

# TheWorks.co.uk

What will you discover?

**Interim results  
26 weeks ended 27 October 2019**

*16 January 2020*



TheWorks.co.uk

# Agenda

- Highlights

Gavin Peck (CEO)

- Financial Review

Rosie Fordham (Interim CFO)

- Business Review

Gavin Peck (CEO)

- Questions







# H1 financial overview

	H1 FY20	H1 FY19
Revenue	£96.4m	£91.5m
Total sales growth	5.4%	15.0%
LFL sales growth (exc Mega Trends)	(1.9%)	5.5%
Reported LFL sales growth	(3.6%)	3.8%
Adjusted EBITDA*	(£4.3m)	(£0.9m)
Interim Dividend (pence per share)	1.2p	1.2p
Net (debt**)/cash	(£14.9m)	(£4.4m)

*\* Before adjusting items and IFRS16 Leases impact*

*\*\* Before IFRS16 Leases liabilities*



# Summary and outlook

- Management changes – focus on next phase of growth
- Negative LFLs in H1 reflected two key factors:
  - Challenging consumer backdrop
  - Exacerbated by trading against “Squishies” Mega Trend last year (and strong sales of Slime)
- New store openings remained a positive – payback running at around one year
- We took proactive action
  - Invested in margin to drive sales
  - Increased focus on cost control
- Pleasing to return to positive LFLs (+1.5%) over peak trading – growth in both stores and online
- Trading in line with Board expectations for the full year and expect to be broadly debt free by year-end
- Action taken to refocus strategy in near-term – driving profitable growth in the existing business
  - Fewer new store openings
  - Reviewing proposition to help drive LFL sales growth
  - Building blocks in place to support next phase of online growth
  - Accelerating product margin growth opportunity
  - Renewed focus on cost control
- Continue to believe in medium-term growth opportunity





# Summary income statement

Adjusted results (pre-IFRS16 Leases)	H1 FY20 £'m	H1 FY19 £'m
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>96.4</b>	<b>91.5</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>13.6</b>
<i>Gross Profit Margin</i>	<i>11.5%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>
<b>Adjusted EBITDA loss</b>	<b>(4.3)</b>	<b>(0.9)</b>
Depreciation	(3.5)	(2.8)
<b>Operating profit before tax</b>	<b>(7.8)</b>	<b>(3.7)</b>
Net financing expense	(0.2)	(0.7)
<b>Profit before tax</b>	<b>(8.0)</b>	<b>(4.4)</b>
<b><u>Reconciliation to statutory results</u></b>		
<b>Adjusted profit before tax</b>	<b>(8.0)</b>	<b>(4.4)</b>
Duty provision	(0.4)	-
Relocation of eCommerce fulfilment operations	-	(0.2)
Staff incentives on IPO	-	(1.2)
Costs relating to IPO and refinancing	-	(3.0)
Write-off of capitalised costs associated with repaid loan	-	(0.4)
<b>Statutory profit before tax (pre IFRS16 Leases adjustments)</b>	<b>(8.3)</b>	<b>(9.1)</b>
IFRS16 adjustment to profit before tax	(0.2)	-
<b>Statutory profit before tax</b>	<b>(8.5)</b>	<b>(9.1)</b>

## Key highlights

- +5.4% revenue growth reflecting new store revenue offset by lower LFLs
- Lower gross profit margin reflecting FX and NLW/NMW headwinds plus increased promotional activity
- Increased adjusted EBITDA loss reflects lower LFL sales, lower profit margin and increased operating costs
- Increased depreciation reflecting new store opening programme
- Lower financing expense
  - Full period of post-IPO capital structure
  - Broadly in line with prior year when adjusting for post-IPO capital structure

# Product margin and cost control

	H1 FY20 £'m	% of revenue	H1 FY19 £'m	% of revenue	YOY increase (%)
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>96.4</b>		<b>91.5</b>		<b>5.4%</b>
Cost of goods sold	36.3	37.7%	32.8	35.9%	10.7%
Store wages	20.6	21.4%	18.2	19.9%	13.6%
Store property costs	22.1	22.9%	20.8	22.7%	6.1%
Other direct costs	6.3	6.5%	6.1	6.7%	2.6%
<b>Cost of sales</b>	<b>85.4</b>	<b>88.5%</b>	<b>77.9</b>	<b>85.2%</b>	<b>9.5%</b>
Distribution costs	5.8	6.0%	5.2	5.7%	10.5%
Administrative costs	9.6	9.9%	9.2	10.1%	3.7%
<b>Operating costs</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.9%</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>6.2%</b>
<b>Adjusted EBITDA (pre IFRS16 Leases)</b>	<b>(4.3)</b>	<b>(4.4)%</b>	<b>(0.9)</b>	<b>(1.0)%</b>	<b>373.0%</b>

