

# PALACE CAPITAL PLC INTERIM RESULTS

PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2019



# Palace Capital are experts in regional property investment.

# Focused on unlocking value to deliver attractive total returns.

HIGHLIGHTS | STRATEGY | FINANCIAL REVIEW | PROPERTY REVIEW | CONCLUSION | APPENDICES

#### Introduction



**NEIL SINCLAIR**Chief Executive



**STEPHEN SILVESTER**Finance Director



**RICHARD STARR**Executive Property Director

## Regional focus continues to deliver positive performance

- Total property return of 1.5% (MSCI Benchmark: 0.8%), 3 years of continued out-performance
- Hudson Quarter flagship development scheme in York, which includes 127 apartments with over
   20% already sold or under offer, on track for completion in January 2021
- Passing rent of £16.3m pa with significant reversionary potential (ERV: £21.2m pa)
- 26 lease events across 299,000 sq ft generating £3.4m annual rental income, an uplift of £1.0m on passing rent and averaging 6% ahead of ERV
- WAULT increased to 5.2 years to break and 6.6 years to expiry (31 March 2019: 4.5 years to break)
  as a result of lease renewals and new lettings
- EPRA NAV per share **391p** (FY19: 407p) reduced by 3.9%
- Dividend maintained, Q2 dividend of 4.75p declared and payable in December 2019.
- REIT conversion on 1st August 2019 already delivering benefits

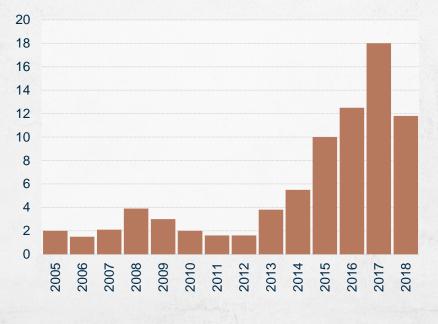
### **Supportive Regional Market Backdrop**

- UK regional office market remains buoyant
- Manchester office take up for HY20 up 7% on HY19
- Leeds saw record take up in HY20, 41% ahead of HY19
- York office market remains tight, Hudson Quarter includes the first speculative office redevelopment in York over 30,000 sq ft this century
- Ever increasing activity in Liverpool with trend for occupiers relocating from out of town to city centres e.g. Sony, along with 1m sq ft of office space lost since 2014
- Investment market has remained subdued, with lower transaction volumes supporting our strategy to invest heavily in our portfolio

# Regional returns outperforming London







Source: Ministry of Housing, Communities, Local Government

Regional office returns have exceeded those generated by London every year since 2016.

Regional offices (48% of our portfolio) provide the strongest, risk-adjusted sector in the UK.

Reduction in office supply is driving rental value.

Supported by structural drivers and accelerating urbanisation trends.

# **Experts in regional property**

### Palace Capital plc (PCA) is a property investment company with a regional focus delivering attractive total returns

- Management has a deep knowledge of the UK regions focusing on office and industrial sectors
- We drive income and capital growth through refurbishment and redevelopment
- Occupational market has been strong, driving our letting activity
- Limited investment opportunities in current market
- £9.7m equity invested in our portfolio in HY20 to unlock value and drive income and capital gains
- Strong track record delivering attractive returns



#### 6 Year Total Accounting Return vs peer group

(EPRA NAV growth + dividends as at 30 September 2019)



# **Stephen Silvester Finance Director**

**HY20: FINANCIAL REVIEW** 

## Financial highlights Robust financial performance

	HY20	HY19	FY19	Growth
INCOME				
Net property income	£10.7m	£8.1m	£16.4m	+32%
EPRA earnings	£6.7m	£3.5m	£7.6m	
Adjusted profit before tax*	£3.9m	£4.3m	£8.9m	
Adjusted EPS**	8.5p	8.0p	17.3p	+6%
Dividend per share	9.5p	9.5p	19p	
CAPITAL				
Property portfolio	£275.8m		£286.3m	
EPRA NAV per share	391p		407p	-3.9%
Net assets	£178.7m		£180.3m	-1%
Group LTV	34%		34%	
Average cost of debt	3.2%		3.3%	

