

28th February 2014





# Overview of Q1 2014

Very strong start to the financial year

## Introduction To Today's Speakers



James Cornell
CEO

- 16 years of relevant experience
- Founder and CEO of Lowell since 2004
- Previous roles: Head of Risk at Caudwell Group; Commercial Director of the B2B Division at Equifax Plc



**Colin Storrar** 

- 20 years of relevant experience
- Joined Lowell in early 2013
- Previous roles: CFO at HSBC First Direct and Head of HSBC contact Centres; Senior finance roles at GE
   Capital Bank and GE Money post 10 years with Arthur Andersen



Sara De Tute Chief Risk Officer (CRO)

- 17 years of relevant experience
- Joined Lowell in 2012
- Previous roles: Legal and Compliance Director at Wescot Credit Services and Solicitor at Eversheds. Sara
  is a non-executive Director of the CSA, and has been the CSA President for the last two years.

#### Q1 Overview

Continued growth, high returns and record committed portfolio purchases

#### Growth

- •19% collections growth Q1 2014 v Q1 2013
- December 2013 ERC stands at £548m, £81m (17%) up on December 2012
- Unlevered net IRR (after direct collection costs) of 34.5%

### Business Development

- •64% (£79m) of 2013 spend already committed for 2014 after just 3 months
- Forward flow agreements now in place with 11 clients (£60m secured for 2014 to date)
- New business trials underway with key commercial and public sector clients

#### Cash Conversion

- •50% of ERC (£274m) to be delivered within the next 24 months
- Cash asset return 23.2% for LTM to December 2013

# Strategy & Operations

- Selective litigation of backbook delivering increasing cash collections and ERC
- Industrialisation of IT Infrastructure complete and new 5 year deal renegotiated with Experian

## **Differentiated Portfolio Origination**

Diversification, visibility, entrenched client relationships and new sectors

#### Diversification

- Diversified purchasing strategy across industry sectors continues
- Strong acquisition pipeline exists for Q2 in each of our core sectors, enabling continued diversification

#### Forward Flow

- 11 clients in FF arrangements representing £60m purchase value
- Lowell currently working on a number of extensions to existing forward flow agreements into future years

#### **Value Added Services**

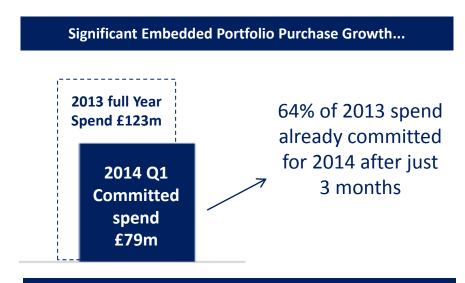
- Value added services (VAS) leveraging Interlaken being delivered to key clients as part of overall acquisition offering, uniquely enhancing the strength of our strategic relationships
- Suite of VAS offering led by a dedicated Lowell team and being "productised" to ensure repeatability and cost efficiency

#### **Government Trials**

• Three "outsource to sell" pilots underway with HMRC tax credit performance well received

## **Acquisitions and Collections**

Significant portfolio purchase growth focused on core high return sectors





Committed spend with repeat clients in high value sectors that we know well, across a diversified base of over 100 portfolios

#### **Strong Macro-Economic Factors**

#### **Consumer Credit Growth**

 Consumer credit lending expected to rise by 3.7% a year 2015-2017 with growth expected across credit cards, car finance and unsecured loans<sup>1</sup>

#### **Financial Services**

- £27bn Backlog of debt remains as sales being offset by new default
- Capital de-leveraging requirements will force European institutions to sell debt

#### **Home Retail Credit and Communications**

- Growth in home shopping retail credit as consumers turn to this channel for electronics products
- Communications debt sale shifting upstream to accelerate cash release for marketing (with fresher debt giving rise to increased spend opportunities)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: EY Item Club forecast for Financial services (Credit Today 10.02.2014)

### Q1 Overview

### Transition to FCA regulation well underway

#### From the OFT...

- OFT is the prime regulator for consumer credit activity covered by the Consumer Credit Act (CCA)
- OFT Debt Collection Guidance (DCG) are the primary rules in place
- Industry codes of practice reinforce DCG and are customer outcome focused

#### ...to the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)

- OFT will cease to exist as the regulator of consumer credit & FCA will take over from April 1st 2014
- Firms with a consumer credit licence must have applied and been granted Interim Permission by the FCA to continue to collect CCA regulated debts
- DCG rules will be 'grandfathered' across to form the basis for Consumer Credit Source Book (CONC) – these are the new rules
- Firms have until October 2014 to apply for full authorisation

