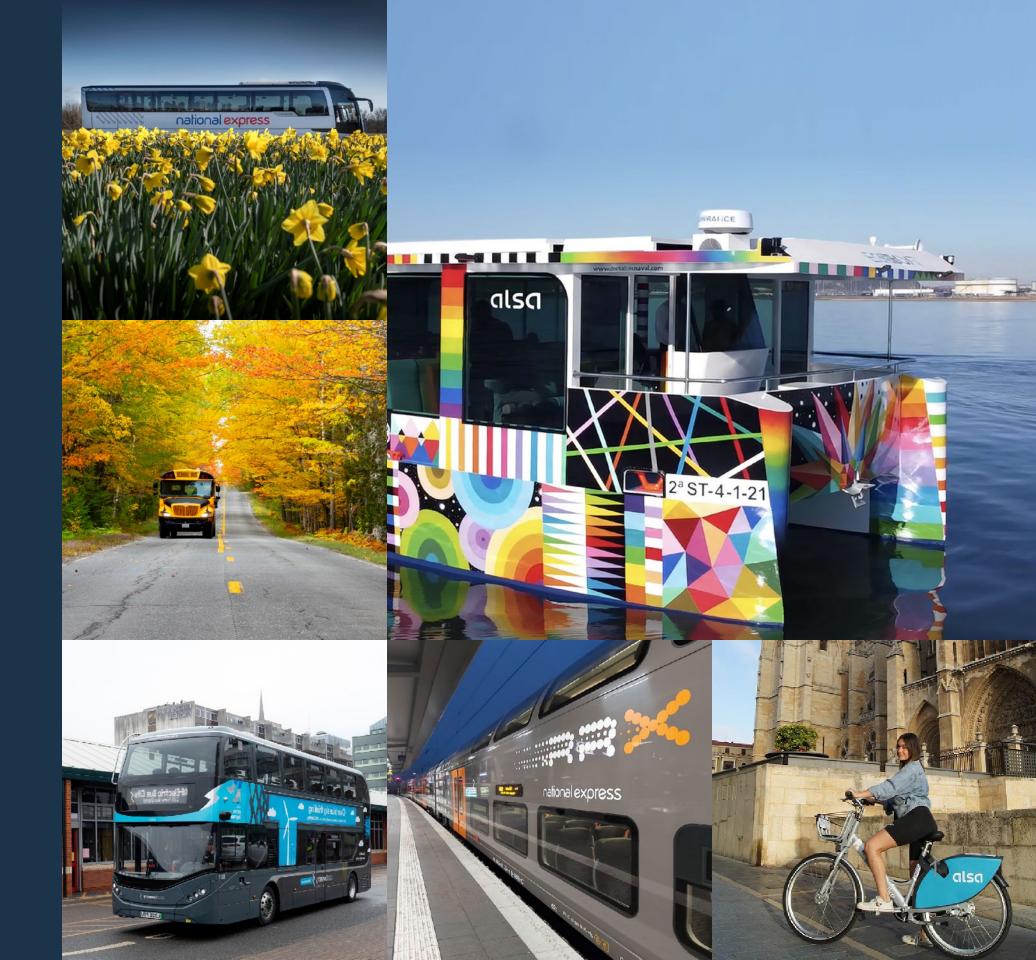


# Full Year Results For the year ended 31 December 2022

2nd March 2023

national express







# Introduction and highlights of 2022

Sustained momentum and progress against our key priorities

Strong sequential revenue growth

- Group revenue of £2.8bn (+29%), above pre-pandemic levels
- Driven by sustained and continuing underlying demand growth

Rebuilding profit with strong cash conversion

- Operating profit of £197.3m, more than double 2021 levels
- Cash conversion increased to 81%

Rebuilding the balance sheet

- Progress with organic deleverage to 2.8x (on a covenant gearing basis)
- Close to our target range within two years

Progress against Evolve strategy

- Progress against all areas of the Evolve strategy
- 35 contracts won worth £150m revenue p.a. including a €1bn German rail win

Dividend reinstated

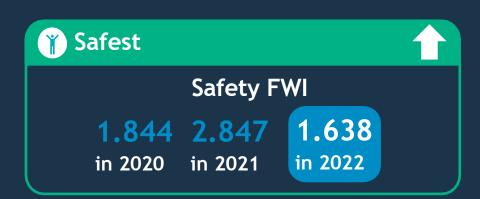
• Dividend of 5.0p reinstated at 3x cover