*Note:*

– The above figures are pre IFRS16 Leases and exclude depreciation, impairment and gains/losses on disposals of property, plant and equipment and amortisation of software – see appendix for detailed reconciliation to statutory costs



# Key highlights

- **Increased cost of goods sold**
  - Reflects FX headwind and investment in promotional activity
- **Store wages ratio increase**
  - NLW/NMW impact continues – ability to mitigate limited in absence of lone-working but increasing focus on driving efficiency savings and reviewing store labour structures
  - Hours managed given lower LFLs but unable to fully mitigate to maintain cost ratio
- **Ongoing rent and rates savings in existing portfolio**
  - Continuing to take advantage of favourable retail property market conditions and short lease length (average time to next exit point of less than three years)
- **Operating costs ratio broadly maintained**
  - NLW/NMW increases on distribution labour mitigated, in part, by efficiencies, including reduction in transport costs given change in pallet pick method
  - Full year impact of outsourcing online fulfilment, plc costs and investment in key functions linked to growing the estate (e.g. field sales structure) and buying team
  - Careful control of other central costs
- **Increased focus on cost control**
  - Store labour efficiencies and structure reviews
  - Supply chain efficiencies
  - Further rent reductions in the existing estate
  - Careful management of central costs and discretionary spend

# Capital expenditure

	H1 FY20 £'m	H1 FY19 £'m	YOY Change £'m
New stores and relocations	2.9	2.9	(0.0)
IT hardware and software	0.5	0.3	(0.2)
Web development	0.5	0.3	(0.2)
Store refits and rebrands	0.3	0.3	0.0
Other	0.6	1.0	0.4
<b>Total capital expenditure</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Capital expenditure on finance lease	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.0)
<b>Net capital expenditure</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>(0.0)</b>

## Key highlights

- New stores continue to represent a significant proportion of spend
- Web Replatform c£1.2m spend in FY20
- Full year expectation of c£9m (given lower number of new store openings) – expect similar level in future years as lower capex on new stores offset by investment to drive cost efficiencies



# Cashflow

	H1 FY20 £'m	H1 FY19 £'m
<b>Adjusted EBITDA*</b>	<b>(4.3)</b>	<b>(0.9)</b>
Share based payment charges	0.1	-
Derivative exchange loss/(gain)	0.0	(0.2)
Increase in provisions	(0.1)	-
<b>Adjusted Operating Cashflow before working capital</b>	<b>(4.3)</b>	<b>(1.1)</b>
Net capital expenditure	(4.6)	(4.6)
Net working capital movement	(6.6)	2.2
Net interest paid	(0.1)	(1.2)
Corporation tax	(0.3)	(0.4)
<b>Free Cashflow</b>	<b>(15.9)</b>	<b>(5.2)</b>
Debt	14.9	4.8
Cash	0.0	0.3
<b>Net Debt**</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>4.4</b>

\* Before adjusting items and IFRS16 Leases impact

\*\* Before IFRS16 Leases liabilities

## Key highlights

- Predictable and well-controlled capital expenditure
- Working capital absorption driven by:
  - Higher stock levels reflecting stock phasing ahead of peak and lower sales in H1
  - Phasing of October payment runs (adverse to last year)
- Lower interest paid reflecting post-IPO debt structure
- Strong cash generation in H2 – expect to be broadly debt-free by year-end

