Wickes

2023 Full Year Results

19 March 2024



Introduction

David Wood

Agenda

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Robust sales performance with PBT ahead of expectations

- **Balanced business model** delivers robust sales performance in a challenging market
- Continued successful investment in proven growth levers
 - TradePro sales growth +11%
 - Record customer satisfaction scores
 - Wickes Lifestyle Kitchens relaunch: H2 sales +24%
 - 3 new stores and 11 refits
 - Entry into energy-saving solutions with Solar Fast acquisition
- Strong cost management and productivity resulting in adjusted PBT ahead of market expectations
- £97.5m year end cash following £10.1m buyback
- Delivering attractive returns to shareholders
 - Full year **dividend maintained** at 10.9p
 - **£10m of buyback completed** in FY23¹
- Comfortable with FY24 market consensus²





Financial Review

Mark George

Good performance in challenging market conditions



All figures are on an adjusted basis; 1) Retail formerly described as Core; 2) Design & Installation formerly described as DIFM or Do-it-for-me; 3) Remaining £2.4m of the initial £12.5m purchase (out of the announced £25.0m programme) completed by Feb-24

£m ¹	FY 2022	FY 2023	Change %
Revenue	1,559.0	1,553.8	(0.3)%
LFL, %	3.5%	(0.3)%	N/A
Gross profit	567.1	568.1	0.2%
Gross profit margin	36.4%	36.6%	+19bps
Selling & admin costs	(463.2)	(494.3)	6.7%
% of sales	(29.7)%	(31.8)%	+2.1ppts
Operating profit	103.9	73.8	(29.0)%
Operating profit margin	6.7%	4.7%	-1.9ppts
Interest	(28.5)	(21.8)	(23.5)%
Adjusted PBT (post SaaS)	75.4	52.0	(31.0)%
Adjusted PBT (pre SaaS)	75.4	59.5	(21.1)%

- Revenue and LFL sales broadly in line with prior year
- Gross margin +19bps as a result of careful management of price & promotions and productivity in distribution costs
- Strong cost control and productivity gains offset cost inflation excluding energy, in line with expectations
- SaaS IT investments now expensed, reducing adj.PBT by £7.5m

Balanced business model delivers resilient LFL sales



Retail (Trade & DIY)

- Three consecutive quarters of Retail LFL sales growth
- Positive volume growth in H2 as inflation turned to mild deflation
- Record TradePro customer growth with 881k members at year end; TradePro sales +11%

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Inflation	9%	4%	(1)%	(2)%
Volume	(13)%	(2)%	2%	3%
LFL sales	(4)%	2%	1%	1%

Design & Installation

- H1 benefitted from elevated order book
- H2 impacted by normalising order book, software implementation and weaker demand for new orders
- Significantly reduced enquiries partially offset by stronger conversion and higher AOV

Adjusted PBT £52m after SaaS impact



- Trading margin down YoY, particularly in Design & Installation, which experienced softening demand and had higher interest costs for consumer credit
- Strong cost control and productivity gains of £22m mitigated cost inflation (excluding energy), in line with guidance
- Utilities increase lower than expected, helped by energy saving initiatives
- Growth investment includes rollout of new Customer Experience Centre, IT costs and property-related costs
- Higher interest received on cash balances
- As already announced, impact of SaaS will cease to be separately reported from 2024 onwards

Cash ahead of guidance; £37.5m returned to shareholders



- Strong cost and stock control delivers net cash at YE of £97.5m, after £10.1m of share buyback
- Average cash through the year of £154.9m, reflecting normal working capital cycle
- Working capital benefit from reduction in stock
- Capex broadly in line with guidance
 - 2023 guidance of £40-45m included IT costs, o/w £7.8m SaaS expense
- IT separation project now complete
- Dividend maintained at 10.9p
- £37.5m returned to shareholders in dividend plus buyback

Outlook and guidance for 2024

Outlook

- During the first 11 weeks, Retail sales in line with last year
- Challenging environment continues for larger Design & Installation purchases
- Well placed to continue to outperform the market
- Strong cost control & productivity will not offset all cost headwinds (NMW, business rates)
- Comfortable with FY24 market consensus¹

Technical guidance for 2024

- Net interest costs £20-25m
- Adjusted tax rate 25-26%
- Capex c.£30m²
- Remainder of current £25m share buyback programme to be completed by 30 September 2024
- Based on current expectations dividend expected to be maintained at 10.9p
- Cash at YE to be lower as a result of share buyback and Solar Fast acquisition