# Delivering the evolve strategy

Making good progress











# Delivering the evolve strategy

**C**volve

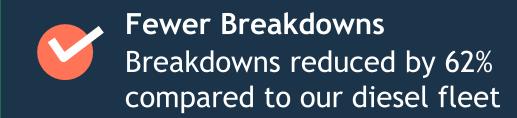
**ZEV** Rollout continues at pace

Target: 1,500 ZEVs by 2024





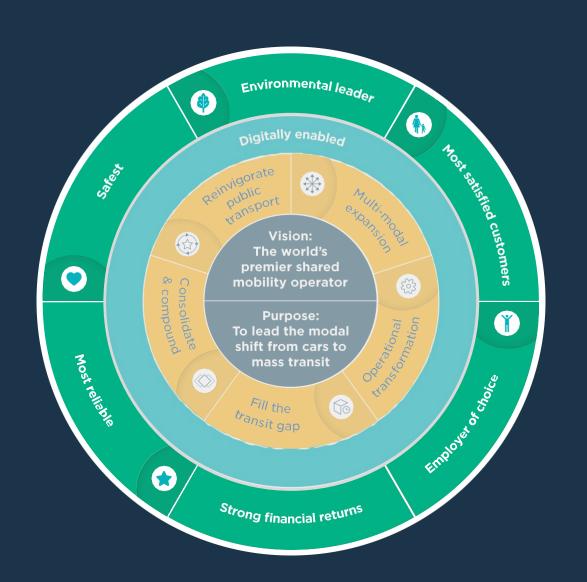


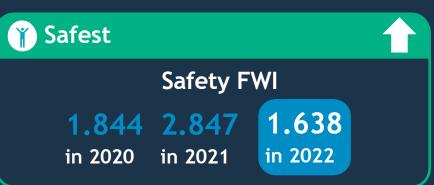


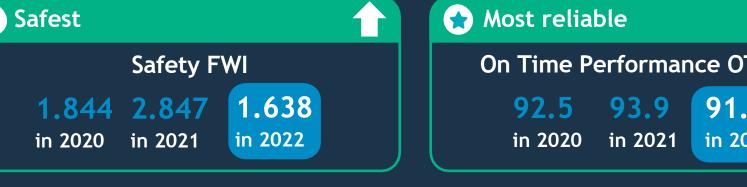
# Delivering the evolve strategy

Making good progress















in 2021

-2.0

in 2020

7.7

in 2022

Sequential growth continues despite challenging environment

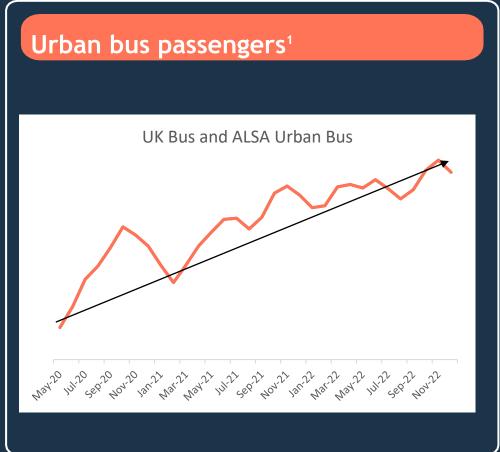


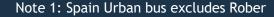


Note 1: Revenue is presented on a constant currency basis; 2021 and 2020 revenue is reinstated to be on the same foreign currency exchange rates as 2022

Sustained underlying recovery across the business - rolling two month average









Note 2: Measured as number of vehicles in operation

Resilience and agility in a challenging operating environment

In the face of volatility we have taken decisive action including:				
	ALSA	NORTH AMERICA	UK & GERMANY	
PEOPLE	Restructured in Morocco and Spain	*Restructured NA management	+Restructured UK Coach	
OPERATIONS	+Scheduling optimisation	+Accelerated Digital Platform	+Network redesign	
CONTRACTS	+Lisbon mobilisation	+Out of cycle rate increases	+Lot 1 emergency award	

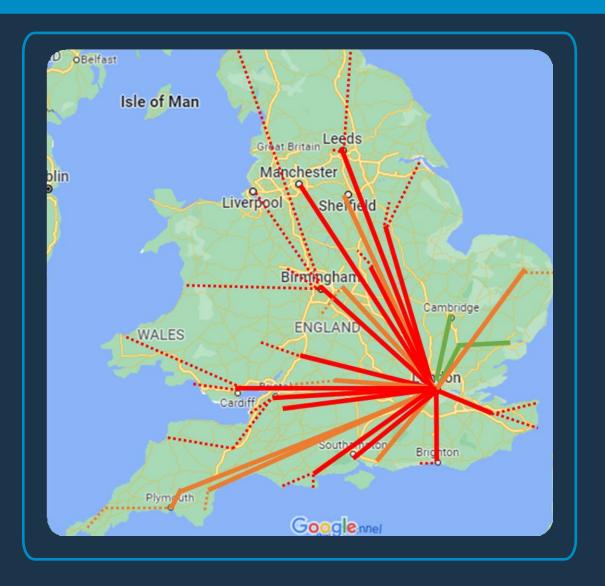
**UK Coach network rebuild** 

### 100% revenue from 80% of the network



6% improvement in cost per pax mile (normalised for inflation)





Resilience and agility in a challenging operating environment

In the face of volatility we have taken decisive action including:				
	ALSA	NORTH AMERICA	UK & GERMANY	
PEOPLE	*Restructured in Morocco and Spain	+Restructured NA management	+Restructured UK Coach	
OPERATIONS	+Scheduling optimisation	+Accelerated Digital Implementation	+Network redesign	
CONTRACTS	+Lisbon mobilisation	+Out of cycle rate increases	+Lot 1 emergency award	