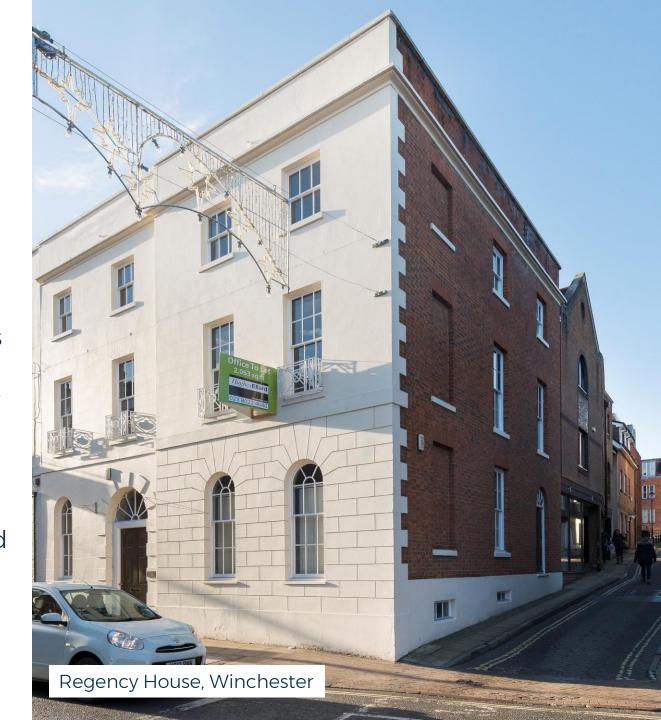
<sup>\*</sup>Excludes non-recurring income and expenditure, property revaluations, profit/losses on disposal and fair value movements

<sup>\*\*</sup>Adjusted profit before tax less corporation tax charge (excluding deferred tax movements) divided by the weighted average number of shares in the period.



## REIT conversion 1st August 2019

- Supports our total return strategy by maximising dividends
- Eliminates tax on rental profits, saving over £1m pa, adding +2 pps to earnings
- Expected to broaden shareholder base and increase liquidity in shares
- £3.7m credit to the income statement for REIT exempt deferred tax previously recognised
- First PID payable 27 December 2019





## Balance sheet Well positioned to support growth

		•
EPRA NAV per share	391p	40 <b>7</b> p
Net assets	178.7	180.3
Other liabilities	(12.9)	(12.4)
Deferred tax liabilities	(0.2)	(5.6)
Borrowings	(106.8)	(118.0)
Other assets	8.8	7.1
Cash	14.0	22.9
Property portfolio	275.8	286.3
	HY20 £m	FY19 £m

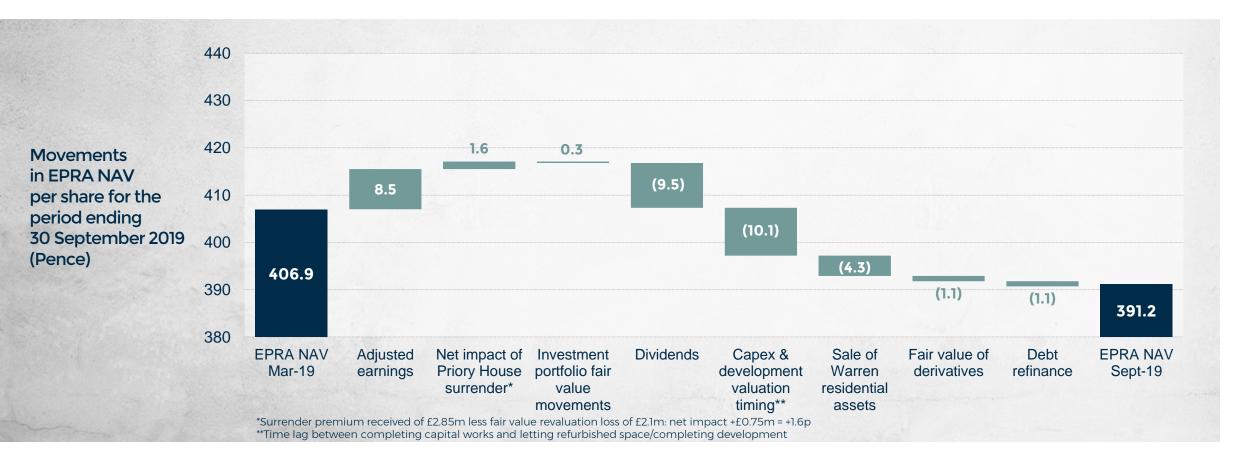
£14.0m cash available and £20m RCF facility undrawn

