

# Hero Acquisitions Ltd

(subsidiary of HSS Hire Group plc)

## FY17 Results

APRIL 5<sup>th</sup> 2018



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# Agenda

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Full Year Highlights	Steve Ashmore, CEO
2017 Final Results	Paul Quested, CFO
Strategy Update Progress	Steve Ashmore, CEO
Outlook	Steve Ashmore, CEO
Q&A	



# Full Year Highlights

Steve Ashmore

# Trading momentum and strategic progress give strong platform to build upon



## Financial highlights

- Challenging H1 but decisive action returned Group to profit in the second half of the year
- Adjusted EBITA profit of £1.7m (FY16: £20.5m)
  - H1 Adjusted EBITA loss of £7.1m
  - H2 Adjusted EBITA profit of £8.8m, in line with guidance
- Improved underlying rental revenue trend in H2 17 +1.1% vs H2 16
- Significant reduction in overheads during the year, £13m of annualised savings delivered
- Q4 17 comparable EBITDA +£2.8m vs Q4 16; momentum continuing into 18
- Agreed with lenders to extend £80m revolving credit facility (RCF), now maturing in July 19

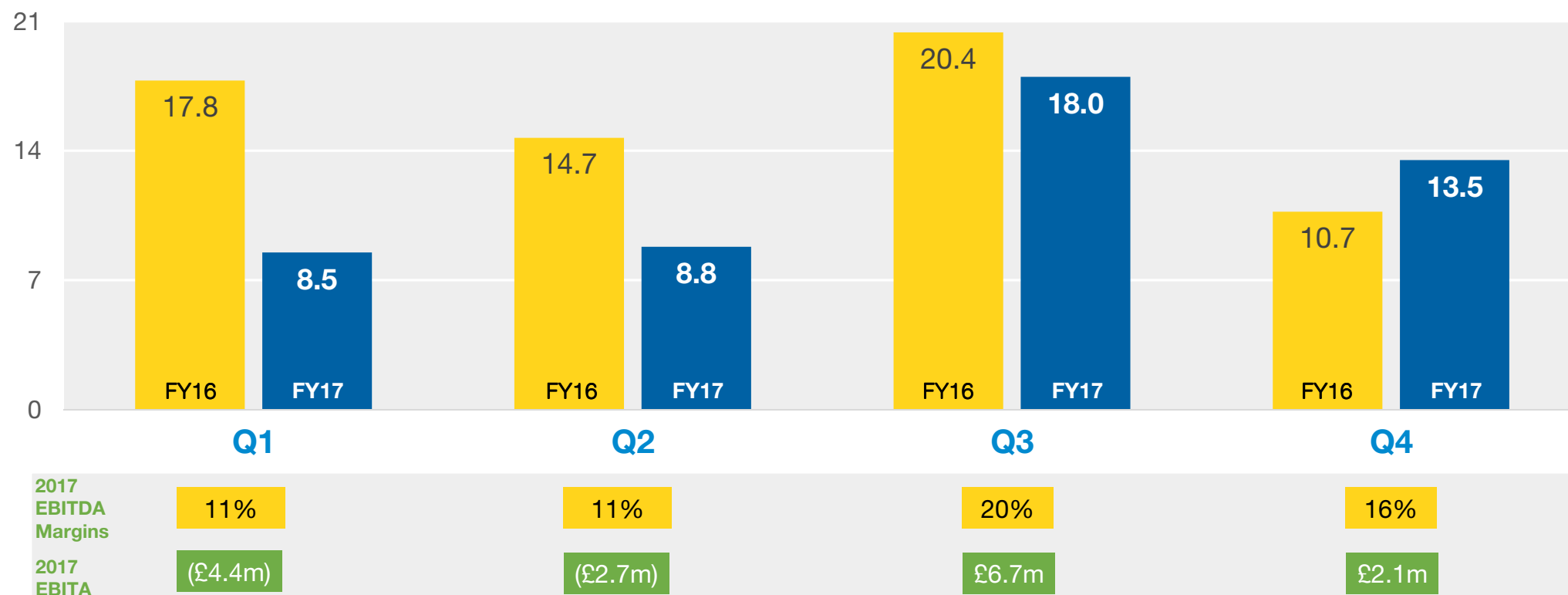
## Strategic progress

- Outlined results of Strategic Review and unveiled new strategic priorities
- Supply chain model changes will deliver c.£11m annualised savings, net cash inflow c.£8m per annum from FY19
- Good progress on commercial initiatives to improve profitability

# Material EBITDA recovery in H2 17



EBITDA by quarter (£m)