# Financial review



Introduction and priorities



# Delivering quality growth in the business

A diverse and resilient portfolio and a strategy to deliver growth



### Near-term priority to strengthen the balance sheet

Prioritising strong cash generation



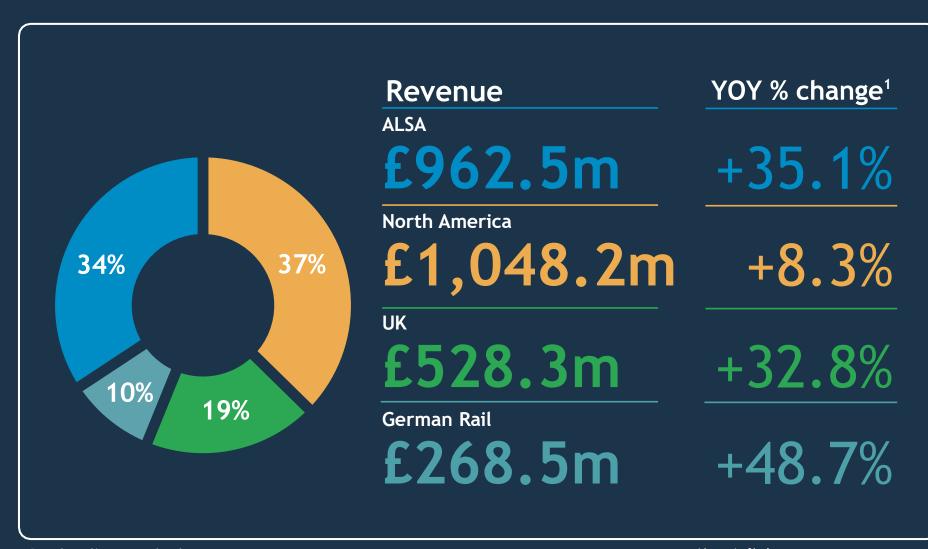
# Whilst focusing relentlessly on returns

Achieved through rigorous capital allocation to drive value

### Summary

Underlying £m	2022	2021	Change
Revenue	2,807.5	2,170.3	+29.4%
Group Operating Profit/(Loss)	197.3	87.0	n/m
Basic EPS	15.0p	0.2p	n/m
DPS	5.0p	n/a	n/m
Key Metrics	2022	2021	Change
Free cash flow	160.5	123.4	+30.0%
ROCE	7.7%	3.4%	+430bps
Covenant Gearing	2.8x	3.6x	-0.8x
Statutory £m	2022	2021	Change
Group Operating Profit/(Loss)	(158.5)	(36.2)	n/a

### Divisional summary



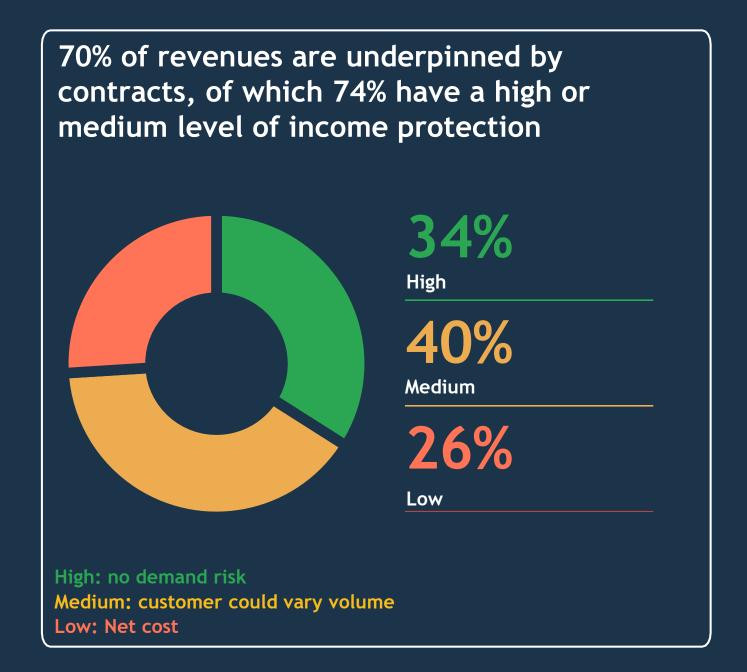
### **Underlying Operating Profit/(Loss)**

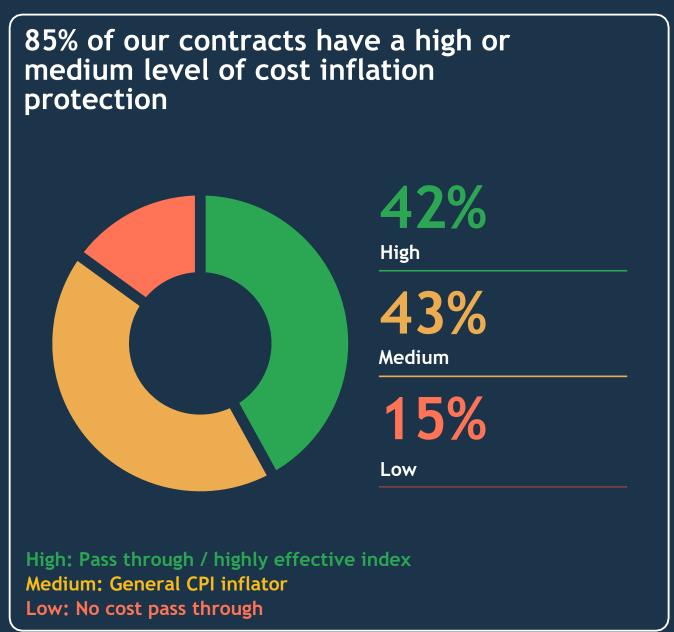
	2022	2021	% change
ALSA	£103.9m	£56.6m	+85%
North America	£68.4m	£74.4m	(8)%
UK	£25.6m	(£22.6m)	n/a
Germany	£17.6m	£5.0m	+252%
Central functions	(£18.2m)	(£26.4m)	+31%
Group	£197.3m	£87.0m	+127%

