

# Kier Group plc

Results for the year ended 30 June 2023

14 September 2023



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## **Results Summary**

Andrew Davies, CEO



### **FY23 Highlights**

- Strong financial performance despite ongoing inflationary pressures
- Revenue growth of 5% driven by strong operational performance
- Adjusted operating profit increased 9% to £132m (FY22: £121m)
- Adjusted operating margin at 3.9%, ahead of the medium-term target of c. 3.5%
- Free Cash Flow of £132m, driven by operating cash conversion of 130% following a strong Q4 performance
- Net cash of £64m, significantly higher than prior year end (FY22: £3m), and achieved after fully repaying £50m KEPS
- Strong cash generation and repayment of debt-like items. Average month-end net debt at £(232)m
- Intention to resume dividend payments in FY24, commencing with an interim dividend
- High quality order book, increased 3% to £10.1bn (FY22: £9.8bn) providing significant visibility over FY24
- Bolt-on acquisition of rail assets announced post year end
- Pension scheme triennial valuation agreed resulting in materially decreased deficit payments
- Updated sustainability framework reinforces commitment to ESG targets



### Medium-Term Value Creation Plan Update

### On track to achieve medium-term value creation plan targets

	Medium-term value creation plan expectations	FY23	Delivered
Revenue	Revenue c.£4.0bn - £4.5 bn	£3.4bn	On track
Adjusted EBIT margin	Adjusted operating margin c.3.5%	3.9%	$\checkmark$
Cashflow conversion	Cashflow conversion of operating profit c.90% <sup>(1)</sup>	130%(1)	$\checkmark$
Average month-end net cash	Sustainable net cash position with capacity to invest	£(232)m	On track
Dividend policy	Sustainable dividend policy: c.3x earnings cover through the cycle	Intention and	nounced
Note: (1) Cash conversion calcula	ted as a percentage of operating free cash flow over adjusted operating profit	FY23 Results P	resentation, 14 September 2023

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## **FY23 Results**

Simon Kesterton, CFO



### **Financial Highlights**

### Significant free cash flow generation of £132m

£'m	FY23	%	FY22	%	Δ
Revenue	3,405.4		3,256.5		4.6%
Adjusted Operating Profit	131.5	3.9	120.5	3.7	9.1%
Net finance costs	(26.7)		(26.4)		(1.1%)
Adjusted Profit before tax	104.8	3.1	94.1	2.9	11.4%
Adjusting items	(33.7)		(58.5)		42.4%
Amortisation	(19.2)		(19.7)		2.5%
Profit before tax	51.9		15.9		226.4%
Taxation	(10.9)		(3.2)		(240.6%)
Profit from continuing operations	41.0		12.7		222.8%
Adjusted basic EPS	19.2p		16.8p		14.3%
Statutory EPS	9.5p		2.9p		227.6%
Free cash flow	132.3		54.6		142.3%
Net cash / (debt)	64.1		2.9		2,110.3%
Average month-end net debt	(232.1)		(216.1)		(7.4%)

- Higher volumes in Infrastructure Services and Construction more than offset by expected reduced Property transactions
- Strong adjusted operating profit of £132m despite inflationary pressure
  - 3.9% adjusted operating profit margin and ahead of target
- Increased profit after tax to £41m
- Free cash flow of £132m driven by underlying operational performance and working capital inflow
- Repayment of debt-like items. Average month-end net debt of £232m



### **Revenue Performance**

### Higher volumes in Infrastructure Services and Construction more than offset by Property



- Revenue increase of 4.6% in FY23
  - Infrastructure ramp up of capital works on HS2
  - Construction strong order book converting to revenue
  - Continued bidding discipline and risk management
  - Property expected reduced transactions reflecting market conditions



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### **Adjusted Operating Profit**

### Margin increase underpinned by business mix and cost management



- Adjusted operating profit of £132m, 3.9% margin
- Increase against prior year:
  - Volume / price / mix
  - Management actions
- Decrease against prior year:
  - Property activity
  - Cost Inflation

### **Adjusting Items**

#### **Restructuring costs materially reduced**

£'m	FY23	FY22
Restructuring and related charges	13.0	40.0
Amortisation	19.2	19.7
Other	17.8	15.7
Total adjusting items to operating profit	50.0	75.4
Finance costs	2.9	2.8
Total adjusting items to profit before tax	52.9	78.2

