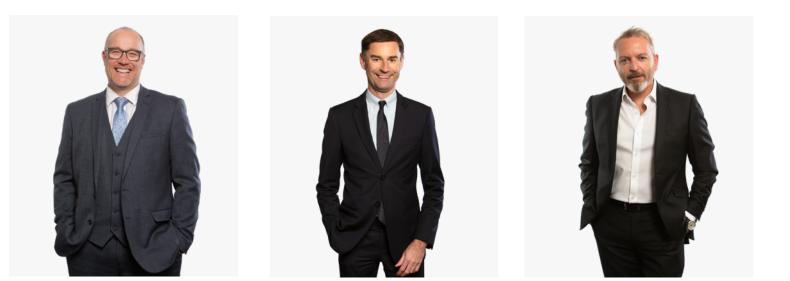
*Forward thinking* Straight talking

# Preliminary results Year ended 30 April 2020

Gateley

### **Presentation team**



Neil Smith FCCA Finance Director

Rod Waldie Chief Executive Officer Nick Smith Acquisitions Director





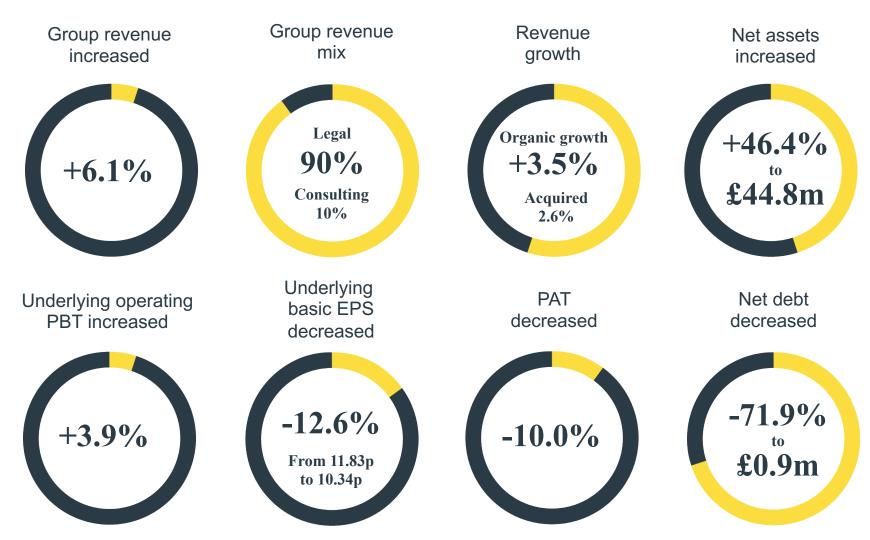


- Solid results for FY20
- Further progression of strategy implementation during FY20
- Resilience through diversification, differentiation and culture
- Managed operations aligned to profitable and cash positive trading year to date
- Cautious anticipation of continued improvement in current year trading subject to macro-economic stabilisation
- > Foundations set for:
  - Iong-term growth;
  - > the creation of a broader professional services group; and
  - > enhanced profitability



# Financial highlights

# **Financial highlights**



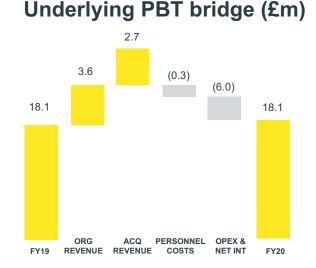
Dividend payments from FY20 results cancelled due to COVID-19



# FY 20 performance

#### Strong performance, impacted in Q4 by COVID-19, decisions taken quickly to conserve cash

	FY 20 (£m)	FY 19 (£m)	GROWTH
Revenue	109.8	103.5	+6.1%
Underlying operating profit before tax	18.7	18.0	+3.9%
Underlying profit before tax	18.1	18.1	-
Profit after tax	11.7	13.0	-10.0%
Underlying basic EPS	10.34p	11.83p	-12.6%