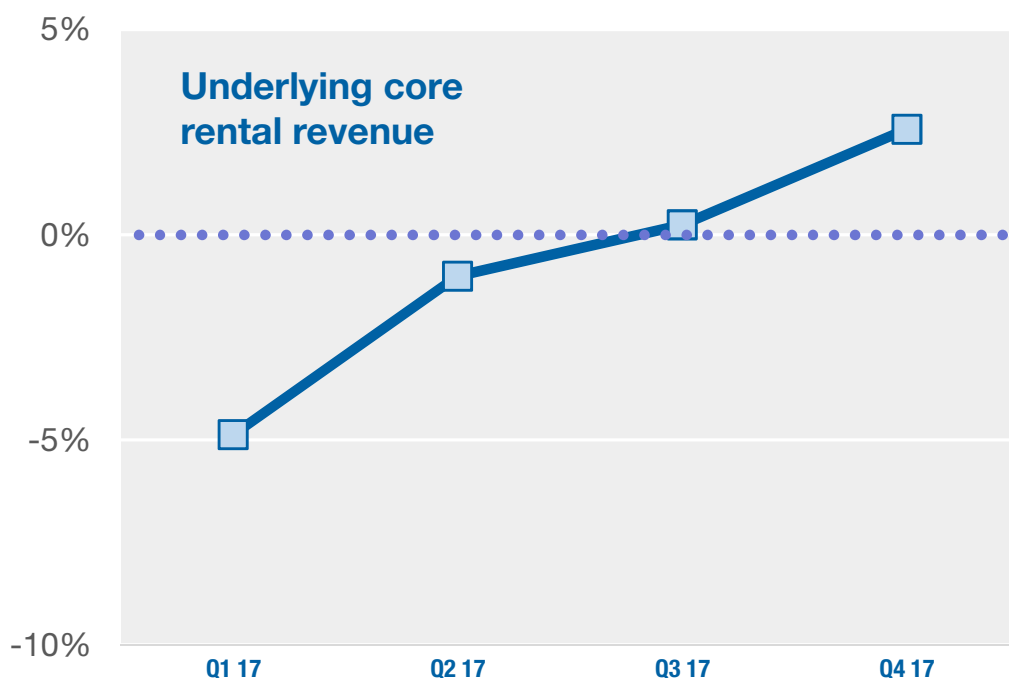


**Note:** Financials relate to HSS Hire Group plc. Q4 16 figures are presented on an adjusted basis post stripping out one-off benefits of asset sales and one off supplier rebates

# Underlying core rental revenue growth trend improved, cost actions delivered



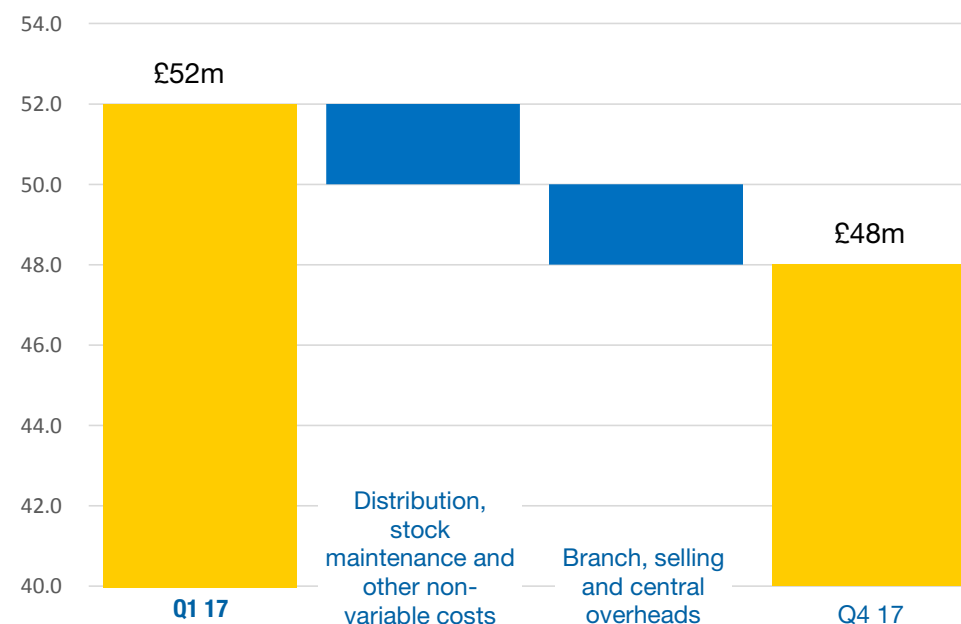
## Underlying core Rental revenue trend improved<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Underlying revenue is total rental revenue for 2017, excluding branch closures, seasonality, asset disposals and business divestiture