#### How are we preparing?

- Interim permission applied for and granted in November 2013
- FAIR programme: challenging and improving our core customer touch points; developing a specific focus measuring customer outcomes; enhancing training of customer facing colleagues
- Enhancing our corporate governance framework to enable a more visible demonstration of decisions and challenge
- Evolving our risk management approach to be more focused on the actions required to manage risk within our appetite

## Q1 Overview

## FCA transition underpinned by robust core risk management model

#### The Three Lines of Defence Approach

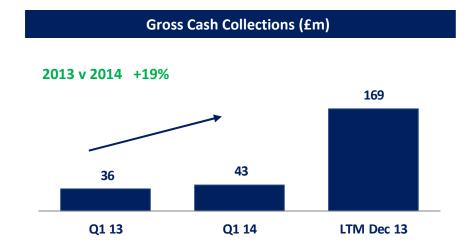


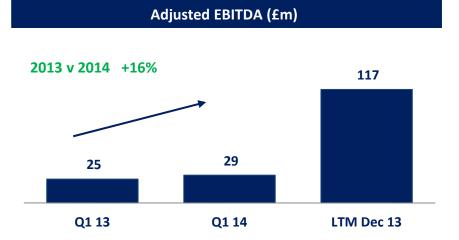
# **Financial Performance**

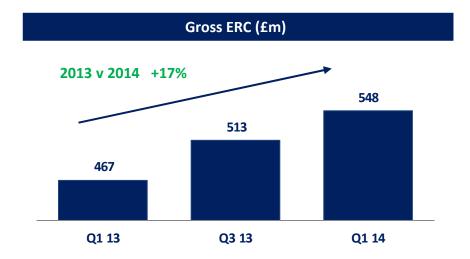
Strong growth, high returns, predictable earnings and ongoing financial prudency

## **Financial Performance**

## Continued growth across key metrics





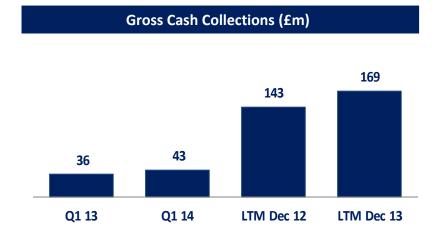


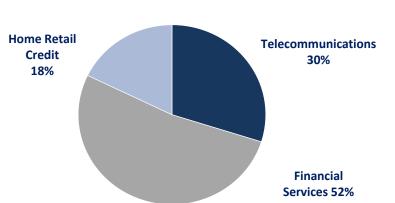
- Collections performance continues to show positive growth year on year
- EBITDA growth of 16% year on year, representing a 67% collections conversion rate in Q1 2014
- 17% year on year ERC growth to £548m, with 50% to be delivered within the next 24 months

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Represents Adjusted EBITDA less capital expenditures and working capital movement but excluding portfolio purchases

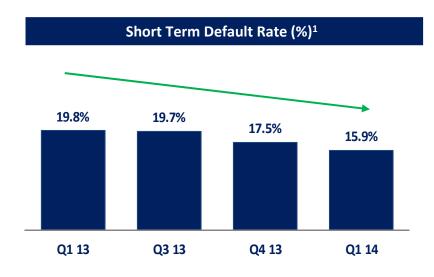
## Acquisition and Collections

Significant collection growth supported by falling default rate





Portfolios purchased in the Quarter

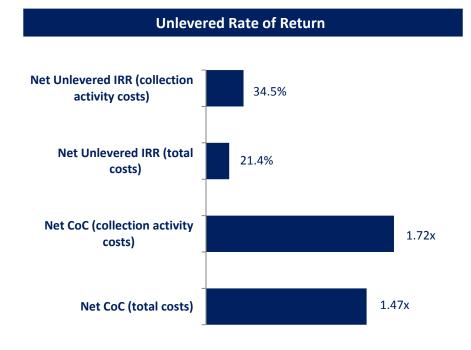


- Portfolio purchases in the 3 months to December 13 were £30.2m (-£11.8m compared to 3 months to December 12).
- Year on year quarterly performance impacted by short-term volatility of portfolio purchases and specifically the purchase of a single large portfolio in December 2012
- Underlying portfolio purchases at very strong levels, with 64% of prior-year annual purchases committed in the first three months of FY14 in Lowell's core sectors and with repeat clients