- Organic revenue growth impacted sharply in Q4 by COVID-19 with no time to implement plans to maintain profits at forecast levels
- Despite COVID-19 strong performance across the Group with consultancy businesses contributing £11m (10%) of revenue
- > Trading margin in line with prior year, board cancelled staff bonuses as forecast revenue not met
- > Decision taken to conserve cash further and cancel dividends whilst impact of COVID-19 was assessed
- > Another year of strong cash generation, re-investment in 4 acquisitions prior to lockdown and top line growth



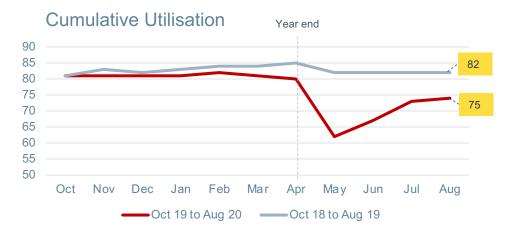
### Segmental analysis

#### Sustainable growth through resilient and balanced service lines

	FY 20 £m	FY 19 £m	movement	Drivers for growth
Banking and Financial Services	16.7	17.0	(1.8)%	<ul> <li>Surety led instructions quieter compared to FY 19</li> <li>International litigation opportunities</li> <li>Banking/Administration activity will be enhanced by COVID-19 once government assistance schemes end</li> </ul>
Corporate	19.8	16.9	17.2%	<ul> <li>Leading deal volume teams nationally specialising in PE/M&amp;A</li> <li>London Private Wealth and tax teams performing well</li> <li>COVID-19 halted corporate deal fee growth in last two months</li> </ul>
Business Services	12.6	13.4	(6.0)%	<ul> <li>COVID-19 impact on commercial legal work</li> <li>Expansion of commercial legal teams across larger national accounts</li> <li>Commercial litigation steady solid performer</li> </ul>
Employees, Pensions and Benefits	13.6	11.1	22.5%	<ul> <li>Surge in Employment related COVID-19 advice in last month</li> <li>T3 acquired in year adding £1.2m</li> <li>IIS expanding pipeline</li> </ul>
Property	45.1	43.4	3.9%	<ul> <li>Long term land projects (Housebuilding)</li> <li>Property developments (logistics and industrial warehousing)</li> <li>National infrastructure and land owner activity increases from planning to business lease</li> <li>Persona and Vinden acquired in year adding £1.2m</li> </ul>

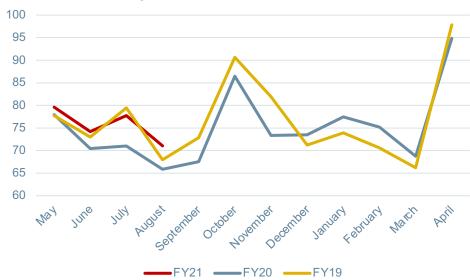


# Activity and Working capital trends (4 mths to Aug 20)



- > Utilisation impact recovering
- Resilience of complementary service lines

- Debtor days following historical trends in days
- Cash collections exceeded post-pandemic forecasts
- > Long term projects unaffected
- > No significant bad debts
- Enhanced practical measures to aid collections through pandemic



#### Debtor days

Gateley

# FY 21 cost decisions

#### Carefully managed costs to mitigate pandemic challenge

	FY20 £m	FY19 £m
Revenue	109.8	103.5
Other income	0.7	0.3
Personnel costs	(63.5)	(62.8)
Operating costs	(23.8)	(21.9)
Total underlying costs	(87.3)	(84.7)
Non-underlying costs and interest	(8.4)	(3.1)
Total costs	(95.7)	(87.8)
Profit before tax	14.8	16.0