Pie chart % revenue by division

Note 1: % change on constant currency

Strong portfolio underpinned by contracts





# Disciplined capital allocation: risk vs reward

Illustrative financials (5-year contract example)

Revenue

**Operating Profit** 

Operating Profit Margin

Capex

where:

**IRR** 

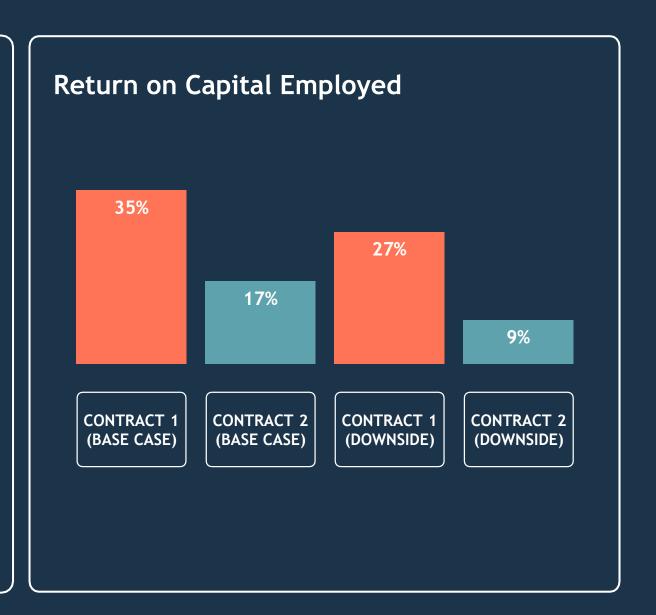
Contract 1 (Base Case) £550M £28M

5%

£10M 29% Contract 2 (Base Case) £700M £100M 14% £150M



- Contract 1: asset light/no demand risk/high cost protection; and
- Contract 2: is asset heavy/revenue demand risk/low cost protection



# ALSA

### Record revenue and strong profits growth



Business Line	% Revenue	Contracted	Income Protection	Owned Assets
Long Haul¹	15%	2	0	
Regional	33%			
Urban	16%			
Morocco	15%			

**Note 1:** Values are the percentage of ALSA's FY22 revenue. Only major revenue streams are shown.

for the purposes of our contracted revenue analysis, this

### Illustrative Key



**Note 2:** Although operated under exclusive concessions contracts, ALSA Long Haul has 100% demand risk. Therefore revenue has been excluded.

Key stats			
	2022	2021	% change
Revenue	€1,129.3m	€835.8m	+35%
Underlying Op profit	€121.8m	€65.9m	+85%
Underlying Op margin	10.8%	7.9%	+290bps
ROCE	15.5%	8.7%	+680bps

### **Key points**

- Record revenues with growth driven by increase in passenger volumes, with strong recovery in Long Haul
- •Underlying operating profit recovery as a result of operational leverage
- Margin and ROCE improved as the business scales
- Continued diversification

national express

# **North America**

Overview



Business Line	% Revenue	Contracted	Income Protection	Owned Assets
School bus <sup>1</sup>	69%			
Transit	16%			
Shuttle	15%			

Note 1: Demand risk categorised as relatively low as contacts are the exclusive right to run routes. In extreme cases (where children are not going to school, as in the pandemic) routes may be withdrawn

### Illustrative Key



Key stats			
	2022	2021	% change
Revenue	\$1,296.8m	\$1,199.7m	+8%
Underlying Op profit	\$84.7m	\$102.3m	(17)%
Underlying Op margin	6.5%	8.5%	-200bps
ROCE	5.2%	6.1%	-90bps