Group LTV of 34% and within our target range of 30-40%

£3.7m of deferred tax liability wiped off the balance sheet on REIT conversion

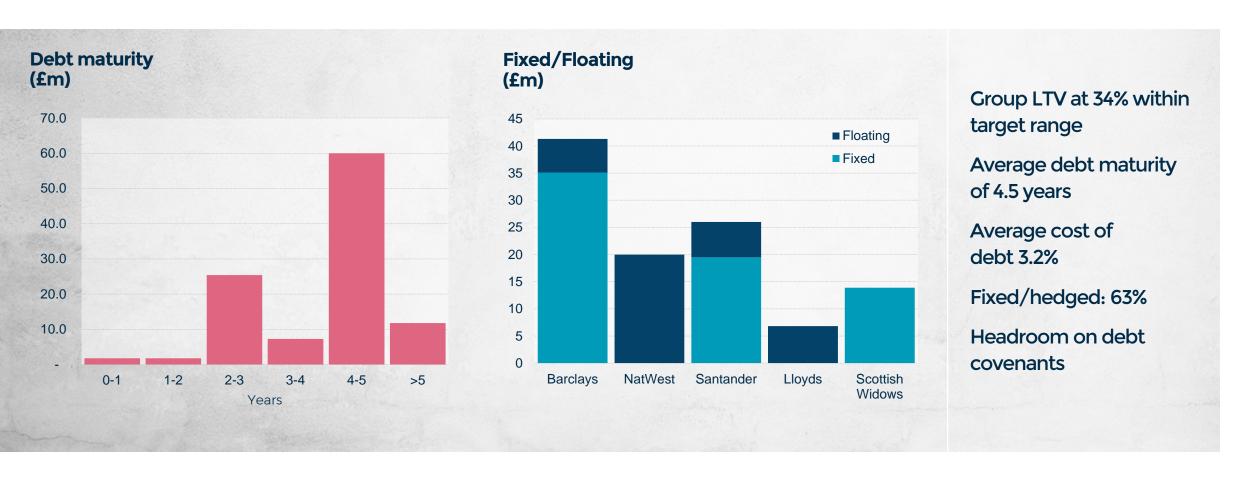


### **EPRA NAV** per share





## Debt maturity & hedging Sustainable capital structure



### Recurring earnings supporting dividend

	HY20 £m	HY19 £m	Growth	FY19 £m
Recurring rental income	9.1	9.2	-1%	18.8
Property operating expenses	(1.2)	(1.1)		(2.4)
Recurring net rental income	7.9	8.1	-2%	16.4
Administrative expenses*	(2.1)	(1.9)		(3.8)
Net finance costs	(1.9)	(1.9)		(3.7)
Adjusted profit before tax	3.9	4.3		8.9
Adjusted EPS**	8.5p	8.0p	+6%	17.3p
Dividend per share	9.5p	9.5p	_	19.0p
Dividend cover	0.90x	0.84x		0.91x
Weighted average no. shares	45.9m	45.8m		45.9m

Adjusted EPS increased 6% to 8.5p

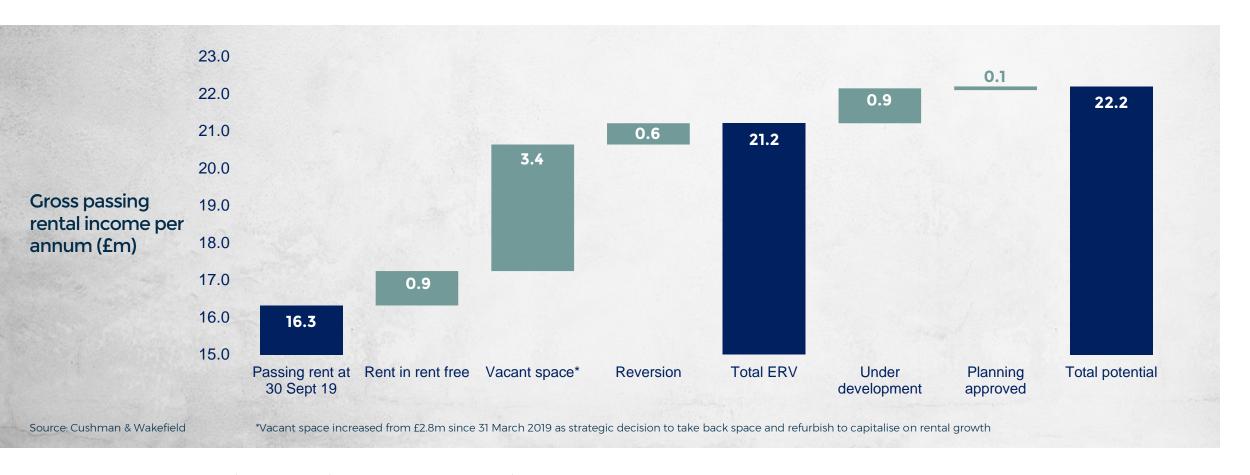
Dividend maintained at 9.5p, 90% covered