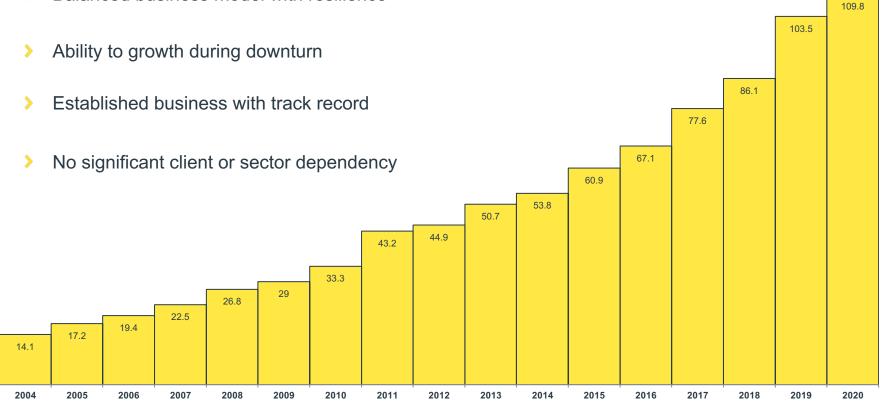
- > £5.4m from pay cuts across all staff
- £5m COVID-19 induced cost savings
   property, travel, marketing
- > c£2m furlough income receipts FY21
- Underlying costs for FY21 expected to be in line with FY20
- Operational gearing opportunities from new ways of working



### Revenue growth through economic cycles

- > YOY growth
- > Balanced business model with resilience







## **Financial summary**

#### FY20 summary

- Good momentum from FY19 into FY20, disrupted year due to Brexit, election and then COVID-19
- Further investment in staff and 4 acquisitions improving balance and increasing capacity
- Good organic growth halted by COVID-19 before cost-base could react
- Forecasts withdrawn due to COVID-19 uncertainty
- Dividends and bonuses cancelled despite another year of strong cash generation
- Significant net asset and net debt improvement

#### FY21 year-to-date summary

- Swift action taken to:
  - Realise cost savings
  - > Conserve cash
- > Ample facilities in place
- Utilised government support to avoid redundancies where it aligns with staff protection intent
- > KPI trends improving monthly
- All key metrics ahead of post-pandemic expectations
- Looking to maximise operational gearing opportunities
- Revenue difficult to forecast due to current uncertainty however expecting resilience from balance of legal and consultancy offering



# A proven business model

### Quality

#### Industry rankings:

- 2020 Experian Market IQ M&A Advisor League for H1 – ranked no 1 nationally across the UK
- Chambers and Legal 500

   11 'Tier 1' rankings across practice areas; 98 lawyers ranked and 13 lawyers featured in the Legal 500 Hall of Fame

#### **Gateley Legal**

- British Legal Awards 2019 UK Law Firm of the Year
- Thames Valley Deal Awards 2020 Corporate Law Firm of The Year
- Greater Birmingham Chamber of Commerce 2020 Awards: Excellence in the Community and Excellence in Sales and Marketing
- > The Times Best Law Firms
- EPrivateClient Top 35 under 35 two of our London associates recognised on the prestigious list celebrating the rising stars of the UK private wealth advisory sector

#### t-three

- Training Journal Awards 2019 – Best Leadership Development Programme
- Business Culture Awards 2019 – Best Talent Development Programme (partnering with Sainsbury's)
- Announced as finalists for the Business Culture Awards 2020 in three categories

#### Our clients Client satisfaction survey 2020

- > Overall service quality score of 96% good/excellent
- > Net promoter score +68

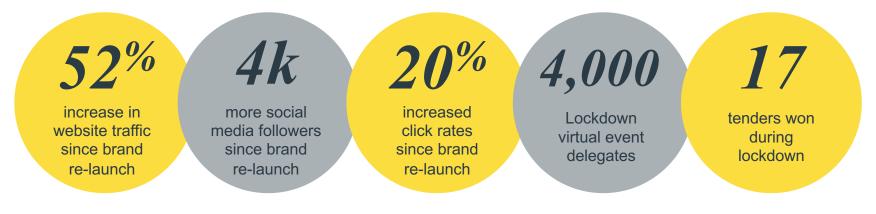
#### Our people Employee engagement survey 2020

