# Financial highlights

**Bláthnaid Bergin** Chief Financial Officer





## Our financial framework



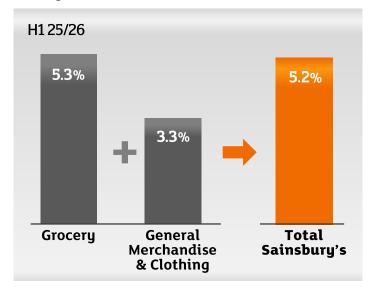




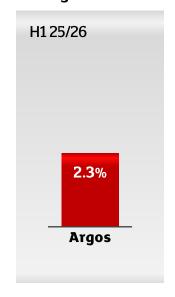
## Retail sales growth by category

#### Sainsbury's

sales growth

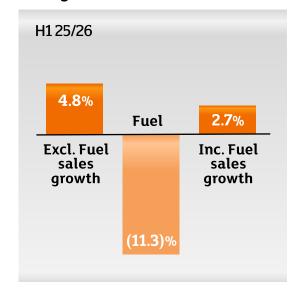


#### **Argos** sales growth<sup>2</sup>



#### **Total Retail**

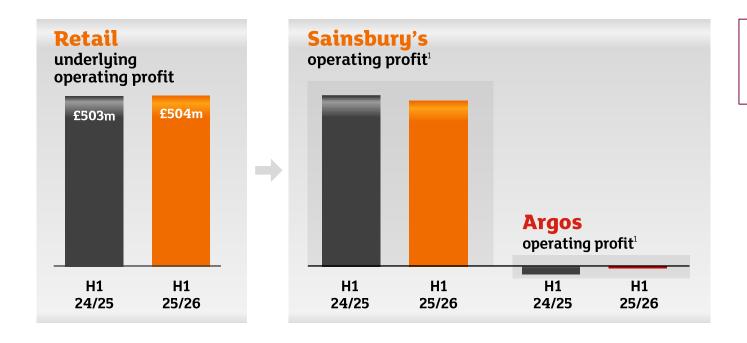
sales growth<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1.</sup> Excl. Fuel. excl. VAT

<sup>2.</sup> Excl. VAT

## Retail underlying operating profit



#### **2025/26 Guidance**

We expect to deliver Retail underlying operating profit of more than £1 billion

<sup>1.</sup> Operating profit post-allocation of group costs, pre-allocation of store-in-store concession rent costs to Argos



#### **Financial Services**

## Successful withdrawal from Financial Services



Completed the sale of Sainsbury's Bank personal loan, credit card and retail deposit portfolios to NatWest Group in May



NewDay Group acquired beneficial title to Argos Financial Services – partnering to create new Argos-branded digital credit proposition



Agreement with Allianz UK on car and home insurance



Commission income stream deals with:

- NoteMachine for ATM managed services
- Fexco Group for Travel Money

	H1	H1
Financial Services <sup>1</sup>	2025/26	2024/25
Underlying revenue	£65m	£57m
Underlying operating profit	£2m	£(29)m

#### Guidance

- Core Banking, ATM, Travel Money, Argos Financial Services and Mortgage businesses now all classified as discontinued operations and are accounted for within items excluded from underlying results
- Therefore, we now expect Financial Services underlying operating profit contribution to be broadly breakeven in 2025/26
- We continue to expect Argos Financial Services income, together with commission income from ongoing Care, insurance, travel money and ATM arrangements to deliver sustainable annual profit of at least £40 million by February 2028

<sup>1.</sup> Prior year restatement: Discontinued operations were previously included in underlying measures whilst the associated trading activities remained ongoing. Following completion of the NatWest, NewDay and NoteMachine disposals, these activities are substantially ceased, and have therefore been reclassified to non-underlying so as to only reflect ongoing trading performance within underlying results

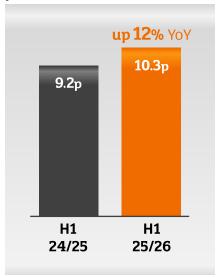


## Underlying profits and dividend per share

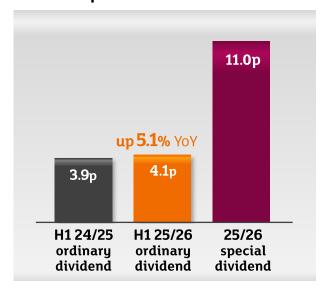
## Total underlying operating profit<sup>1</sup>



## Underlying earnings per share<sup>1</sup>



#### Dividend per share



<sup>1.</sup> Prior year restatement: Discontinued operations were previously included in underlying measures whilst the associated trading activities remained ongoing. Following completion of the NatWest, NewDay and NoteMachine disposals, these activities are substantially ceased, and have therefore been reclassified to non-underlying so as to only reflect ongoing trading performance within underlying results



## Items excluded from underlying results

£m	H1 2025/26	H1 2024/25
Retail restructuring programme	(58)	(37)
IAS 19 pension income	16	14
Property, finance and acquisition adjustments	(16)	(6)
Other	(9)	(12)
Retail items excluded from underlying results	(67)	(41)
Financial Services phased withdrawal – continuing operations	(2)	(10)
Financial Services phased withdrawal – discontinued operations	(26)	(127)
Financial Services items excluded from underlying results <sup>1</sup>	(28)	(137)
Total items excluded from underlying results	(95)	(178)

#### Guidance

We expect to incur non-underlying cash costs relating to Retail restructuring programmes of **around** £100m in 2025/26