<sup>\*</sup>Administrative expenses increased in period as a result of an accounting adjustment relating to the new IFRS 16 standard on our head office lease and professional fees for advice on REIT conversion

<sup>\*\*</sup>Adjusted profit before tax less corporation tax charge (excluding deferred tax movements) divided by the weighted average number of shares in the period.



# Substantial opportunity to grow rental income by +30%



### Richard Starr Executive Property Director

### **PROPERTY REVIEW**

## Active Management Strategy Unlocking portfolio value

- Hudson Quarter, York: Development commenced February 2019, remains on time and on budget. Over 20% of residential units sold or under offer
- Planning consent secured for 28 apartments & 4,000 sq ft of retail space at High Street, Weybridge
- £13.2m of disposals including remaining non-core residential units from Warren portfolio
- **£9.7m** capital expenditure delivering long term portfolio improvement
- 26 lease events (12 lease renewals, 5 rent reviews & 9 new leases) across
   299,000 sq ft generating £3.4m annual rental income, an uplift of £1.0m on passing rent and averaging 6% ahead of ERV
- Lease surrender with premium of £2.85m received in Birmingham
- Overall EPRA occupancy reduced to 84% (FY19: 87%) through active refurbishment strategy
- Adjoining site to our 28,000 sq ft holding in Aldershot acquired for £0.2m and new 10 year lease completed, resulting in value uplift of 52% (£0.98m)



#### Regional portfolio Focused on office & industrial growth sectors

#### **Core Sectors**









Leisure





warehouse

Development

#### Geography

South East 30.2%

Midlands 19.0%

North East 21.9%

North West 19.1%

South West 9.8%





#### How we deliver value:

#### **Hudson Quarter Development**

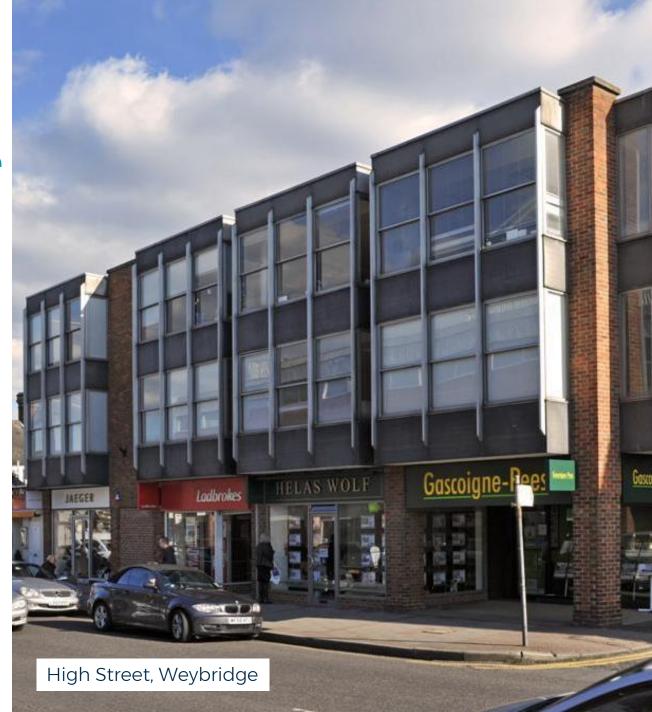
- Construction of 127 apartments, 35,000 sq ft offices, 5,000 sq ft of commercial and car parking
- On time and on budget expected to complete January 2021
- GDV £69m expected surplus +£10m
- Development facility secured with Barclays for £26.5m
- Demand for residential & Grade A office space remains strong
- York voted Best Place to Live 2018 by Sunday Times