## Costs reduced in line with plan

£4m reduction in costs from Q1 17 to Q4 17



# 2017 Final Results

Paul Quested

# Financial summary



52 weeks ended 30 December/53 weeks ended 31 December

£m	2017	2016	Variance
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>335.8</b>	<b>342.4</b>	<b>(1.9)%</b>
<b>Adjusted EBITDA<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>(28.8)%</b>
<i>Adjusted EBITDA margin</i>	<i>14.6%</i>	<i>20.0%</i>	
<b>Adjusted EBITA<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>(91.6)%</b>
<i>Adjusted EBITA margin</i>	<i>0.5%</i>	<i>5.9%</i>	
Exceptional items	66.6	16.9	
<b>Adjusted loss/earnings per share (p)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>(5.68)</b>	<b>2.94</b>	
<b>Final dividend (p)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	

- Revenue in growth on an underlying basis after impact of branch closures, asset and business divestures. Underlying revenue growth +2.7%
- Adjusted EBITDA impacted by revenue mix and higher operational costs in H1. H2 EBITDA margin 18.0% (H2 16: 20.4%)
- Exceptional items reflect change in supply chain model, business divestiture, branch closures and cost reduction plan

<sup>1</sup> Earnings stated before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation ("EBITDA") and before exceptional items relating to restructuring and acquisitions

<sup>2</sup> Adjusted EBITDA less depreciation

<sup>3</sup> Calculated as PBT before amortisation and exceptional items less tax at the average prevailing rate across period, divided by the diluted weighted average number of shares

# Group returned to profit in H2



52 weeks ended 30 December/53 weeks ended 31 December

£m	2017			2016			Variance		
	H1	H2	FY	H1	H2	FY	H1	H2	FY
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>160.5</b>	<b>175.3</b>	<b>335.8</b>	<b>166.2</b>	<b>176.2</b>	<b>342.4</b>	<b>(3.4)%</b>	<b>(0.5)%</b>	<b>(1.9)%</b>
<i>Underlying revenue growth</i>							0.9%	4.5%	2.7%
<b>Adjusted EBITDA<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>(15.0)</b>	<b>(4.6)</b>	<b>(19.6)</b>
<i>Adjusted EBITDA margin</i>	10.8%	18.0%	14.6%	19.6%	20.4%	20.0%			
<b>Adjusted EBITA<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>(7.1)</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>(16.9)</b>	<b>(1.7)</b>	<b>(18.6)</b>
<i>Adjusted EBITA margin</i>	(4.4)%	5.0%	0.5%	5.9%	6.0%	5.9%			
Exceptional items	12.6	54.0	66.6	7.0	9.9	16.9			
<b>Adjusted earnings per share (p)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>(6.74)</b>	<b>1.06</b>	<b>(5.68)</b>	<b>1.13</b>	<b>1.85</b>	<b>2.98</b>			

<sup>1</sup> Earnings stated before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation ("EBITDA") and before exceptional costs relating to restructuring and acquisitions

<sup>2</sup> Adjusted EBITDA less depreciation

<sup>3</sup> Calculated as PBT before amortisation and exceptional costs less tax at the average prevailing rate across period, divided by the diluted weighted average number of shares

# Segmental analysis



52 weeks ended 30 December/53 weeks ended 31 December

£m	2017	2016	Variance
<b>Rental (and related revenue)<sup>1</sup></b>			
Revenue	247.8	262.8	(5.7)%
Contribution <sup>2</sup>	158.1	179.4	(11.9)%
<i>Contribution margin</i>	63.8%	68.3%	
<b>Services<sup>3</sup></b>			
Revenue	88.0	79.6	10.6%
Contribution <sup>2</sup>	11.9	10.3	15.5%
<i>Contribution margin</i>	13.5%	12.9%	
Branch and selling costs	(82.5)	(89.3)	
Central costs	(38.6)	(32.0)	
<b>Adjusted EBITDA</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>(28.8)%</b>

## Rental

- Underlying rental revenue growth in H2 17
- Contribution margin down 4.5pp driven by one offs in 2016 including impact of 53<sup>rd</sup> week (1pp), operating model costs (1.7pp), and product and customer mix (1.8pp)
- Q4 contribution, excluding one off costs down 0.7pp, all mix related

## Services

- Improving contribution through revenue growth and profit improvement plan

## Costs

- Cost reduction initiatives delivered £13m savings against Q1 17 run rate, benefiting rental revenue contribution and branch, selling and central costs