Employee engagement score of 82% vs 65% UK private sector average



#### Scale and Breadth

- > 16 legal lines
- > 5 consulting lines
- > 438 qualified lawyers; 21 surveyors; 10 accountants; 2 tax accountants;
   11 occupational psychologists; 11 behavioural consultants
- More than 10,000 live client matters in September 2020
- > 11 offices in the UK





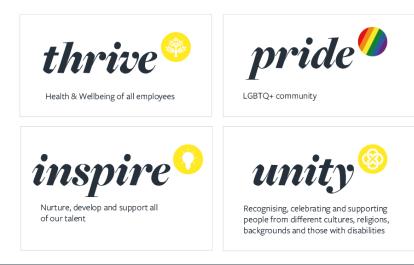
Revenue YOY movement (%)												
	2008	2009	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
BFS	5	81	139	9	20	6	13	11	11	3	10	-2
Corp	22	-19	-13	8	7	-1	14	13	25	13	6	17
BS	38	48	-2	8	29	-7	-1	16	7	11	11	-7
EPB	0	-7	62	7	-3	-9	13	3	-3	6	6	18
Prop	25	-4	-6	13	3	26	16	11	20	14	30	-3
Consultancy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	30	62	110	53



#### People

- > Health & Wellbeing
- Staff survey
- Pay
- > The future

Our diversity, inclusion and wellbeing network groups provide support for our people through a number of initiatives and activities:



#### Connecting with our people during lockdown

**Employee intranet** – 25k hits per week

**Employee newsletter** – 85% readership

**Leadership** – CEO business update videos; Workplace Wednesdays

**2020 Gateley Team Spirit Awards** – 300 colleagues nominated, virtual ceremony in October

Senior management annual update – virtual employee roadshow in November





#### **Finances**





**Progress with strategic plan** 

## **Our "Platforms"**

#### > Grouping professionals facing common markets/sectors

- > deeper understanding
- > a differentiated, compelling proposition
- > seamless multi-disciplinary service delivery
- > cross-selling opportunities

#### Established Platforms

- > Property
- > Human Capital

#### > "Under construction"

- > Corporate
- > Business Services



## **Platform composition**

		under construction	under construction
Property <b>Platform</b>	Human Capital <b>Platform</b>	Corporate <b>Platform</b>	Business Services <i>Platform</i>
Gateley Legal Gateley Capitus Gateley Hamer Persona Associates Gateley Vinden	Gateley Legal Kiddy & Partners t-three Entrust International Investment Services	Gateley Legal Gateley Capitus International Investment Services	Gateley Legal



### **Property Platform**

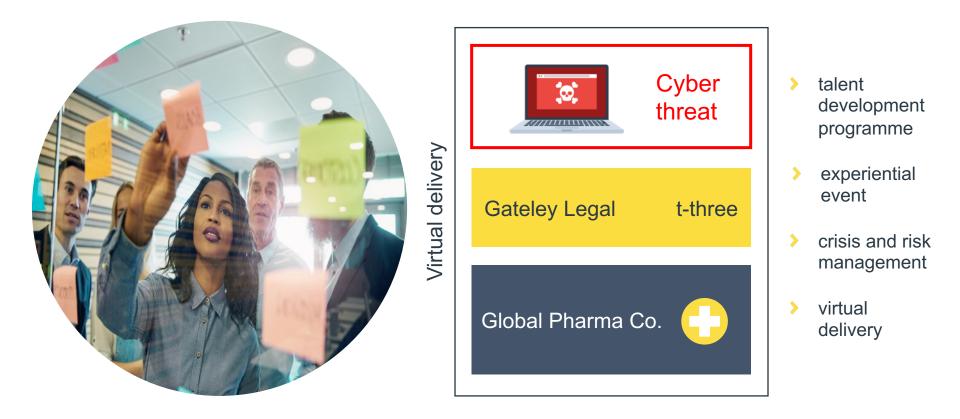
Town centre regeneration Infrastructure Housing schemes