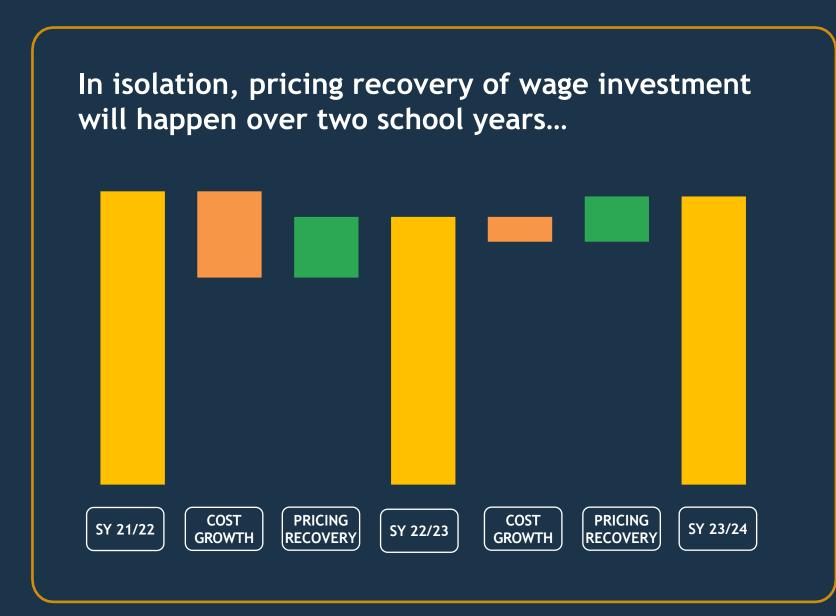
### **Key points**

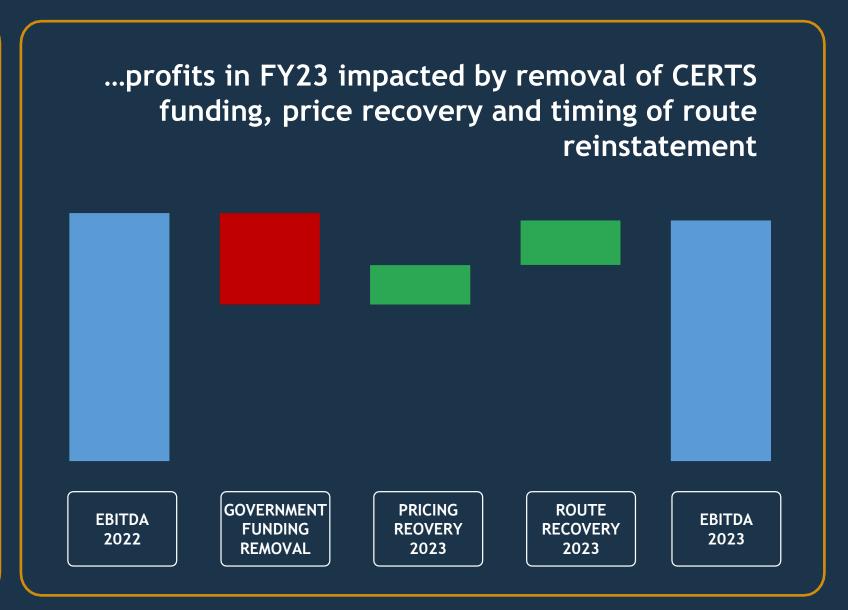
- Revenue growth, but slower than other divisions as a result of driver shortages
- •NA margins and returns depressed by slower return to profitability (routes and pricing) in School Bus
- Shuttle grew by 21%, with 20 new contract wins in the year
- Transit was stable with one new contract win

# **North America**

**School Bus** 







## UK

### Sustained recovery and strong momentum



Business Line	% Revenue <sup>1</sup>	Contracted	Income Protection	Owned Assets
Scheduled coach	53%	X	O	
NXTS	3370	X		
Bus	45%	X		2

Note 1: NXTS has a mix of contracted and non contracted revenue. Contracts are typically one-year rolling, so have not been categorised as "contracted"

Note 2: Transition to availability contract over time -  $\frac{3}{4}$  owned

# Illustrative Key = 100% = 50% = 0%

Returns			
	2022	2021	% change
Revenue	£528.3m	£397.8m	33%
Underlying Op profit	£25.6m	£(22.6)m	n/a
Underlying Op margin	4.8%	(5.7%)%	n/a
ROCE	8.1%	(6.2)%	n/a

### **Key points**

- UK business is the most exposed to passenger demand
- Q1 of 2022 significantly impacted by Omicron, but strong recovery especially in H2
- Ability to maximise use of owned assets (from NXTS) onto Scheduled coach network to capture demand
- Full year margin and ROCE lowered by significant losses in Q1

# Germany

Significant growth from contract wins



Business Line	% Revenue	Contracted	Income Protection	Owned Assets
RRX¹	67%			
RME	33%			

Illustrative Key	
= 100% (	= 50%

Returns			
	2022	2021	% change
Revenue	€315.0m	€211.8m	+49%
Underlying Op profit	€20.7m	€5.8m	+255%
Underlying Op margin	6.6%	2.7%	+390bps
ROCE	61.4%	10.6%	n/a

### Key points

- Revenue growth reflects the successful mobilisation and delivery of the Emergency Award of the Rhine-Ruhr Express ("RRX") Lot 1
- Revenue also boosted by impact of energy and inflation pass-through
- Operational synergies and economies of scale reaching critical mass
- High ROCE reflecting asset-light nature of the business

from mid December 2023 and running through to 2033

### Separately disclosed items: dominated by non-cash items

	Income statement	Cash flow impact
£m		
Underlying Operating Profit	197.3	
Goodwill impairment of ALSA	(260.6)	0.0
Amortisation of intangibles arising on acquisition	(37.2)	0.0
	(297.8)	0.0
Covid-related costs re-measurement of OCP	(7.6)	(17.0)
Re-measurement of RRX OCP	(9.3)	(9.6)
North America driver shortage OCP and impairment	(31.4)	(11.7)
Restructuring and other separately disclosed items	(9.7)	(10.9)
	(58.0)	(49.3)
Total separately disclosed items within operating profits	(355.8)	
Statutory Operating Profit/(Loss)	(158.5)	

### **Key Points**

- Non-cash impairment in ALSA due to rise in discount rates. No change to outlook
- Covid-related costs: no new onerous contracts included
- RRX OCP (Lot 2/3): Impact of higher energy prices on existing onerous contract provision
- North America OCP<sup>1</sup>: increase of £12m from half year relating to OCP
- No new exceptional items expected in FY23 (other than items previously disclosed)