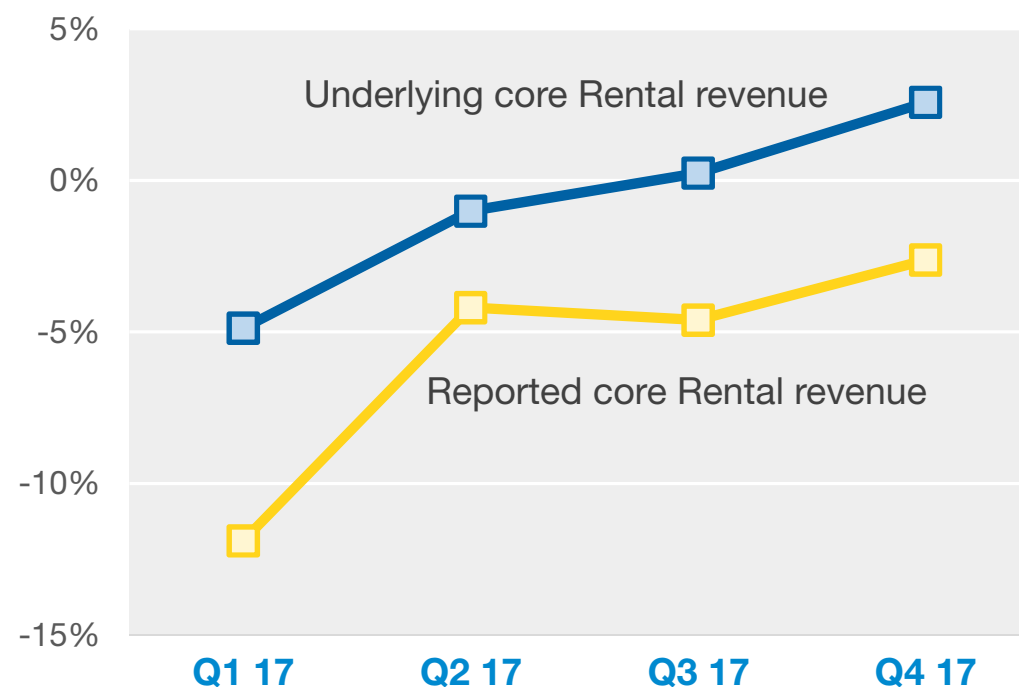
# Underlying Rental revenue growing



## Driving Rental revenue

- Sales initiatives driving improved performance
- Focus on Rental revenue across the whole organisation through aligned incentives
- Improved availability and service fulfilment supporting growth
- H2 17 asset utilisation in Core of 53% (H2 16 50%) and 75% in Specialist (H2 16 75%)
- Targeted investment in high demand and highly utilised assets

## Underlying Rental revenue growth trend improving



<sup>1</sup> Underlying revenue is total rental revenue for 2017, excluding branch closures, seasonality, asset disposals and business divestiture

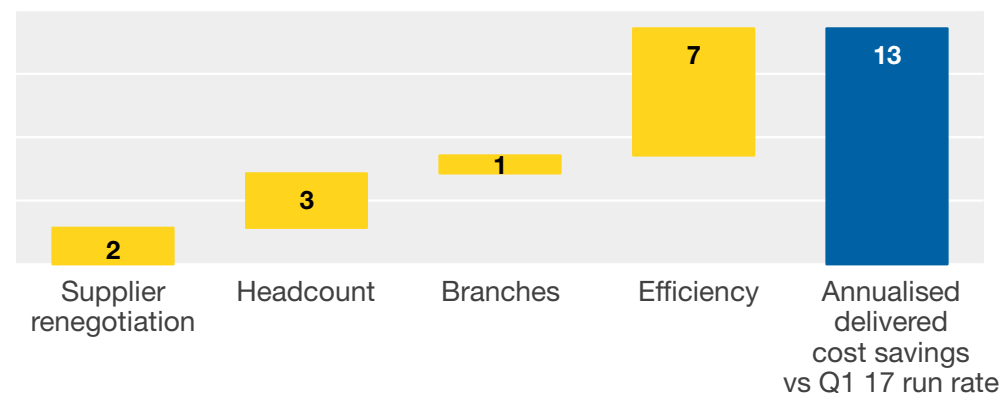
# Cost savings delivered



## Cost actions implemented

- Efficiency through network changes e.g distribution routing
- Closed 21 branches since Q1 17
- Reduced central headcount by c. 100
- Closed former head office site
- Renegotiated terms with suppliers
- Proforma benefit of £7.6m vs Q4 17 LTM

## Breakdown of cost actions implemented (£m)



## Costs reducing in line with plan

£m	Q1 17	Q2 17	Q3 17	Q4 17	Q4 v Q1
Distribution, stock maintenance and other non-variable costs included within Rental segment	(20)	(19)	(19)	(18)	+2
Non-variable costs included in Services segment	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	
Branch, selling and central overheads	(31)	(31)	(29)	(29)	+2
<b>Total Overheads</b>	<b>(52)</b>	<b>(51)</b>	<b>(49)</b>	<b>(48)</b>	<b>+4</b>

# Exceptional Items



52 weeks ended 30 December/53 weeks ended 31 December

£m	2017	2016
Branch Closures <sup>1</sup>	14.3	3.4
Network reconfiguration	40.7	10.2
Business divestiture	4.9	-
Cost reduction programme	3.7	1.6
Other	3.0	1.7
<b>Exceptional items</b>	<b>66.6</b>	<b>16.9</b>