Business Update

David Wood

Winning strategy based on proven growth levers



Strongest ever growth in TradePro membership

- TradePro sales +11%
- Further improvements to TradePro app with new functionality
 - Digital receipts
 - Filter for pricing excl.VAT
 - Project planning functionality
- Machine learning tool driving significant incremental revenues
- Trade pipelines remain healthy 1 in 4 have work lined up for >12 months¹
- Building B2B customer base



Successful innovation in Design & Installation

- Innovation in showroom, relaunched as Wickes
 Bespoke Kitchens with eight new ranges
- Successful relaunch of our value range as Wickes Lifestyle Kitchens, with sales +24% in H2, driven by free design service¹
- Investment in technology to enhance service
 - New Customer Experience Centre
 - Field service management (FSM) tech
 - Customer Net Promoter Scores of 92%
- Further differentiation through installation
 - >3,000 installer teams nationwide
 - **Over half** of customers use Wickes installers
 - Awarded 'Distinction' by Institute of Customer Service for third time





¹⁾ Sales of Wickes Lifestyle Kitchens which include a design element are classified as Design & Installation revenues, whereas self-serve purchases of the Wickes Lifestyle Kitchen range are classified as Retail revenues.

Digital offer and more approachable brand have broadened our DIY appeal

- 17 range reviews to innovate and expand product ranges in key DIY customer segments, in particular smaller DIY projects
- Introduced new energy efficient products
- Over 1 in 4 customers are female¹
- Extended range of digital payment options
 - Increased digital wallet Apple Pay / Google Pay
 - Accessed **Buy Now Pay Later** market with Klarna
- 1.5ppts growth in digital market share²



Good progress on new stores and refits

Three new stores

- Chelmsford, Widnes and Torquay
- Creating c. 90 new jobs
- Refitted 11 stores into new format
 - Sales uplift on refitted stores +25%
 - ROCE on refitted stores >25%
 - >75% of estate now in new format
- Added >36,000 sq.ft of fulfilment capacity in stores to support home delivery and click & collect services
- Good pipeline for 2024: 8 refits, 4 new stores





Number of new format stores

Continued progress across key measures











Percentage of customers responding 'excellent' or 'good'. Home delivery refers to customer deliveries fulfilled from stores

Great progress in our 'Built to Last' Responsible Business strategy







- 8 out of 10 colleagues fully engaged¹ in the business
- Winner of 'Large Organisation of the Year 2023' at the Rainbow Honours
- Supported **c1,500 community projects**, reaching **c.500,000 people** across our communities
- Achieved **B rating in 2023 CDP** Climate Change (2022: B-)
- 36.9% reduction in Scope 1 & 2 emissions², on track for near term Science-based target
- Switched to 100% renewable electricity for all our sites
- Launched new energy efficient products solar products, air source heat pumps, EV chargers
- Eliminated all unnecessary packaging in Wickes own brand products
- Partnered with NatWest to promote Wickes energy efficient house to their customers

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1) The colleague engagement score is an average score in response to questions covering respondents' likelihood to recommend Wickes as a place to work, to recommend Wickes' products or services, to remain at Wickes and overall job satisfaction. These engagement questions form part of the wider 2023 colleague survey. 2) Compared to 2021

Entry into energy-saving solutions with Solar Fast acquisition

- Opportunity to expand our range of Design & Installation services beyond kitchens & bathrooms
- Solar is a strongly growing market
 - UK market expected to be worth £1.5bn pa by 2028¹
 - Highly fragmented market, no clear brand leader
- With a trusted brand and significant experience in design and installation services at scale, Wickes is well-placed to be a market leader
- Solar Fast is a leading nationwide operator
 - Family-run business based in Castleford
 - Installed c3,700 solar projects across 2022 and 2023
 - Heritage in gas boiler services provides good platform to launch heating solutions (incl. air source heat pumps) in due course
- Plan to grow business with management team
- Majority stake with option to buy out remainder



- **Balanced business model** delivers robust sales performance in a challenging market
- Strong cost management and productivity resulting in profit ahead of market expectations
- Delivering attractive returns to shareholders
- Comfortable with FY24 consensus
- Continued successful investment in proven growth levers means we are well placed to benefit as economy recovers









Appendix

Capital allocation

Revised policy announced in July 2023

- Maintain strong balance sheet with significant liquidity at all times
 - Hold min.£50m cash at December YE, the seasonal low point
 - Average cash considerably higher in a normal trading cycle, typically by £30-50m
- RCF provides additional liquidity
- Capital investment to maintain store estate and invest in high-returning proven growth levers
- Target dividend cover 1.5x 2.5x (previously 40% dividend payout ratio). Currently outside the target range but expect cover to rebuild in future years
 - FY2023 dividend maintained at 10.9p
- Share buyback programme to return excess cash to shareholders
 - Current programme to return £25m, of which £10m completed during 2023



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