www.hudsonquarteryork.com



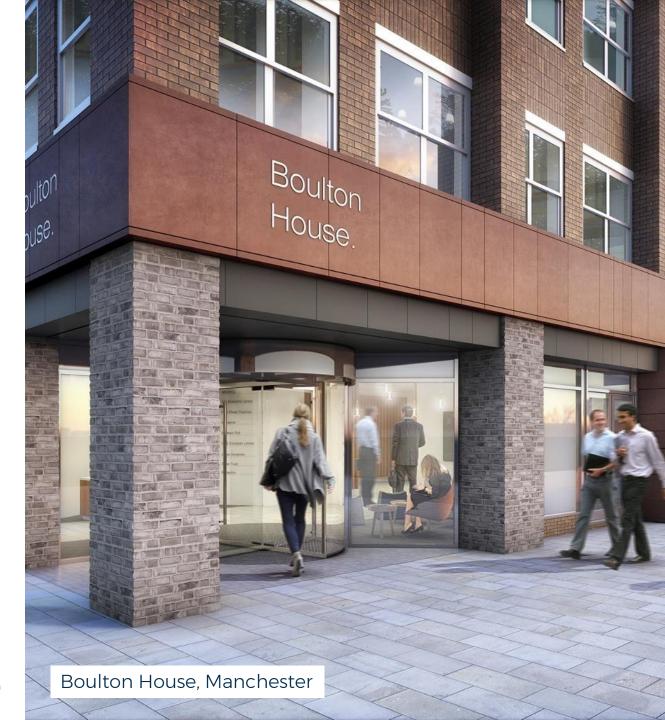
## **Alternative Use:** Commercial → Mixed use

- Full evaluation undertaken to maximise shareholder value in wealthy Surrey commuter town
- Planning consent granted in July 2019 for a development of 28 apartments and 4,000 sq ft of retail space
- The apartments will either be 1 or 2 bedroom, which have strong demand
- GDV of £13.5m



#### **Refurbishment:**

- 44% valuation uplift since acquisition in August 2016 for £10.6m, (£4.6m uplift including £0.8m part-refurbishment)
- Average rents of £12 psf at purchase,
   Headline rentals now £18.50 psf following refurbishment
- Since purchase, increase of WAULT to break from 1.72 years to 2.03 years
- Medium term development opportunity with leases expiring during 2024



### Repositioning:

- Challenging leisure market for last 3 years
- 90% let following new lettings to Soo Yoga and Gravity Fitness in 2019
- £226,000 per annum added to the annual rent roll, reflecting a 14% uplift on previous net passing rent

- Transformational refurbishment plans being finalised to complete turnaround of asset
- 21,000 sq ft remains available with improving occupier demand



## Value creation Future upside within the portfolio

	Status	Historic Performance	Future Potential	Timing
Hudson Quarter, York	Construction of new development of 127 apartments, 35,000 sq ft offices, 5,000 sq ft of commercial and car parking on time and budget	Acquired in 2013 for £3.8m. Uplift in value to date: £20.4m	GDV £69m Development profit £10m forecast +20pps to NAV	Forecast to complete during year end 31 March 2021
High Street, Weybridge	Planning consent achieved for development of 28 residential units and 4,000 sq ft of retail space	Acquired in 2014 for £3.5m. 5 years of income, now predominantly vacant and being stripped out	GDV £13.5m	Forecast to complete during year end 31 March 2022
Boulton House, Manchester	Centrally located office of 75,000 sq ft 18% vacant space refurbished available. Further common area upgrade to be carried out.	Acquired in 2016 for £10.6m +44% uplift in value to date	f1.36m ERV vs £0.87m passing net rent received showing +56% potential rental growth and positive impact on capital value	Within the next 18 months
249 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes	City centre offices. Lease expiries in June 2020 provides opportunity for refurbishment and increasing ERV	Acquired Feb 2016 for £7.2m +6% uplift in value to date	£0.63m ERV vs £0.43m passing rent showing +47% potential rental growth and positive impact on capital value	Within the next 18 months
Sol, Northampton	City centre leisure scheme of 190,000 sq ft	Acquired in 2015 for £20.7m. £4.0m surrender received, with current value of £16.5m	£1.65m ERV vs £1.34m passing rent. Occupancy up from 70% at the start of the year to 90% following new lettings in 2019. Transformational refurbishment plans being finalised to complete turnaround of asset	Within the next 18 months