*Of which c.£4m of cash incurred during 2017*

<sup>1</sup> Net of sub let rental income on onerous leases

- Closed 55 branches during the year resulting in onerous lease provisions of £6.0m and impairments of related property, plant and equipment of £8.3m
- Network reconfiguration relates to costs associated with changes in our supply chain model enabling realisation of savings of c.£11m, giving rise to a net cash outflow of c.£3m in 2018, followed by net cash inflows of c.£8m annually thereafter
- Loss on disposal of businesses not considered core to the Strategy
- Cost reduction programme associated with realising £13m annualised benefits, including headcount and property
- Other includes the costs of third parties to support the Strategic Review and preparatory refinancing costs

# Movement in external net debt



52 weeks ended 30 December/53 weeks ended 31 December

£m	2017	2016
<b>Adjusted EBITDA</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>68.6</b>
Cash Exceptionals	(4.3)	(10.9)
Working capital	(11.6)	(11.0)
Capex	(34.8)	(47.4)
Tax	(0.1)	(0.4)
Net interest payable	(12.5)	(13.0)
Disposal of subsidiary	1.1	-
Dividends paid	-	-
Movement relating to equity placing	12.7	-
<b>Net increase in net debt</b>	<b>(0.6)</b>	<b>(14.1)</b>
Closing net debt	232.8	232.2
Intercompany debt	253.8	221.6
<b>Total debt</b>	<b>486.6</b>	<b>453.8</b>

- Lower EBITDA in 2017 compared to 2016
- Working capital movements impacted by unwind of dark store and dilapidations provisions and relocation of operations to Manchester
- Capital efficiency and lower investment in non-fleet capex
- Agreed with our lenders to extend the £80m revolving credit facility, which will now mature in July 2019
- Facility and cash headroom of £29.8m as at 30 December 2017

# Strategy Update Progress

Steve Ashmore



# Strategic priorities

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1

**Delever**  
the Group

2

**Repair**  
the Tool Hire  
business

3

**Strengthen**  
commercial  
proposition

# Strategic priorities



1

**Delever**  
the Group

2

**Repair**  
the Tool Hire  
business

3

**Strengthen**  
commercial  
proposition

## Significant focus to turnaround Tool Hire business

- Specialist businesses are delivering for the Group
  - Highly profitable
  - Cash generative
  - Valuable
- A key element of our strategy is focused on the Tool Hire business

		Revenue	Profit
Rental business	Tool Hire		
	UKP		
	ABIRD/APEX		
	ASH		
Services business	OneCall		
	Training		
		Specialist businesses performing	
		Services businesses performing	

# Further annualised savings planned of £10m-£14m



## Internal distribution

**£4m - £5m**

- Reduction in distribution movements
- Deploy stock more effectively and closer to customers in regions
- Improve stock utilisation through cross-dock
- Execute more product testing at source

## Test

**£1m - £2m**

- Utilise excess capacity in network
- Improve asset utilisation by reducing turnaround time
- Reduce handling costs
- Improve utilisation of space
- Deploy central engineering best practice

## Operational overheads

**£2m - £3m**

- Improved productivity
- Leverage existing management resources
- Improved utilisation of space
- Reduced handling costs

## Efficiencies

**£3m - £4m**

- Focus on profit-generating activities
- Eliminating duplication / consolidation of activity
- Simplify processes
- Enhance automation

**Implement in early 2018, benefits fully realised in 2019**

# Cost savings expected at higher end of range



## Internal distribution

**£4m - £5m**

### ACTIONS DELIVERED

- Unipart and XPO contracts renegotiated
- Distribution trunking routes reduced 42 to 8
- 12,000 items moved out of NDEC
- Cross-dock operational

## Test

**£1m - £2m**

### ACTIONS DELIVERED

- Testing capacity increased from 30 to 200 locations
- 194 HSS colleagues trained
- Engineering capacity in HSS network increased by 30%

## Operational overheads

**£2m - £3m**

### ACTIONS DELIVERED

- Reduction of 218k sq ft
- Removal of duplicated management costs
- Reduction in fees
- Removal of 100 FTE handling costs

**Network reconfiguration implementation on track, savings at higher end of range**

## Efficiencies

**£3m - £4m**

### ACTIONS DELIVERED

- 30 central roles removed
- Removal of non-profit generating indirect spend
- System changes underway to unlock further efficiencies

**c.£2m already implemented, plan to deliver balance**

# Leverage after network reconfiguration



## Improving leverage through cost action



<sup>1</sup> Cost initiatives already implemented in FY17 / early 2018

<sup>2</sup> Based on further annualised saving of £11m through network reconfiguration



# Progress being made against two year programme

## Customer

### UPDATE

- Engaged with our 25 largest customer opportunities for targeted profitability improvement
- Agreed changes with 10 customers realigning price with cost-to-serve and improving profitability
- Reallocation of equipment to more profitable customer groups