Cash cost	27.0	41.2
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- Restructuring costs materially reduced and no further charges expected
- Amortisation £19m of non-cash accounting charges
- Other- £13m related to fire compliance and £5m for insurance-related matters
- Cash cost includes c.£13m relating to items accrued in previous periods



### **Free Cash Flow**

#### Strong free cash flow generation with positive working capital inflow and reduction in KEPS

£'m	FY23	FY22
Adjusted EBITDA	196.0	165.4
Working capital	80.3	3.7
Net capex (Including IFRS16 leases)	(51.4)	(46.5)
JV dividends less profits	0.7	5.9
KEPS repayment	(49.8)	(29.3)
Other <sup>1</sup>	(5.2)	9.0
Operating Free Cash Flow	170.6	108.2
Adjusted conversion	130%	90%
Net interest & tax	(38.3)	(32.8)
Free Cash Flow before COVID-19 impact	132.3	75.4
Net COVID-19 impact	-	(20.8)
Free Cash Flow	132.3	54.6

- Adjusted operating cash flow conversion of 130%
- Working capital inflow of £80m driven by Construction volumes in Q4
- Supplier payment days broadly consistent with prior year at 34 days
- Fully repaid £50m KEPS facility in July 2022



Note: (1) Other consists of share-based payments, fair value adjustments, pension adjustments and profit on disposal of PPE

### **Net Cash Movement**

### Significant free cash flow generation of £132m and year-end net cash position of £64m



### **Average Month-End Net Debt**

#### Near-term pathway to sustainable average month-end net cash position



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- FY23 expected increase due to the repayment of debt and debt-like items such as KEPs and HMRC Covid-19 deferred taxes
  - Average month-end net debt of £(232)m
- FY24 expected improvement with free cash flow generation
  - Order book converting to revenue
  - Working capital inflow
  - Reduced adjusting items
- Financing
  - Committed debt facilities of £570m
  - Majority of facilities maturing in January 2025

### High Quality Order Book

#### Order book of £10.1bn underpinned by long-term framework positions

- Order book at £10.1bn (FY22: £9.8bn)
- 85% of FY24 revenue secured
- De-risked contracts:
  - c.60% of order book is under target cost or cost reimbursable contracts
  - Construction regional build and strategic projects average order size is c.£16m





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Note: (1) Order book as at 30 June 2023 reflects secured and probable future contract revenue not currently recognised in the financial statements

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### **Capital Allocation**

### Capital allocation priorities aligned with strategic objectives

Sources and uses of cash



#### Uses of Cash

- Capex investment to support business
- Property disciplined investment in Property business
- Deleverage further deleveraging in order to operate with a strong, resilient and flexible balance sheet
  - Targeting a sustainable net cash position in medium term
- Dividend targeting dividend cover of 3 x earnings through the cycle
- M&A value accretive and in core markets. Potential to accelerate medium-term plan

### Pension

### Net pension scheme asset of £105m

£'m	FY23	FY22	Δ
Group Pension Schemes			
Market value of assets	1,247.7	1,557.0	(309.3)
Present value of liabilities	(1,143.2)	(1,362.3)	219.1
Net pension asset	104.5	194.7	(90.2)

		Deficit p	ayment s	chedule			
Year	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29 & beyond
Old schedule	£10m	£10m	£10m	£9m	£9m	£9m	£11m
New schedule	£10m	£9m	£8m	£5m	£4m	£1m	-

- As at 30 June 2023, Group's pension scheme asset was £105m
- Triennial valuation for funding the defined benefit schemes agreed.
- Given improved pension covenant and payments under the existing schedule of contributions, schemes in a significantly improved position
- Reduced deficit contributions to be made over the coming years concluding in FY28



### Dividend

Intention to recommence dividend given progress against medium-term value creation plan

- Intention to commence dividends
- Near-term pathway to operating with an average month end net cash position
- Significant improvement in balance sheet net cash
- Over time, progress to deliver a dividend, covered 3x by earnings
- Payment ratio: one third interim dividend and two third final dividend
- First dividend is expected to be announced alongside interim results





## **Operational Update**

Andrew Davies, CEO



### **Infrastructure Services**

#### Adjusted operating profit growth of 14% to £80m

£'m	FY23	FY22	Δ
Revenue	1,712	1,667	2.7%
Adjusted Operating Profit	79.8	70.0	14.0%
Operating margin	4.7%	4.2%	50 bps
Order book (£bn)	5.8	5.6	3.6%