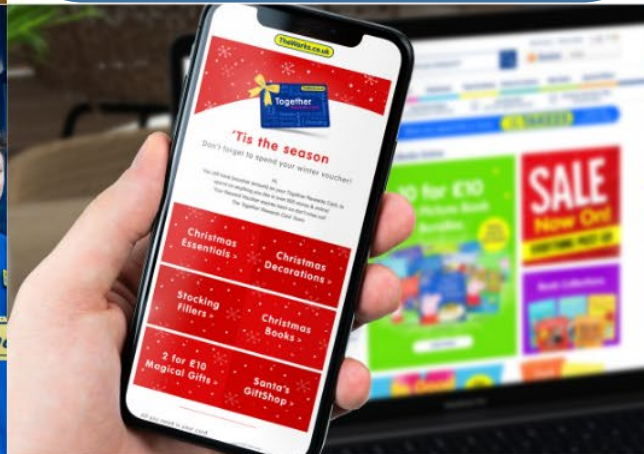
# IFRS16

	£'m
<b><u>FY20 OPENING BALANCE SHEET IMPACT</u></b>	
Right of use assets	104.4
Lease liability	(116.1)
<b>Net assets impact of IFRS16</b>	<b>(11.7)</b>
<b><u>De-recognise</u></b>	
Prepayments	(2.7)
Rent free	6.5
Deferred tax	2.0
<b>Equity impact</b>	<b>(5.8)</b>
<b><u>FY20 H1 P&amp;L IMPACT</u></b>	
<b>EBITDA increase = removal of operating lease</b>	<b>11.3</b>
Right of use asset depreciation	(9.6)
<b>EBIT increase</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Lease liability interest charge	(1.9)
<b>Net PBT increase</b>	<b>(0.2)</b>

## Key highlights

- Operating leases meeting IFRS16 criteria represented by a fixed ("right-of-use") asset with corresponding lease liability (notional debt)
- Operating lease expense replaced by asset depreciation and notional interest charge in relation to the lease liability
- Our flexible lease terms create complexity
  - Concession leases
  - Turnover rents
  - Short-term leases
- Elected the modified retrospective adoption method which requires no re-statement of comparatives
- Modest improvement expected to full year FY20 PBT (c£0.1m)
- No impact on business operations or cash flows







# We have a proven four pillar growth strategy





# New store rollout

- Continued track record of delivery
  - Net 28 opened at end of October, further 13 net opened since
  - Payback continues to run at around one year – in line with internal expectations
- Scaling back opening plans in the near term
  - No further net openings in FY20
  - Net 20 openings in FY21
- Rationale
  - Focus on existing estate – over 100 lease events in FY21
  - Increased quality and returns expected on FY21 openings
- Retail property market conditions likely to remain favourable in the medium-term

# LFL sales performance

- Disappointing H1 LFLs
  - Challenging consumer backdrop
  - Exacerbated by absence of a Mega Trend
- Improved performance over peak trading
  - Positive growth in stores and online
  - Comps eased as Mega Trend impact dropped away
  - Proven track record at Christmas
    - Christmas ranges performed well
    - Frozen 2 complementary sales
  - Initiatives landed in the first half starting to come through
    - Kids Jigsaws and Helium Balloons
    - New merchandising initiatives on core stationery and art ranges launched, with core craft range planned for new year
- Consumer backdrop remains a challenge – cautious optimism for remainder of FY20

# Multi-channel proposition development

- Sales decline in first half disappointing, but
  - Reflects propositional changes to increase online Average Ticket Price to improve profitability
  - Improved sales performance over peak
  - Strong performance of fulfilment partner – continued focus on driving productivities and efficiencies
- Initiatives underway to drive profitable sales growth
  - Ongoing focus on increasing online Average Ticket Price
  - Range extension development being accelerated
  - New platform to launch by July – supports next stage of growth
  - Further opportunities to drive productivities and efficiencies with fulfilment partner
- Development in other digital areas
  - Continued growth in Click and Collect
  - “Together” loyalty database continues to grow
  - Investing in customer insight and data analysis tool to support CRM





# Product margin and cost control

- H1 product margin behind last year reflecting
  - FX headwind
  - Investment to drive sales over Summer
- Product margin gap to prior year expected to narrow in H2 – ongoing FX headwind with more normalised promotional activity
- Medium-term product margin growth expected through multiple levers
- Increased focus on cost control given H1 LFL sales performance and market backdrop – helping to ensure profitable growth and improved quality of earnings
- Good savings made in a number of areas – savings weighted to H2
  - Retail DC (e.g. change in picking process)
  - Property costs (e.g. rent and rates)
  - Store labour costs (e.g. lower hours outside of peak where possible)
  - Discretionary costs management
- Further opportunities continue to be explored for FY21 and beyond, in particular supply chain efficiencies, NLW mitigation in stores and property cost savings in existing estate

