduced EV service manager vans into our fleet

#### Materials

- FSC & PEFC-certified timber: 93%
- Leather used in upholstery sourced from LWG-certified supply chains: 100%















# AS A RESULT OF OUR STRATEGIC PROGRESS WE HAVE DELIVERED AGAINST OUR KEY FINANCIAL FOCUS AREAS









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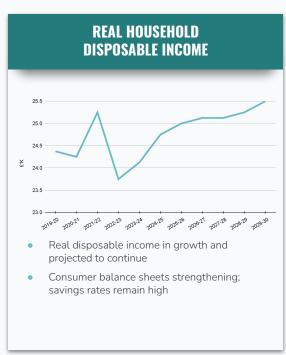
# MARKET DRIVERS AND NEAR TERM OUTLOOK

# MARKET DRIVERS STABLE TO POSITIVE ALBEIT AUTUMN BUDGET CONCERNS ARE LIKELY TO DAMPEN APPETITE FOR BIG TICKET PURCHASES IN THE NEAR TERM

# **CONSUMER CONFIDENCE -MAJOR PURCHASES** Overall index — Major Purchases index c80% of transactions are replacements Strong correlation between consumer confidence and market demand

 Overall index and appetite for major purchases relatively steady over last 12 months but below pre-pandemic average











# FY26 OUTLOOK EXPECT TO DELIVER PROFIT GROWTH

- Expect to grow profits YoY driven by our compelling customer proposition, gross margin progression and continued cost discipline
- Trading through first 12 weeks has been in line with our expectations
- Cash capex guidance: £24-28m
- FX hedged at \$3c favourable to FY25
- Operating cost inflation assumed at £15m (pre mitigation)
- Comfortable with consensus PBT forecasts\*









<sup>\*</sup>Company compiled analyst consensus £39.4m underlying profit before tax and brand amortisation (PBTu(A))

### **PROFIT GROWTH DRIVERS**

#### THREE CLEAR MEDIUM TERM OPPORTUNITIES

#### Core self help

- Consistent track record of market share gains
- 10-15 new Sofology showrooms
- 58% gross margin target
- Continued cost discipline

#### Significant core market recovery potential

- Market volumes c20%+ below average; potentially exiting cyclical trough
- Structurally improved cost base
- Vertically integrated capturing value throughout the supply chain
- 40% revenue to profit drop through
- Highly cash generative; negative working capital and low maintenance capex (<2% revenue)</li>

#### Growth beyond the core

- Sofa Delivery Company a unique and scalable asset through third party opportunities
- Large £5bn TAM Home market opportunity with an initial focus on £3bn beds and mattresses market; utilising existing exclusive brand partnerships



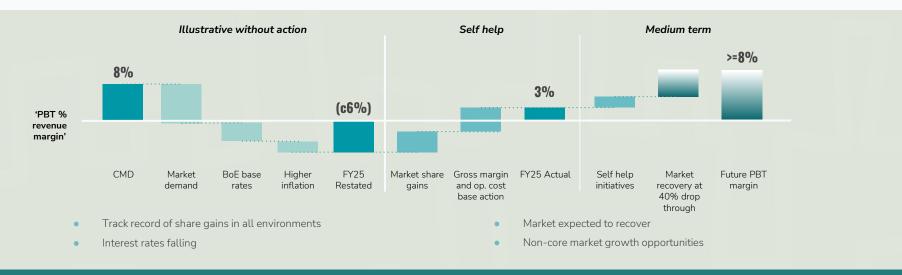






### PROFIT GROWTH TARGETS

### £1.4bn revenue and 8% PBT margin



Profit growth, negative working capital model and disciplined cash management will drive strong free cash flow conversion and debt paydown, enabling further growth investment and improved shareholder returns







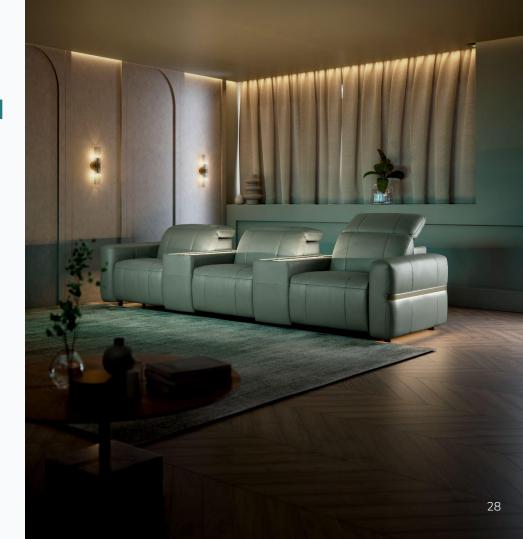
# **CONCLUSIONS**WELL POSITIONED FOR FUTURE GROWTH

- Significant profit growth achieved in subdued market
- Financial position significantly improved; significant deleveraging achieved
- Customer proposition in great shape
- Comfortable with market consensus
- Significant profit growth potential
- Confident in delivering medium term targets









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# APPENDIX







# **GROUP SHOWROOM PROFILE**

### **AS AT 29 JUNE 2025 (VS. 30 JUNE 2024)**

	UK	ROI	TOTAL
Large Format (c. 15,000sq.ft.+)	90	3	93
Medium Format (c. 10,000sq.ft.)	17	2	19
Small Format (c. 5,000sq.ft.)	2	-	2
Dwell standalone	1	-	1
DFS TOTAL	110 (0)	5 (0)	115 (0)
Large format (c. 15,000sq.ft.+)	55 (-1)	-	55 (-1)
Medium format (c.10,000-15,000 sq.ft)	2	-	2
Sofology TOTAL	57 (-1)	-	57 (-1)