#### **Financial Performance**

- Revenue growth of 2.7% driven largely by ramp up of capital works on HS2
- Adjusted operating profit benefits from HS2 volume increases, offset by slower than anticipated roll out in telecoms sector

### KIER

#### **Commercial & Operational Update**

- Order book increase of 4% to £5.8bn
- Transportation: appointed by National Highways to carry out maintenance on 8 viaducts at Lune Gorge, spanning the M6
- Natural Resources, Nuclear & Networks: reappointed to the £55m per annum, 3 year extension of the Network Service Alliance framework by South West Water and Bournemouth Water
- 76% revenue secured for FY24

### **Rail Assets Acquisition**

#### Bolt-on acquisition of rail assets completed post year end

- Completed post year end, 4 September 2023
- Acquired substantially all the rail assets of Buckingham Group and the HS2 contract supplying Kier's HS2 joint venture, EKFB
- Cash consideration of up to £9.6m
- Value accretive acquisition in core market
  - Excellent cultural fit and accelerates Kier's broader rail strategy
- Given modest size, no material impact on forecasts for FY24
- FY25 revenue of £50-£75m expected
- Integration currently in progress



### Construction

#### Adjusted operating profit growth driven by higher volumes and impact of prior year restructuring

£'m	FY23	FY22	Δ
Revenue	1,653	1,441	14.7%
Adjusted Operating Profit	69.5	60.8	14.3%
Operating margin	4.2%	4.2%	- bps
Order book (£bn)	4.3	4.2	2.4%

#### **Financial Performance**

- Revenue increase of 15% reflects ramp up of HMP Millsike prison and increased facilities management & housing maintenance work in Kier Places
- Adjusted operating profit increased with higher volumes and the impact of the prior year's restructuring

#### **Commercial & Operational Update**

- Significant awards:
  - Appointed to the £5.1bn Strategic Alliance Contract Framework in relation to the Defence Estate Optimisation ("DEO") Portfolio by the Ministry of Defence.
  - Re-appointed to the £4.5bn Southern Construction Framework
  - Kier Places appointed by L&Q for its Major Works Investment Programme to deliver housing maintenance across its estate
- 95% revenue secured for FY24

### Property

#### Fewer property transactions in current market conditions

£'m	FY23	FY22	Δ
Revenue	38	144	(73.9%)
Adjusted Operating Profit	12.8	17.6	(27.3%)
Operating margin	34.0%	12.2%	2,180bps
Capital employed – equity only	150	122	23%
ROCE – new	9.4%	13.7%	(430)bps
Capital employed	175	122	43.4%
ROCE	8.6%	13.7%	(510)bps

#### **Financial Performance**

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- Revenue and adjusted operating profit decreased due to lower transactions driven by market conditions
- Adjusted operating margin increased to 34% due to a revaluation gain on two investment property transactions

#### **Commercial & Operational Update**

- Commenced redevelopment work at 19 Cornwall Street Birmingham to transform it into an office operating at net zero carbon
- Entered a Joint Venture partnership with Countryside to deliver a housing development in South Wokingham
- Obtained planning consent for a windfarm to be developed on the former Greenburn Mine site
- In the process of reviewing the upper end of the capital range which is currently £170m



## Sustainability

Andrew Davies, CEO



### **New Sustainability Framework**

#### **Building for a Sustainable World**

#### Key focus areas:



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**Our People** – we will build a workforce with the necessary skills and capabilities whilst ensuring fair and equal treatment for our entire workforce

**Our Places** – we aim to leave a positive legacy in the communities we work in and help to tackle inequality through tools and opportunities

**Our Planet** – action to reduce carbon, building resilience to climate-change related events, value nature through protecting biodiversity and move to resource efficient construction



### **Environmental**

#### Progress made on carbon, waste and water reduction in FY23



- Carbon reduction in scope 1 & 2 carbon 19% in 2023
  - reduction in scope 3 carbon by 7% in 2023



- Waste 33% year over year reduction in the volume of nonhazardous construction waste from FY22 to FY23
  - Construction waste diverted from landfill – 92% of total FY23 waste



- ✓ Biosphere protection
  - Water 8% year over year reduction in cost of water as a percentage of operational spend



### Social

#### Progress made on social commitments in FY23



- Safety 12-month AIR
  88 a decrease of 23% on
  FY22
- ✓ 12-month AAIR 320, inline with FY22



Apprenticeships

- Apprenticeships 646 apprentices participants, 6% of workforce
- Graduates intake comprising 43% women