Stockton - on - Tees						
Gateley Legal	Persona Associates					
erchange						
Gateley Legal	Persona Associates					
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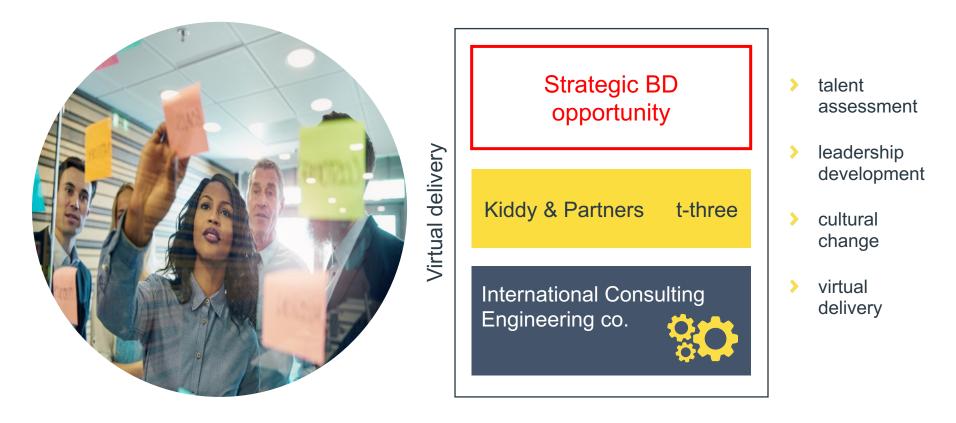