<sup>1.</sup> Calculated as defaults on active payment plans

## **Liquidity And Profitability**

## Strong and visible cashflow and industry leading returns



- Unlevered Net IRR (after collections costs) on portfolios owned at December 13 of 34.5%
- Marginally and typically lower than prior quarter due to lower collections in the run up to the festive season and weight of newer assets

	Q	1 13 (	Q1 14 I	TM Dec 13
ERC		467.5	548.5	548.5
Reported portfolio purch	ases	42.0	30.2	111.2
Net debt		216.6	281.5	281.5
Cash generation				
Collections /income on o	wned portfolios	36.2	43.1	168.5
Other income		0.2	0.1	0.3
Servicing costs		(11.7)	(14.5)	(51.8)
Adjusted EBITDA		24.6	28.7	117.0
Capital Expenditure		0.7	0.5	1.9

Cashflow (£m)

 Cash asset return of 23.2% represents a significant and rapid conversion of ERC into cashflow, thereby reducing risk and providing substantial liquidity for new purchases

(0.5)

24.8

n/a

(7.1)

22.1

n/a

(14.0)

104.9

23.2%

Working capital movement

Cash asset return

Cashflow before debt and tax servicing

 Working capital movement in Q1-14 comes from increase in litigation activity on the Lowell backbook, leveraging the Interlaken infrastructure (results in upfront capitalized costs)

## **Asset Coverage**

## Covenants well within requirements

Key Coverage Measures							
Key Financial Metrics	Q1 13	Q4 13	Q1 14	<ul> <li>Portfolios forecast to generate £549 million in cash collections (ERC) in the next 84 months, a 17% YoY increase:</li> </ul>			
ERC	467.5	530.3	548.5				
PF Gross Debt	200	285	285				
Cash	6.4	14.2	3.5	<ul> <li>50% of cash collections expected to be generated in the next 24 months</li> <li>78% of cash collections expected to be generated in the next 48 months</li> </ul>			
Net Debt	216.6	270.8	281.5				
Annual Interest Payable	23.7	32.5	32.5				
Adjusted EBITDA (12 months to quarter end)	99.0	112.5	117.0				
Leverage and Coverage Ratios							
Loan to value ratio	46%	51%	51%	Credit ratios stable on prior quarter			
Net debt / Adjusted EBITDA	2.2	2.4	2.4				
EBITDA / total interest payable	4.2	3.5	3.6				
Notes				<ul> <li>Pro forma credit ratios excluding effect of the Interlaken acquisition would be flat to prior year (Interlaken expected to bring significant future ERC growth hereafter)</li> </ul>			
All 3 quarters numbers for gross debt, net debt, cash, annual interest payable and the resulting ratios are on a pro forma basis							
Leverage and Coverage ratios calculated on same basis as presented in the Offering Memorandum "Summary Consolidated Financial Data"							
Gross Debt, Cash and Net Debt are presented on a pro forma basis relating to the issuance included within the Offering memorandum							

## Outlook

Strategy unchanged with strong growth opportunities in areas we know well

# **Acquisition Focus**

# **Operational Focus**

## Market Outlook

Lowell well positioned to capitalise on market growth

#### • Focus on core, non-performing debt across a diverse range of sectors

- Strengthen strategic relationships with clients 90% of FY14 committed spend from repeat clients, £60m of portfolio purchases committed for FY14 through forward flow arrangements as of Q2-14, 50% of FY13 full-year purchases
- Continue to leverage operational excellence in non performing debt while leveraging Interlaken operational capabilities provide all round value to our existing and prospective clients

## • Transition to FCA and industry focus upon compliance will remain a driver of our operating model – we can use this to strengthen our competitive advantage and maintain high barriers to entry

- Carefully expand litigation activity on Lowell's backbook to enhance collections and ERC, leveraging Interlaken low cost litigation infrastructure in a controlled manner
- Continue to enhance the use of Lowell's unique data asset from the transactional history of 13 million customer accounts, including customer cross-over optimisation

## Conclusion

Strong performance continues in a growing marketplace

- Strong Financials growth, high returns and predictable earnings
- Clear focus on compliance and FCA transition
- Interlaken delivering group synergy and unlocking strategic goals
- Highly liquid, cash performance continues
- Industry pioneering, highly diversified origination strategies
- Well positioned in a market that continues to deliver growth

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