# Planned Non-Core Disposals:

- Non-core assets (predominately vacant) earmarked for disposal in H2. These are all uncharged:
- London Court, Southampton comprising 11,684 sq ft
- Meadowcourt I & III Sheffield comprising 16,161 sq ft (under offer)
- Priory House, Birmingham comprising 63,112 sq ft (under offer)
- 124 126 Above Bar Street, Southampton comprising 9,449 sq ft
- These disposals will increase the portfolio occupancy to 87%, reduce our shortfalls by £0.5m per annum, and generate £2.75m of equity





### Confident outlook for regional strategy

#### Income and capital growth

- Significant capex & development of £9.7m in our portfolio HY20 as confident we hold the right assets in the right locations in the right sectors with valueadd potential
- **£13.2m** of disposals including remaining non-core residential units from Warren portfolio completed
- +30% income reversion within portfolio:
  - Repositioning city centre office assets with short WAULT of **3.2yrs**
  - +£5.0m pa potential future income growth
- Capital growth upside:
  - **£10m** surplus forecast at HQ York
  - Planning granted on High Street, Weybridge
- Q2 Dividend of 4.75p payable 27 December 2019, annual level maintained at 19.0p (6.5% yield on recent share price)

Regional expertise continues to deliver





### **APPENDICES**

### Our story so far

August 2019

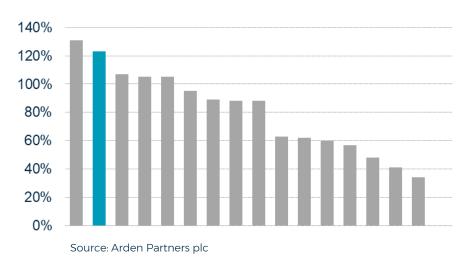
July 2010	Management taking Board control of the Company valued at £0.1m with a vision to invest in regional property
October 2011	Hockenhull Estates portfolio acquired for £1.8m consisting of nine properties
October 2013	Sequel portfolio consisting of 24 properties across office, industrial and retail sectors acquired for £39.25m
August 2014	Property Investment Holdings portfolio acquired for £32m consisting of 17 commercial properties across office, industrial and retail sectors
2015-2017	Seven individual property acquisitions at values ranging between £4m and £24m focussed in the office and leisure sectors.
October 2017	Acquisition of the R.T. Warren Portfolio for £68m and consisting of 21 commercial and 65 residential properties
March 2018	Completed move from AIM to a Premium Listing on the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange
May 2018	Joined FTSE Small Cap and All Share indices
December 2018	One Derby Square, Liverpool acquired for £14.0m

Converted to a UK REIT on 1st August 2019

	31-03-2013	30-09-2019
Net asset value	£0.6m	£178.7m
Property portfolio	£2.0m	£275.8m
Contractual rental income	£0.2m	£16.3m
Total Accounting Return since 201	3	123%

#### 6 Year Total Accounting Return vs peer group

(EPRA NAV growth + dividends as at 30 September 2019)





## Outlook supports regional strategy Focus on office and industrial sectors





### Positive impact of Urbanisation and increased connectivity

The Northern Powerhouse is a prime example of a growth hub, where investment in road and rail connectivity is expected to support rising rents and growth.

Graduate retention is high in strong regional cities and we are seeing a definite trend for companies moving into strong inner-city locations as staff turnover is far lower than out-of-town locations.

Palace has targeted acquisitions to capitalise on these trends, with office buildings in city centres across the Northern Powerhouse



#### Financial track record

Balance Sheet	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	HY20
Property portfolio	£173.4m	£183.2m	£276.7m	£286.3m	£275.8m
Net assets	£106.8m	£109.6m	£183.3m	£180.3m	£178.7m
EPRA NAV per share	414p	443p	415p	407p	<b>391</b> p
C LT/	37%	37%	30%	34%	34%
Group LIV	3/70	3770	3070	3470	3470
Income Statement  Adjusted profit before tax*	£5.6m	£6.7m	£8.5m	£8.9m	£3.9m
Income Statement  Adjusted profit before tax*	£5.6m	£6.7m	£8.5m	£8.9m	£3.9n

<sup>\*</sup> Excludes non-recurring income and expenditure, property revaluations, profit/losses on disposal and fair value movements

#### £154.6m debt facilities

Strong relationship with existing lenders. Low cost of debt maintained and conservative LTV. 63% debt fixed/hedged to mitigate interest rate risk.