#### Human Capital Platform





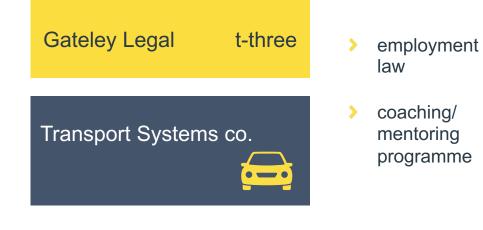
#### Human Capital Platform





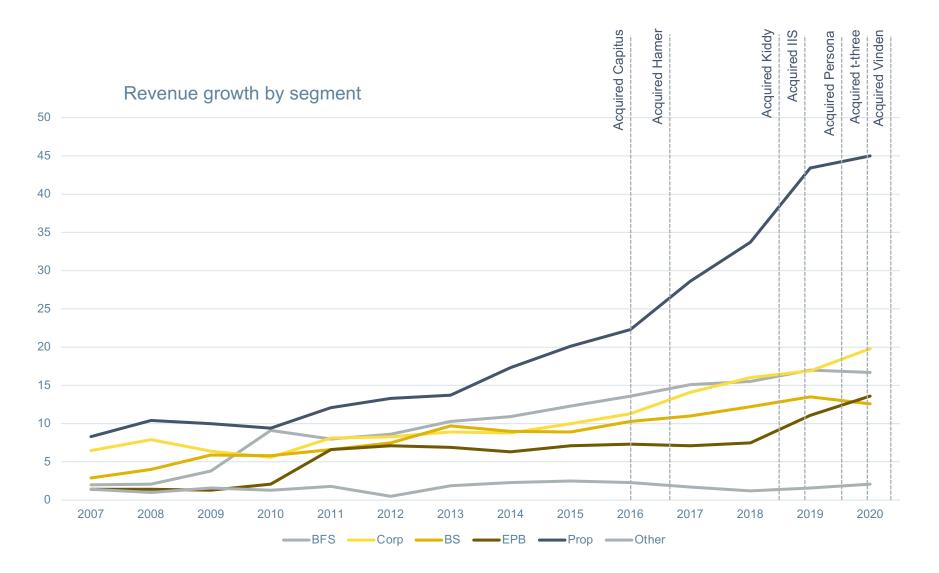
#### Human Capital Platform







### Growth enhanced by our Platforms





# Leveraging our Opportunity

### Leveraging our Opportunity

- > IPO strategy in action differentiated, diversified and incentivised
- Improving operational efficiency our pre-Covid strategy
  - Property Persona Associates Guildford t-three – London Gateley Tweed – Belfast
  - People BD/Marketing Accounts Facilities
  - Systems Accounts CRM BD/Marketing Document management



### Leveraging our Opportunity

#### Improving operational efficiency – our post-Covid strategy

- > Measured cost control as restrictions relaxed
- > Flexible working for our people
  - > reduces pressure on existing sq. footage
  - increases revenue per sq. ft rent
  - > our IPO vision of a modern, dynamic workplace/career
- > Flexing our delivery model
  - > responding to changes in client requirements
  - seamless virtual delivery adaptation
  - > development of product
  - > extending our reach





### Outlook

#### FY21

- > better than expected start to FY21
- > capacity to continue profitable and cash positive trading
- > current uncertainty precludes sensible guidance on year-end outcome

#### **Our Vision**

- > an inclusive growth mission for our people
- > further diversification via acquisitions
- > expanded Platforms offering with leading positions in legal and consultancy services
- indispensable to our clients
- > scaling to a compelling investment in professional services









# Strong cash generation and low net debt

#### Cashflow and working capital overview

- Continued strong cash generation and FCF
  - Net operating cash/PAT 99.8% (92.7%)
  - > FCF/PAT 88.9% (83.1%)
- Self-funded FY20 acquisitions
- Controlled capex
- Essential to conserve cash whilst COVID-19 uncertainty remains
- > Excellent bank support

#### Low net debt:

- > Financial flexibility
- Term debt restructure due to COVID-19 including plans for FY21

Summary cash flow £m	FY 20	FY 19
PAT	11.7	13.0
Depreciation, amortisation, impairments	6.8	2.5
Share based payment charges	0.8	0.7
Change in working capital	(7.8)	(3.8)
Change in net interest accrued (inc IFRS 16 interest)	(0.1)	(0.1)
Increase in provisions and deferred tax	3.0	2.9
Cash generated by operations (pre tax)	15.2	15.2
Tax paid	(2.7)	(3.1)
Net cash generated by operating activities	11.7	12.1
Net capex	(1.3)	(1.3)
Free cashflow	10.4	10.8
Acquisitions	(3.2)	(2.7)
Financing activities (excluding IFRS 16 interest)	(7.2)	(9.5)
Net cash decrease in cash	0.0	(1.4)
Brought forward cash at bank	2.9	4.3
Cash at year end	2.9	2.9
Debt	(3.8)	(6.1)
Net Debt	(0.9)	(3.2)



#### Our companies

Gateley /LEGAL

Providing comprehensive legal and business advice.

Gateley / CAPITUS

Specialising in capital allowances on commercial property, land remediation relief and tax incentives.

Gateley /HAMER

Advice on easements and wayleaves for utilities infrastructure, and compulsory purchase and compensation.

Gateley /TWEED

Gateley /VINDEN

Specialist, multi-jurisdictional advice on reputation, media and privacy.

Specialist, corporate advisory, dispute resolution and consultancy to the built environment.

ENTRUST

An independent trustee to occupational pension schemes.

/INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT SERVICES

Supporting businesses to realise their international growth ambitions.

KIDDY & PARTNERS

Specialists in leadership assessment and development.

**T-THREE** 

Specialists in people and leadership development and behavioural change.





With offices in 11 UK locations, and another in Dubai, we have the regional network to provide our clients with the advice they need on their doorstep.



### gateleyplc.com