### Free cash flow conversion of 81%

EBITDA       418.1       300.0         Net maintenance capex       (184.5)       (142.1)         Working capital       (1.1)       33.0         Pension deficit       (7.4)       (7.2)         Operating cash flow       225.1       183.7	£m		
Net maintenance capex       (184.5)       (142.1)         Working capital       (1.1)       33.0         Pension deficit       (7.4)       (7.2)         Operating cash flow       225.1       183.7		FY 2022	FY 2021
Working capital Pension deficit Operating cash flow  (1.1) (7.2) (7.2) 225.1  183.7	EBITDA	418.1	300.0
Pension deficit Operating cash flow (7.4) (7.2) 225.1 183.7	Net maintenance capex	(184.5)	(142.1)
Operating cash flow 225.1 183.7	Working capital	(1.1)	33.0
	Pension deficit	(7.4)	(7.2)
Tax & interest (64.6) (60.3)	Operating cash flow	225.1	183.7
Tax & interest (64.6) (60.3)			
	Tax & interest	(64.6)	(60.3)
Free cash flow 160.5 123.4	Free cash flow	160.5	123.4

£118m

£42m

(+39%) improvement in Increased maintenance **ÈBITDA** 

capex spend of £42m

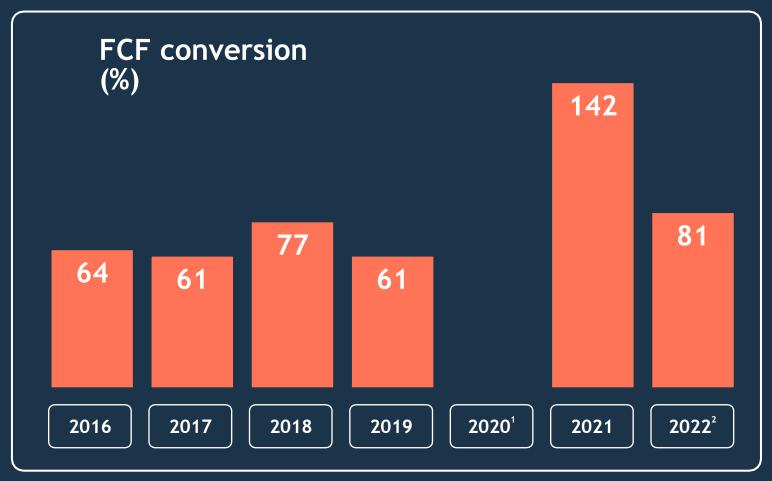
£(1.1)m

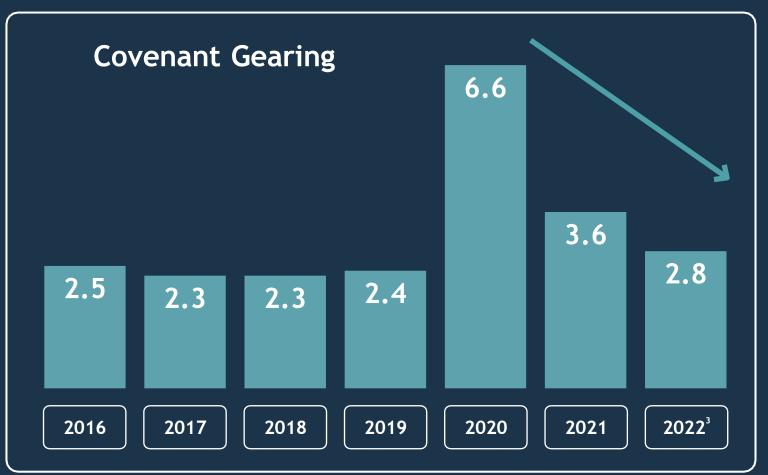
£37m

Working capital broadly neutral with strong cash collection offsetting CERTS

(+30%) improvement in free cash flow to £160.5m, representing cash conversion of 81%

### Progress towards our long-term target gearing range



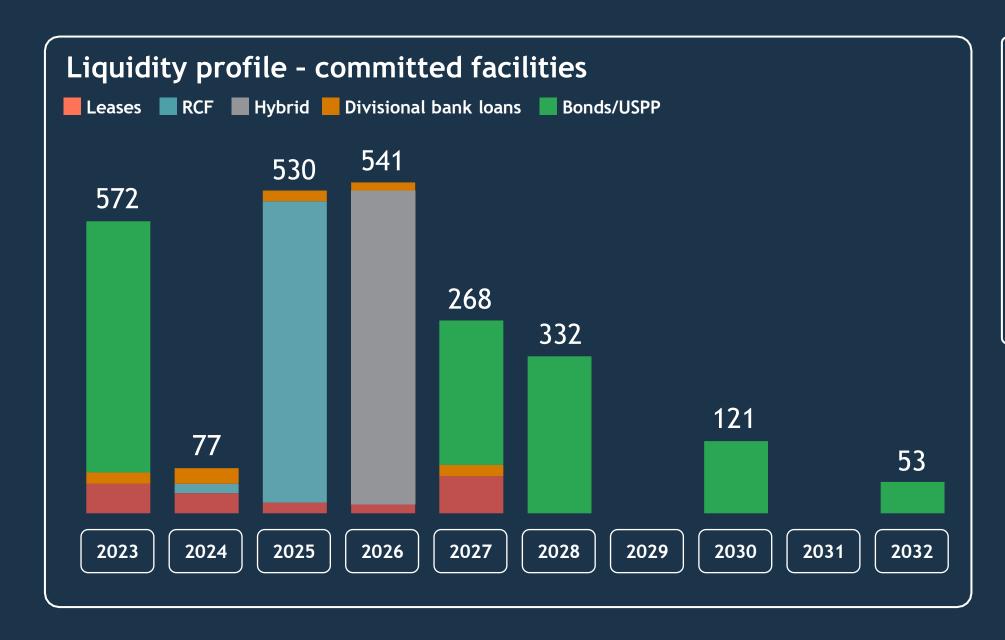


Note 1: FCF in 2020 was negative and, therefore, is excluded

Note 2: FCF conversion of 81% is above the long-term pre-pandemic average of 65%

Note 3: Covenant Gearing significantly reduced during 2022 and expect to be within covenant target range within 2/3 years