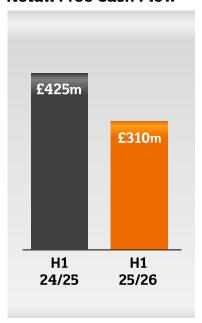
We expect to incur total nonunderlying cash costs relating to our Next Level Sainsbury's strategy implementation of **around £150m** over the three-year programme

<sup>1.</sup> Discontinued operations were previously included in underlying measures whilst the associated trading activities remained ongoing. Following completion of the NatWest, NewDay and NoteMachine disposals, these activities are substantially ceased, and have therefore been reclassified to non-underlying so as to only reflect ongoing trading performance within underlying results

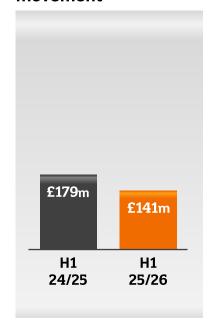


## **Cash flow metrics**

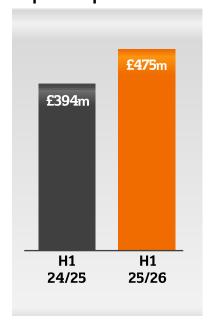
**Retail Free Cash Flow** 



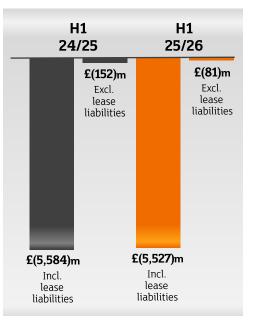
Working Capital movement



**Capital expenditure** 



Net debt





### Net debt and Retail free cash flow

£m	H1 2025/26	H1 2024/25
Net cash from operating activities	1,020	1,074
of which working capital movements	141	179
of which pension cash contributions	(13)	(23)
Capital expenditure	(475)	(394)
Disposal proceeds, Interest income	13	22
Lease repayments <sup>1</sup>	(248)	(277)
Retail free cash flow	310	425
Dividends paid on ordinary shares	(223)	(217)
Share buyback	(158)	(136)
Proceeds from Financial Services phased withdrawal	300	-
Financial Services strategic review	(50)	(10)
Other <sup>2</sup>	52	(92)
Movement in net debt	231	(30)
Opening net debt <sup>3</sup>	(5,758)	(5,554)
Closing net debt <sup>3</sup>	(5,527)	(5,584)
of which Lease liabilities	(5,446)	(5,432)
of which Net debt exc. lease liabilities <sup>3</sup>	(81)	(152)

#### 2025/26 Guidance

- We expect to generate **more than £500 million** of retail free cash flow in 2025/26, in line with our commitment of generating at least £1.6 billion of retail free cash flow over the three years to 2026/27
- We expect total pension scheme cash contributions to be **around £26 million**
- We expect core retail cash capital expenditure (excluding Financial Services) in 2025/26 of £800 million to £850 million

<sup>1.</sup> Includes initial direct costs on right-of-use assets

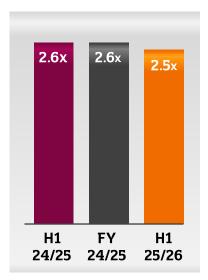
<sup>2.</sup> Includes the net movement to lease liabilities, reflecting non-cash additions in the period offset by payments made. Also includes cash impact of share purchases (excluding share buyback) and proceeds from issuance of shares

<sup>3.</sup> Net debt definition excludes derivatives not linked to borrowings

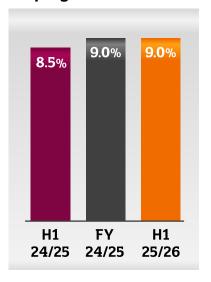


#### **Balance sheet metrics**

#### Net debt / EBITDA<sup>1,2</sup>



## Return on capital Employed<sup>2,3</sup>



#### Guidance

We continue to target leverage of net debt to EBITDA of **3.0x to 2.4x** 

- 1. Net debt including leases of £5,527 million divided by Group underlying EBITDA of £2,218 million based on a 52 week rolling basis
- 2. H1 25/26 is now stated exclusive of discontinued operations, whereas no adjustment has been made to 2024/25, which remains as previously presented (on an inclusive of discontinued operations basis)
- 3. Return is defined as a 52 week rolling underlying profit. Capital employed is defined as Group net assets excluding pension surplus, less net debt. The average is calculated on a 14-point basis which uses the average of 14 data points, representing the previous 13 period ends and the opening position

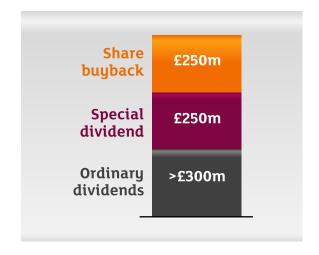
### **Enhanced cash returns to shareholders:**

#### Total cash returns to shareholders in 2025/26 to exceed £800m

## Bank disposal net proceeds will now exceed £400m

- Bank disposal net proceeds will now exceed £400m, higher than originally expected
- £400m will be returned to shareholders.
  - £250m via special dividend in 2025/26
  - £50m addition to core £200m buyback in 2025/26
  - £100m addition to core buyback in 2026/27

## Total cash returns to shareholders in 2025/26



## Summary

## What we've delivered in H1 25/26

- Strong trading and continued cost savings
- Offsetting investments in customer proposition, higher costs and disruption from space reallocation activity
- Retail underlying operating profit ahead of expectations
- Strong execution of Financial Services phased withdrawal supporting enhanced shareholder returns

## Looking ahead

- Retail operating profit of more than £1bn
- £500m+ Retail free cash flow
- Total cash returns to shareholders in 2025/26 to exceed £800m