## Product

### UPDATE

- Smart price increases implemented based on strategy profitability analysis
- Improved discount control across network
- Identified 11 products to rationalise and action taken to improve profitability on further 6 products

## Branch

### UPDATE

- Ongoing refinement of branch network
- Implementing 3 standalone branch formats
- P&Ls being rolled out across the network and profitability based incentives introduced regionally

# Outlook

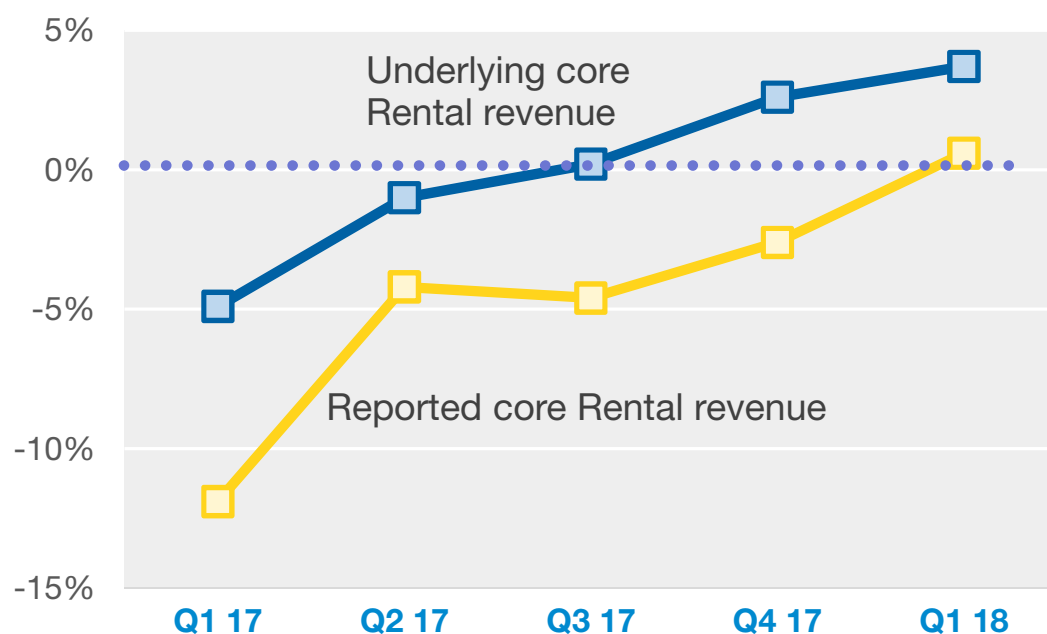
Steve Ashmore



# Momentum continuing into Q1 18



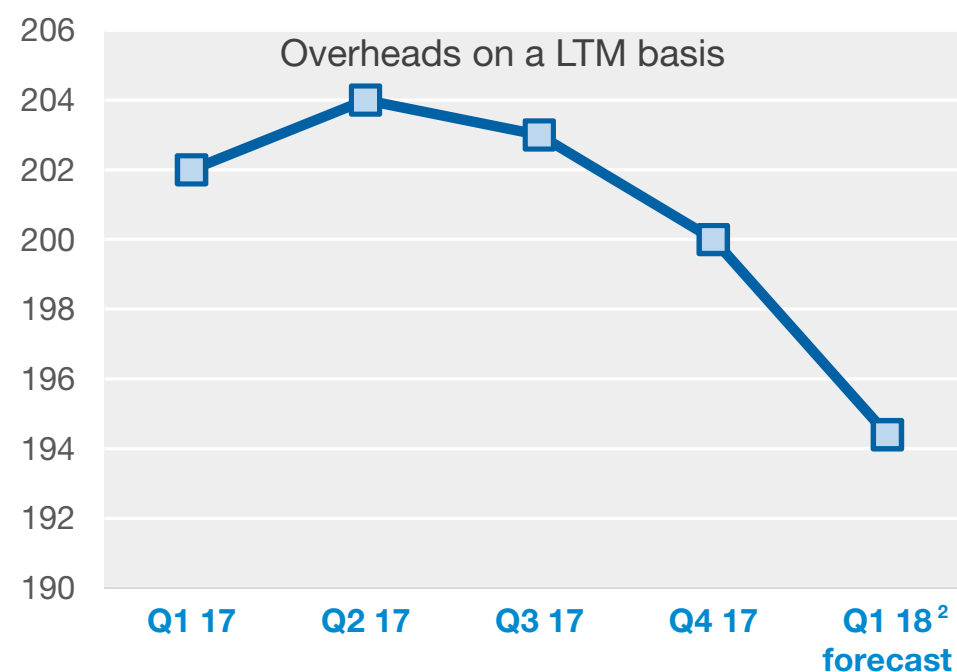
## Underlying Rental revenue growth trend improving<sup>1,2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> 2017; Underlying revenue is total rental revenue, excluding branch closures, seasonality, asset disposals and business divestiture