# Summary and outlook

- H1 performance a disappointment, but pleasing to return to positive LFLs over peak trading
- Trading in line with Board expectations for the full year and expect to be broadly debt free by year-end
- Proactive action taken to refocus strategy in near-term
  - Fewer new store openings
  - Reviewing proposition to help drive LFL sales growth
  - Building blocks in place to support next phase of online growth
  - Accelerating product margin growth opportunity
  - Renewed focus on cost control
- Continue to believe in medium-term growth opportunity
- Management team in place – focus on driving next phase of growth









# Appendices



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# Balance sheet

	HY20 £'000	HY19 £'000
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Intangible assets	18,744	17,630
Property, plant and equipment	121,966	21,582
Deferred tax assets	2,494	307
	<b>143,204</b>	<b>39,519</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Inventories	42,511	36,288
Current tax asset	1,967	1,535
Derivative financial asset	156	301
Trade and other receivables	9,988	13,300
Cash and cash equivalents	-	322
	<b>54,622</b>	<b>51,746</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>197,826</b>	<b>91,265</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Bank overdraft	7,123	
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	7,000	4,000
Lease liabilities	18,283	244
Trade and other payables	45,566	56,373
Provisions	145	
Derivative financial liability	1,005	
Current tax liabilities	-	
	<b>79,122</b>	<b>60,617</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Lease liabilities	94,590	514
Provisions	-	-
	<b>94,590</b>	<b>514</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>173,712</b>	<b>61,131</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>24,114</b>	<b>30,134</b>
<b>Equity attributable to equity holders of the parent</b>		
Share capital	625	625
Share premium	28,322	28,322
Merger reserve	(54)	(54)
Share-based payment reserve	1,468	1,401
Hedging reserve	(519)	-
Retained earnings	(5,728)	(160)
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>24,114</b>	<b>30,134</b>



# Cashflow

	HY20 £'000	HY19 £'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
(Loss) / profit for the period	(6,414)	(7,717)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	13,439	2,780
Derivative exchange loss/(gain)	25	(212)
Net finance costs	2,099	1,104
Gain / Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment	(7)	(2)
Adjusting items - staff incentives on IPO	-	1,212
FX mvt on IFRS16	130	-
Share based payment charges	95	-
Increase in provisions	(136)	-
Taxation	(2,061)	(1,392)
<b>Operating cash flows before changes in working capit:</b>	<b>7,170</b>	<b>(4,227)</b>
Increase in trade and other receivables	7,702	4,091
Increase in inventories	(17,324)	(14,793)
Increase in trade and other payables	(883)	12,947
IFRS 16 movement in accruals and prepayments	3,880	-
<b>Cash inflows from operating activities</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>(1,982)</b>
Tax paid	(272)	(438)
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>(2,420)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(3,994)	(4,372)
Acquisition of intangible assets	(810)	(250)
Interest received	-	1
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>	<b>(4,804)</b>	<b>(4,621)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Interest paid	(143)	(1,247)
Payment of finance lease liabilities	(11,636)	(110)
Proceeds from share issue	-	28,500
Dividends paid	(1,500)	-
proceeds from bank borrowings	7,000	4,000
Repayment of bank borrowings	-	(31,200)
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	<b>(6,279)</b>	<b>(57)</b>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(10,810)	(7,098)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	3,687	7,420
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>(7,123)</b>	<b>322</b>



# Reconciliation to statutory cost of sales and operating costs

	H1 FY20 £'m	% of revenue	H1 FY19 £'m	% of revenue	YOY increase (%)
<b><u>Cost analysis reconciliation to statutory costs (reflecting IFRS 16 adjustments and depreciation)</u></b>					
Store property costs	(10.9)				
Other direct costs	(0.2)				
<b>Cost of sales under IFRS 16</b>	<b>74.3</b>	77.0%			
IFRS 16 ROUA depreciation	9.4	9.8%			
Non IFRS 16 depreciation	2.4	2.4%	2.0	2.1%	20.8%
<b>Statutory Cost of sales</b>	<b>86.1</b>	89.3%	<b>79.9</b>	<b>87.3%</b>	7.7%
Distribution costs	(0.1)				
Administrative costs	(0.5)				
<b>Operating costs under IFRS 16</b>	<b>14.7</b>	15.3%			
IFRS 16 ROUA depreciation	0.5	0.6%			
Non IFRS 16 depreciation	1.1	1.1%	0.8	0.9%	33.9%
<b>Statutory operating costs</b>	<b>16.4</b>	17.0%	<b>15.3</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	7.2%