Lender	Debt Facility (£m)	Debt Drawn (£m)	Debt Maturity	Hedging
Barclays	41.3	41.3	Jun-2024	£35.1m fixed
NatWest (RCF)	40.0	20.0	Aug-2024	100% floating
Santander	26.0	26.0	Aug-2022	£19.5m fixed
Lloyds	6.9	6.9	Mar-2023	100% floating
Scottish Widows	13.9	13.9	Jul-2026	100% fixed
Barclays (development facility)	26.5	0.0	Oct-2021	100% floating
	154.6	108.1	4.5 years	

Mar-19	Sept-19
	£275.8m
£119.4m	
£96.5m	£94.1m
3.3%	3.2%
34%	34%
59%	63%
3.3x	4.5x
	£286.3m £119.4m £96.5m 3.3% 34% 59%



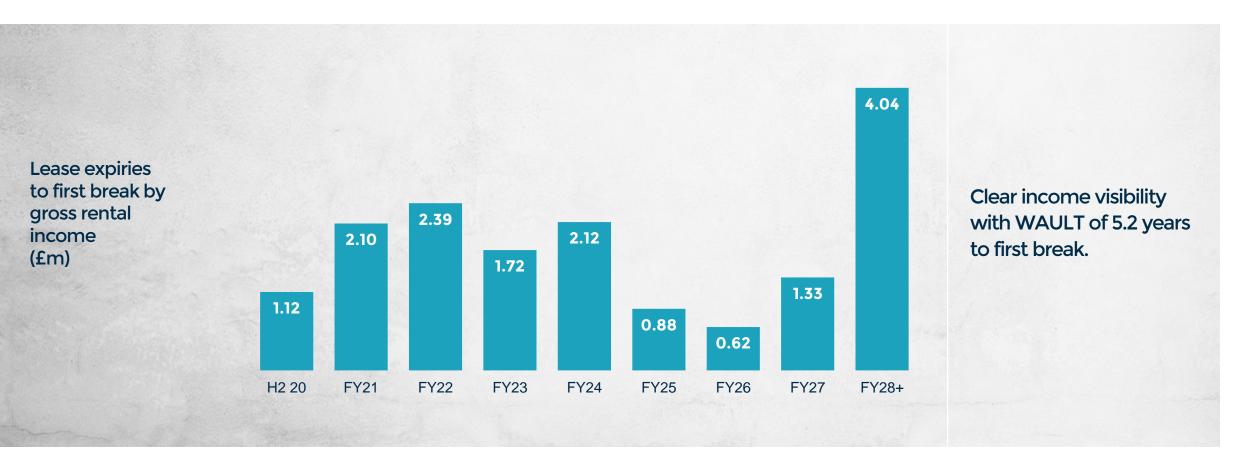








# Income security supported by diversified portfolio



#### Diversified and sustainable portfolio

#### By tenant and industry

Top 20 tenants make up 45% of passing rents

Tenant	Industry	Contracted Rent £'000
VUE.	Leisure	913
Rockwell Automation	Auto	544
ACCORHOTELS	Hotel	510
LOTTERY FUNDED	Charity	444
brose Technik für Automobile	Auto	432
Eldan	Insurance	409
Wickes	Retail	401
BLAKE *** MORGAN	Legal	360
exelo TECHNOLOGIES	Technology	355
APCOA PARKING	Car Parking	345

Tenant	Industry	Rent £'000
D YOUNG®CO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	Legal	310
BRAVISSIMO	Retail	294
ALDI	Retail	291
Sutton	Local Authority	283
QUADRANT SYSTEMS	Aviation	280
Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust	Health	262
BOOKER	Retail	246
serco	Public Services	246
Redland	Construction	240
<b>47</b>	Automobile Repair	227