<sup>2</sup> 2018; Underlying revenue is total rental revenue excluding business divestiture

## Overheads reducing (£m)<sup>1</sup>



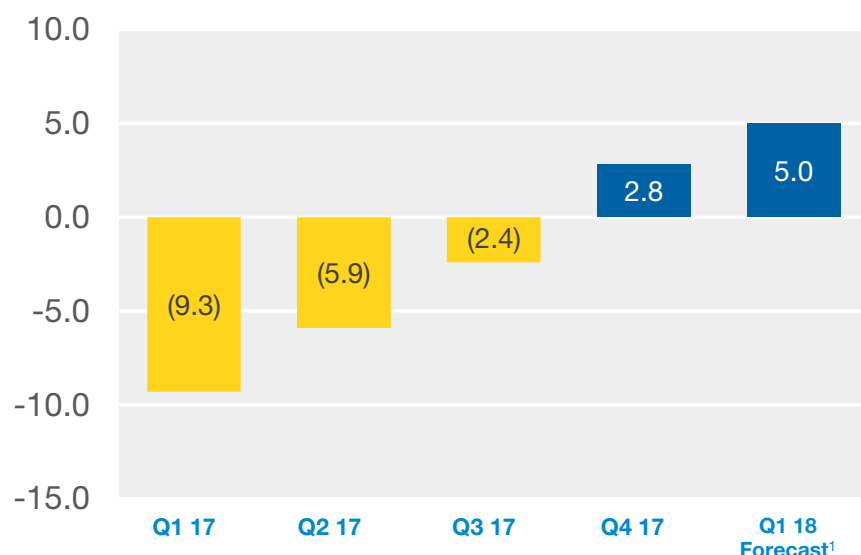
<sup>1</sup> Q1 FY16 adjusted from 14 weeks to 13 weeks

<sup>2</sup> Q1 18 forecast based on January and February actuals and forecast for March 2018

# Initiatives undertaken improving EBITDA

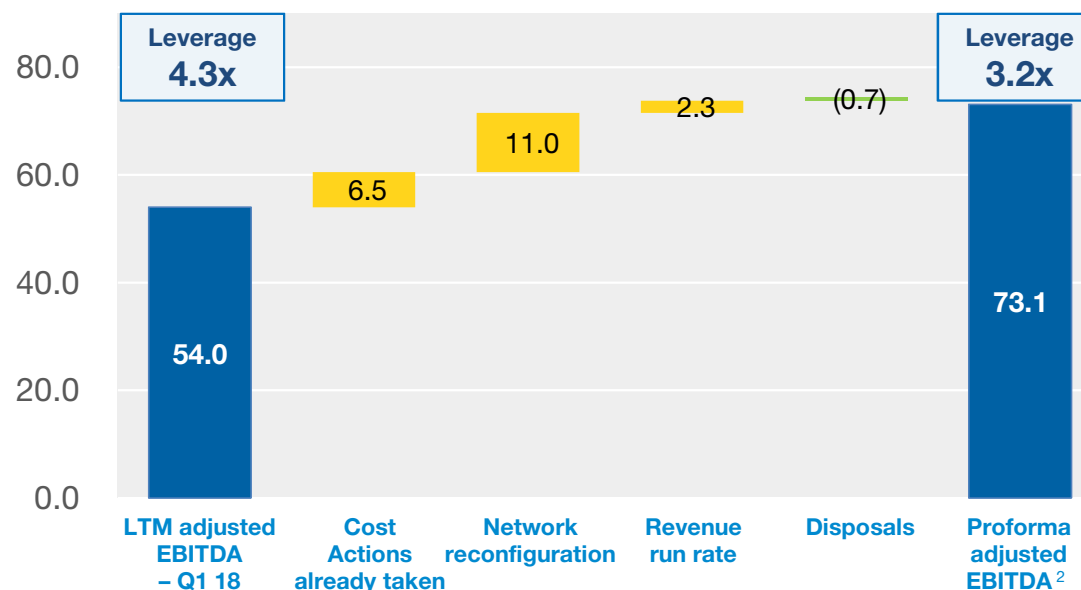


## Year on Year EBITDA variance (£m)



**Q1 18 expected to be more than 50% higher than prior year**

## ProForma Adjusted March EBITDA (£m)



**LTM EBITDA expected to be c.£54m at end of March**

**Note:** Financials relate to HSS Hire Group plc. Q4 16 figures are presented on an adjusted basis post stripping out one-off benefits of asset sales and one-off supplier rebates

<sup>1</sup> Q1 18 forecast based on January and February actuals and forecast for March 2018

<sup>2</sup> Proforma based on current market conditions and ERA forward looking forecasts for 2018 and 2019