### Significant liquidity headroom



# £0.8bn cash and committed headroom:

- RCF undrawn £527m
- Cash £241m
- Average maturity of 3.7 years

Disciplined capital allocation



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



Invest for growth (targeting investments that deliver 15% returns)



Return to Shareholders (dividend at least 2.0x covered)

Net Debt to EBITDA improved from 3.6 in 2021 to 2.8x in 2022

Near term focus on asset light opportunities at higher return / lower margin as we continue to de-lever

Prudent dividend reinstatement 3.0x covered giving capacity for growth



# Strategic progress



Five customer propositions developing at pace



### Reinvigorate public transport

 Successful start-up of our first urban bus contract in Portugal

### **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

Customer propositions case study - RRX Lot 1

- RRX Lot 1 emergency award was made at the end of 2021
- Successful mobilisations, at very short notice and on time
- Led to 10 year RRX Lot 1 award in early 2023
  c60 million passenger use service 2022



We plan, mobilise and operate safe, reliable and efficient public transport networks in partnership with local authorities

Five customer propositions developing at pace



### Reinvigorate public transport

• Successful start-up of our first urban bus contract in Portugal

### 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

### Consolidate & Compound

 Acquisition of Vitalia in Madrid, giving entry into Spanish paratransit market

### Fill the Transit Gap

- 20 new contract wins in Shuttle
- Asset light paratransit contract win in North America

Digitally enabled improving experience for customers and colleagues

- Timetable optimisation platform
- Al and machine learning to predict journey times
- Allows better matching of service provision to prevailing traffic conditions





• Outcomes:



7% reduction in Excess Wait Time

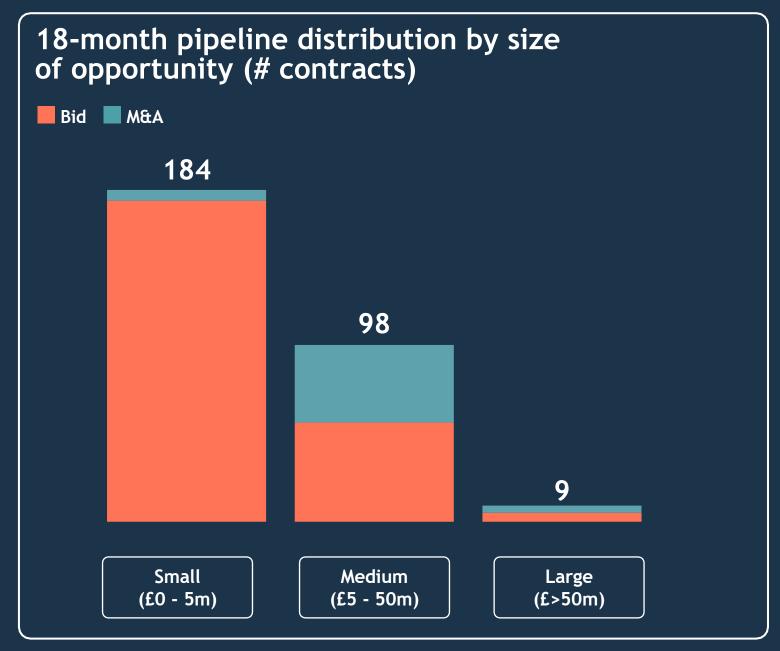


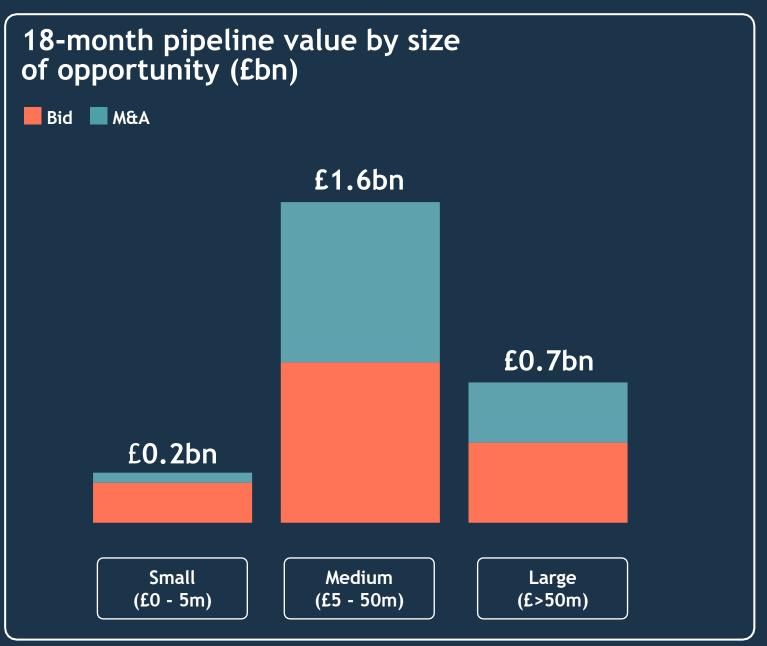
45% reduction in late running



Reduction in customer complaints

£2.5bn pipeline contains a mix of large and small opportunities





Pipeline conversion rates

### 35 contract wins worth £150m of annualised revenue

	Large (>£50m)	Medium (£5-50m)	Small (£0-5m)	Total win value
Actual FY22 # won	1	3	31	£150m
Pipeline conversion rate <sup>1</sup>	20%	10%	25%	15% <sup>2</sup>

Note 1: Wins are the number of contracts awarded in 2022

Note 2: Conversion rate is the percentage of revenue converted from the pipeline (frozen at 30 June 2022, and as presented at half year)

# Summary

Continued delivery in a challenging environment

Strong sequential revenue growth

Rebuilding profit with strong cash conversion

Rebuilding the balance sheet

Progress against Evolve strategy

Dividend reinstated













### Gearing targets progress

£m		
	FY 2022	FY 2021
Free cash flow	160.5	123.4
Net growth capital expenditure	(93.1)	(134.4)
Net acquisitions and disposals	(29.5)	(54.3)
Separately disclosed items	(49.3)	(44.4)
Other (mainly FX)	(105.4)	59.8
Net funds flow	(138.0)	(49.9)
Net debt	(1,207.9)	(1,069.8)
Free Cash Flow conversion	81%	142%
Net debt for covenant purposes	(985.8)	(866.6)
Gearing	2.8x	3.6x

### Contracts

Growth capex primarily reflect new contracts in ALSA and North America (prior year included final payments for Rabat and Casablanca).

### Acquisitions

Acquisitions include purchase of Vitalia in Spain and a further 10% tranche of WeDriveU (following the Put/Call option exercise).

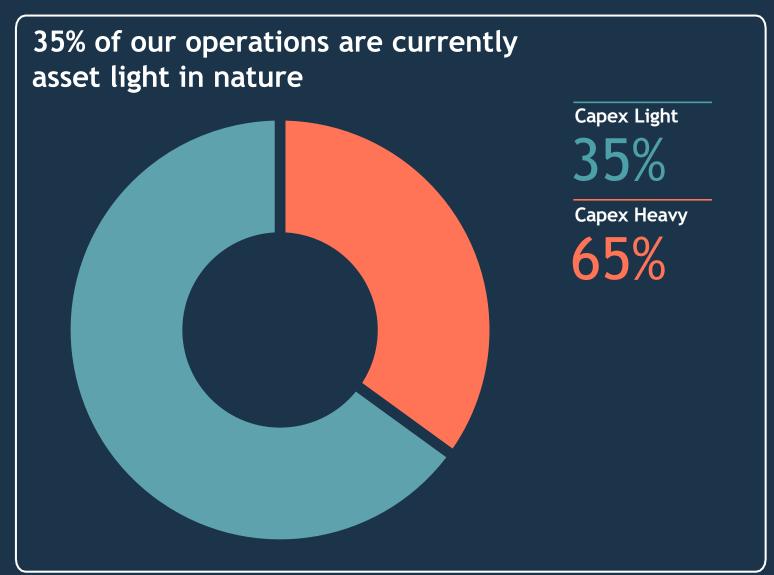
### £49m

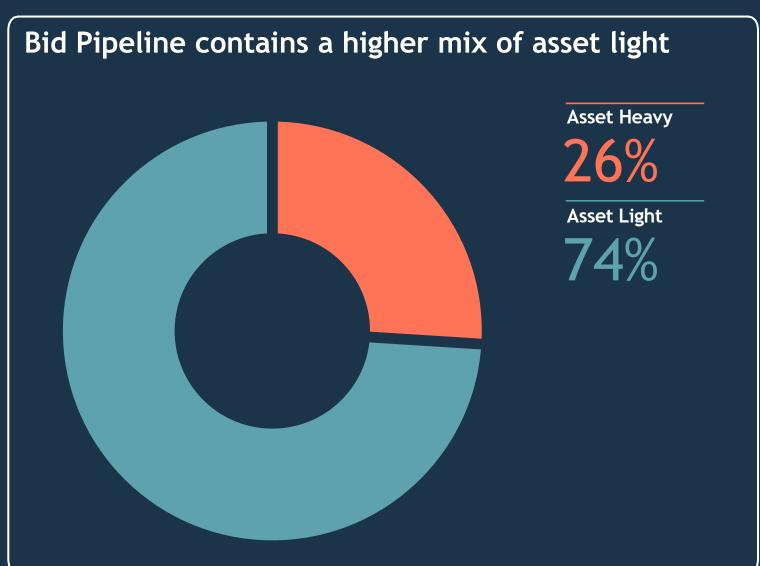
£49m of cash costs in respect of separately disclosed items, principally associated with Covid losses and US driver shortages, and energy costs in German Rail.

### **Impacts**

Other mainly relates to FX translation impacts on debt and the impact of closing out FX swaps.

# We expect more of a shift to asset light over time





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