Good income visibility with broad spread across a diverse tenant base

# **Sector splits Regional Office and Industrial focus**

	Market value 30 September 2019 (£)	% of Portfolio by market value	No. properties	No. leases	Area (sq ft)	Contractual rental income p.a. (£)	ERV (£)*	WAULT (yrs)	Total ERV of void (£)
Offices	132,465,000	48.0%	31	121	789,902	7,612,960	12,091,030	3.2	2,786,397
Leisure	40,015,000	14.5%	2	21	306,970	3,427,545	3,283,049	9.6	228,418
Industrial	38,630,000	14.0%	10	34	409,593	2,425,096	2,742,190	3.8	129,300
Development	27,225,000	9.9%	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail	25,395,000	9.2%	8	45	128,171	1,927,681	2,243,021	6.6	260,400
Retail Warehouses	11,310,000	4.1%	2	3	59,478	759,964	679,800	7.2	-
Car Parking	760,000	0.3%	2	2	8,660	163,132	177,000	2.7	-
Total	275,800,000	100%	57	226	1,702,774	16,316,378	21,216,090	5.2	3,404,515

<sup>\*</sup> Based on Cushman & Wakefield estimated rental values

# Top 10 assets by value 54% of total portfolio

Property Name	Area (sq ft)	Gross rental income p.a. (£)	Reversionary yield*	WAULT to break (yrs)
Hudson Quarter, York development	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Broad Street Plaza, Halifax	117,767	1,765,883	6.90%	11.9
2 & 3 St James Gate, Newcastle	99,125	964,913	8.31%	4.8
Sol, Northampton	189,203	1,661,662	7.69%	7.2
Boulton House, 17-21 Chorlton Street, Manchester	74,653	666,859	7.83%	2.0
One Derby Square, Liverpool	70,161	1,046,776	8.12%	3.5
Kiln Farm, 2-4 Pitfield, Milton Keynes	52,818	663,617	7.56%	7.5
Bank House, 27 King Street, Leeds	88,036	141,157	9.44%	3.6
Units A & B, Imberhorne Lane, East Grinstead	30,672	514,018	5.68%	7.8
249 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes	49,713	431,281	8.64%	1.1
Total	772,148	7,856,166		

<sup>\*</sup> Based on Cushman & Wakefield estimated rental values



# Asset management:

- Valuation increase of 52% reflecting £980k uplift in value
- Tactical acquisition of adjoining land for £200,000 to consolidate holding, extending occupational lease and fixing future rental income
- A new 10 year lease to BHW Automotive extending the term by 6 years to 10 years, and increasing the initial rent by 4% or £10,000 per annum
- The new lease incorporates a 10% fixed increase after year 5 to £250,254 per annum



#### **Hudson Quarter Timeline**







Sep 2013
Acquired as part of Quintain portfolio

Feb 2016

Planning permission granted for

Aug 2017

Planning permission for development granted Dec 2018

Demolition completed

Feb 2019

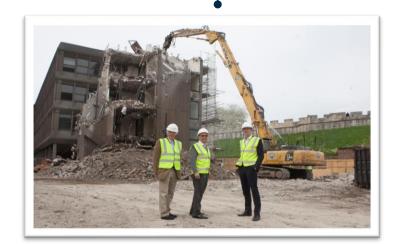
Funding secured from Barclays

2019

Ground-breaking ceremony with Archbishop of York 2021

Completion scheduled for Q1







Page 36 | Palace Capital plc | Investor Presentation November 2019 | palacecapitalplc.com

### **Biographies**



**NEIL SINCLAIR**Chief Executive

#### **Chartered Surveyor FRICS**

Neil co-founded Palace Capital and has over 50 years' experience in the property sector. He was a founder of Sinclair Goldsmith Chartered Surveyors which was admitted to the Official List in 1987 and subsequently merged with Conrad Ritblat.



**STEPHEN SILVESTER** Finance Director

#### **Chartered Accountant FCA**

Stephen joined Palace Capital in 2015 and brings over 10 years' experience as a finance professional in real estate. He previously held the role of Group Financial Controller at NewRiver REIT for 3 years and prior to that was Head of Finance at St Hilliers, a construction, development and property fund management business in Australia.



**RICHARD STARR**Executive Property Director

#### **Chartered Surveyor MRICS**

Richard joined Palace Capital in 2013 on the back of the Sequel acquisition and related equity raise. He has extensive experience sourcing and managing commercial investments from his previous role running his own successful boutique property consultancy and before that, four Central London property firms.

#### **Disclaimer**

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