SME Spend

Small and Medium Enterprise ("SME") spend – 69% of subcontractor spending with SMEs



Supply Payment Days

- Supplier payments
  days payment days of
  34 days
- Adherence to prompt payment code



Sumr	nary and Outlook
1	Outperformed medium-term margin target
2	Order book of £10.1bn providing multi-year revenue visibility
3	FY24 started well and trading in line with expectations. Current year outlook unchanged
4	Near-term pathway to sustainable average month-end net cash position; commencement of dividend alongside interim results
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### **Key Investment Proposition**

Creating value for the medium-term



Value accretive earnings-led business model. Aligned to UK Government's investment priorities



Attractive market positions focused on UK infrastructure and construction markets



Strong order book underpinned by longterm contracts and framework agreements



Experienced management team. Proven track record of operational and financial delivery



### **Our businesses**

#### Re-aligned Infrastructure Services segment. Well placed to support clients in key markets





### **Transformation Journey**

#### Rationalised and recapitalised. Focused delivery of medium-term value creation plan





### Medium-Term Value Creation Plan

#### Medium-term targets provide visibility over Group direction



- Annual revenue c. £4.0 bn £4.5 bn
- Adjusted operating margin c.3.5%
- Cashflow conversion of operating profit c.90%
- Balance sheet: sustainable net cash position with capacity to invest
- Sustainable dividend policy: c. 3x cover through the cycle



### **Market Drivers**

#### Positive market environment underpinning UK Government spending commitments



### **UK Government Spending Commitments**

#### UK National Infrastructure Strategy – commitment to spend £600bn over next 5 years



- Road investment Strategy 2: £27bn investment in England's strategic roads - 2020-2025, a 60% increase on Roads Investment Strategy 1 from 2015-2020)
- Project Speed and the new Acceleration Unit launched by DfT in August 2020
- £45bn committed over 5 years for CP7 rail network

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#### **Infrastructure Services**



- Water England/Wales AMP7 £51bn by 2025. NI Water £4bn for 2021 – 2027
- Energy GB RIIO-ED2 £22.2bn by 2028 and NI - RP 6 £657m by 2024
- RIIO-GD £30bn by 2026 and NI GD23 £186m by 2028
- Telecoms Fibre/5G by 2027, £30bn investment by private and public sectors
- £20bn new nuclear build along with opportunities in new nuclear technologies





- UK leading net-zero pledge
- Ten point plan for a green industrial revolution
- £100bn investment in UK energy security by 2030<sup>(1)</sup>
- Greener buildings, public transport and carbon capture

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Note: (1) Anticipated private sector investment driven by the Government's Ten Point Plan for Green Industrial Revolution, Net Zero and Energy Strategy

### **UK Government Spending Commitments continued**

UK Government spending focused on schools, hospitals, prisons and defence

#### Construction **Property** Education Healthcare Custodial Defence **Urban Regeneration** A Mer Mar LAR £4.3bn Defence Estate Geographic redistribution 500 DfE school replacement 20,000 new prison £3.7bn committed until places required **Optimisation Programme** agenda - increased project over 10 years 2024-25 under the spending in deprived New Hospitals £1.5bn Facilities > 200 further free school £4bn commitment over areas Programme Management projects approved for DfE 4 years opportunities across the capital funding £600bn 5 year spending Up to £18.5bn MoD Estate c.£250m per annum of commitment indicative capital estate maintenance funding to 2030-31 £650m future capital also under New investment across US **Hospitals Programme** Visiting Forces estate in UK **KIER** FY23 Results Presentation, 14 September 2023 37

### Frameworks – Route to Market

#### Maintaining and growing central and local framework positions

- Awarded places on long-term frameworks and contracts worth up to £137bn (total OJEU values)
- Driving long-term revenue streams, barriers to entry and strengthened customer relationships, underpinning strong order book

#### **Infrastructure Services**

- 5 national framework positions
- 40 regional framework positions
- Typical durations 5 to 10 years
- Highways Frameworks and contracts secured up to 11 years
- Total advertised OJEU value circa:

### £14bn

#### Construction

- 20 national framework positions
- 33 regional framework positions
- Typical framework duration 4 years; average of 2 years remaining
- Total advertised OJEU value circa:

### £123bn



Note: Official Journal of the European Union ("OJEU"), values as at 30 June 2022







### **Segmental Revenue Analysis**

#### **Infrastructure Services**



■ Highways ■ Rail ■ Power ■ Water ■ Telecoms ■ Other

#### Construction