# A strong platform to build upon



- Challenging start to the year, impacted by historic strategic decisions made
- Solid H2 17 performance, underlying rental revenue in growth and cost actions delivering expected benefits
- Q1 18 underlying revenue growth more than 6%, underlying Rental revenue more than 3%
- LTM EBITDA expected to be c.£54m at the end of March with Q1 18 more than 50% higher than prior year
- Good progress made on the Strategic Review, network changes on track to deliver c.£11m cost savings
- Management continues to make good progress towards refinancing the Group and expects to complete this during 2018
- Leverage as at the end of Q1 18 reduced to 4.3x

2020	
Revenue growth	Grow in line with market
Rental revenue growth	Ahead of market
EBITDA margin	>20%
EBITA margin	>9%
Leverage	<3x
Return on assets	>20%

**Q&A**



# Appendices

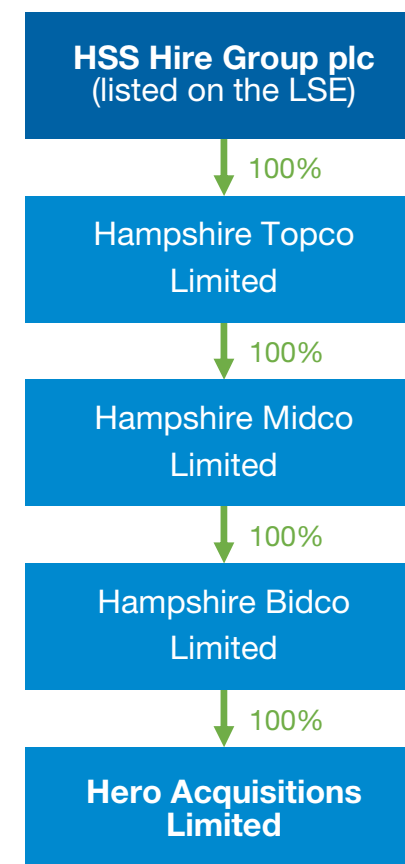
# Appendix A

## Group structure



This appendix provides the reader with an overview of the group structure between:

- HSS Hire Group plc, the new holding company admitted to the London Stock Exchange (LSE) on 9 February 2015, whose FY16 numbers we report today;
- Hampshire Topco Limited, the previous top company in the group; and
- Hero Acquisitions Limited, the consolidated level at which we have also reported today to meet the reporting obligations attached to our Senior Secured Notes



## Appendix B

# HSS Hire Group plc vs Hero Acquisitions Ltd



- Under the reporting obligations of our Senior Secured Notes issued in February 2014 we report Hero Acquisitions Limited group consolidated accounts on a quarterly basis
- The main differences between the two reporting levels are:
  - IPO and other advisory fees charged above the Hero Acquisitions group;
  - Higher intangibles and higher amortisation costs in the HSS Hire Group plc group, principally related to intangibles relating to the acquisition of the Hero Acquisitions group in 2012;
  - Lower net debt in HSS Hire Group plc group due to the netting down of intercompany debts; and
  - Differences in tax and interest resulting from the above differences

# Appendix C

## Balance sheet



52 weeks ended 30 December/53 weeks ended 31 December

£m	2017	2016
Intangible assets	151.5	155.3
Tangible assets	150.9	178.5
Deferred tax asset	0.4	0.8
Net current assets / (liabilities) <sup>1</sup>	36.9	37.4
Other net liabilities	(56.1)	(19.0)
External Net debt (ex accrued interest) <sup>2</sup>	(227.1)	(225.5)
Amount due to group undertakings	(253.8)	(221.6)
Accrued interest	(3.9)	(3.9)
<b>Net liabilities</b>	<b>(201.2)</b>	<b>(98.0)</b>

<sup>1</sup> Current assets less current liabilities. Current assets / liabilities captured within net debt e.g. the current portion of finance leases are not reflected in working capital

<sup>2</sup> Comprises cash and all debt principal balances, including those which would ordinarily be shown within current assets, current liabilities (excluding accrued interest) or non current liabilities. See appendix F

# Appendix D

## Net debt calculations



52 weeks ended 30 December/53 weeks ended 31 December

£m	2017	2016
Cash	(2.1)	(2.4)
RCF	69.0	66.0
Finance lease obligations	26.0	28.7
Senior Secured Notes <sup>1</sup>	136.0	136.0
<b>Net debt</b> (ex accrued interest)	<b>228.8</b>	<b>228.3</b>
Accrued interest	3.9	3.9
<b>External Net debt</b>	<b>232.7</b>	<b>232.2</b>
Amount due to group undertakings	253.8	221.6
<b>Net Debt</b>	<b>486.6</b>	<b>453.8</b>

- Reflects borrowings from all third parties and includes the net amounts due to group undertakings
- Leverage of 4.8x (2016: 3.2x)

<sup>2</sup> Shown gross of issue costs