

# PageGroup Half Year Results 2024

PAGEGROUP CHANGES LIVES





## **Headline Numbers**

**Kelvin Stagg**Chief Financial Officer

PAGEGROUP CHANGES LIVES



## **Key financial highlights**

Challenging market conditions across all regions in H1





| Basic EPS | <b>5.3p</b><br>13.6p H1 2023 |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Net Cash  | £57.2m<br>£97.9m H1 2023     |  |  |  |  |





## **Financial Review**

PAGEGROUP
CHANGES LIVES



## **Group Operating Profit of £28.4m**

Lower conversion rates across all regions

|                 | H1 2024      |                          |                     |                     | H1 2023      |                     |                    |  |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|
| £m              | Gross Profit | GP Growth<br>Rate (CC %) | Operating<br>Profit | Conversion<br>Rate* | Gross Profit | Operating<br>Profit | Conversion<br>Rate |  |
| Group           | 444.1        | -12.4%                   | 28.4                | 6.4%                | 526.8        | 63.9                | 12.1%              |  |
| EMEA            | 248.8        | -11.4%                   | 36.3                | 14.6%               | 288.4        | 47.8                | 16.6%              |  |
| Americas        | 77.3         | -6.1%                    | 4.4                 | 5.7%                | 89.1         | 5.9                 | 6.7%               |  |
| Asia<br>Pacific | 64.3         | -17.8%                   | -4.8                | -7.4%               | 83.4         | 4.5                 | 5.3%               |  |
| UK              | 53.7         | -18.5%                   | -7.5                | -13.9%              | 65.9         | 5.7                 | 8.6%               |  |

- H1 2024 conversion rate decreased to 6.4%
- · Negative conversion rates for UK and APAC due to challenging market conditions, combined with central cost allocations

<sup>\*</sup>Operating Profit as a percentage of Gross Profit

## **Effective Tax Rate (ETR)**

Effective tax rate increased to 39.5%

| £m                 | H1 2024 | H1 2023 |  |  |
|--------------------|---------|---------|--|--|
| Profit Before Tax  | 27.7    | 63.3    |  |  |
| Tax Charge         | 10.9    | 20.2    |  |  |
|                    |         |         |  |  |
| Effective Tax Rate | 39.5%   | 31.9%   |  |  |

• Expect tax rate of c. 35% for the full year

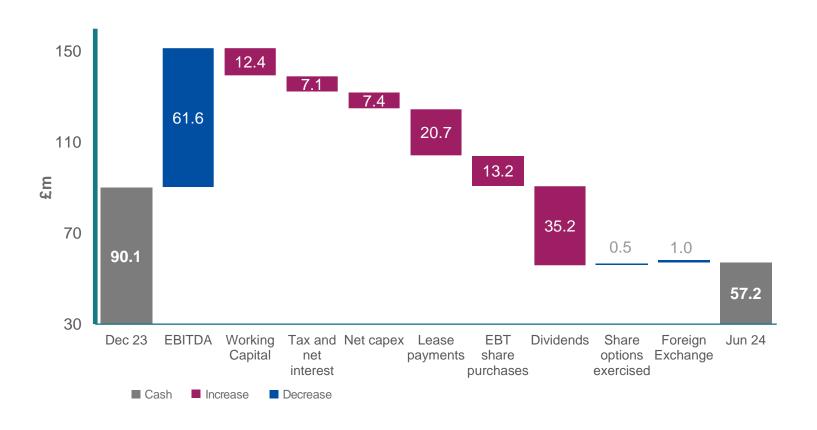
#### **Robust balance sheet**

Net cash of £57.2m

| £m  | H1 2024 | H1 2023 |  |
|---|---------|---------|--|
| Intangible assets                                 | 27.3    | 35.7    |  |
| Tangible assets                                   | 46.5    | 37.7    |  |
| Lease assets                                      | 99.3    | 93.4    |  |
| Trade and other receivables                       | 371.2   | 424.6   |  |
|   |         |         |  |
| Trade, other payables, current and deferred taxes | (216.9) | (251.8) |  |
| Lease Liabilities                                 | (110.6) | (103.6) |  |
|   |         |         |  |
| Net cash  | 57.2    | 97.9    |  |
| Net assets  | 274.0   | 333.9   |  |

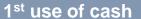
## Strong cash flow generation

Final 2023 dividend payment of £35.2m in June



## Clear capital allocation strategy

£16.8m dividend to be paid in October



To satisfy operational and investment requirements, and to hedge liabilities under the Group's share plans 2<sup>nd</sup> use of cash

To maintain the ordinary dividend through downturns and to increase it during more prosperous times

3<sup>rd</sup> use of cash

To make supplementary returns to shareholders

| Dividend per share (p) | H1 2024 | H1 2023 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|
| Interim                | 5.36    | 5.13    |



## **Strategic Review**

**Nick Kirk** 

**Chief Executive Officer** 

PAGEGROUP
CHANGES LIVES



## **Our Strategic Goals**







## **Embedding our Strategy**



**Core Business** 

OUR GLOBAL PLATFORMS

Technology
Page Executive
Enterprise Solutions

## **Our Strategic Pillars**

Core and Technology

#### CORE

Progressing with strategy despite challenging markets

Continuing to review business lines, moving fee earners into areas with more growth potential

Global platform provides opportunities for accelerated growth as conditions improve

#### **TECHNOLOGY**

Technology was a tough sector globally

Markets delivering growth include India, Latin America and MEA

Further diversification into nonpermanent recruitment

### **Our Strategic Pillars**

Page Executive and Enterprise Solutions

#### **PAGE EXECUTIVE**

Delivered GP growth of 6% vs H1 2023

A record H1 performance globally, as well as in markets such as France, Germany, Italy, Mexico and Japan

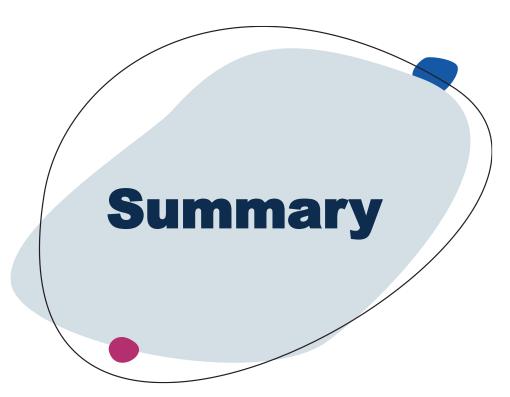
An average of 14 years' experience

## ENTERPRISE SOLUTIONS

Transitioned from a regional to global structure for our leadership, sales and account management teams

Early successes with Top 400 clients, expanding geographic and discipline footprint

**Growth in our outsourcing business** 



## PAGEGROUP CHANGES LIVES



## **Summary**

#### 2024 outlook unchanged

Challenging market conditions continued across all regions

Softening in activity levels towards the end of H1

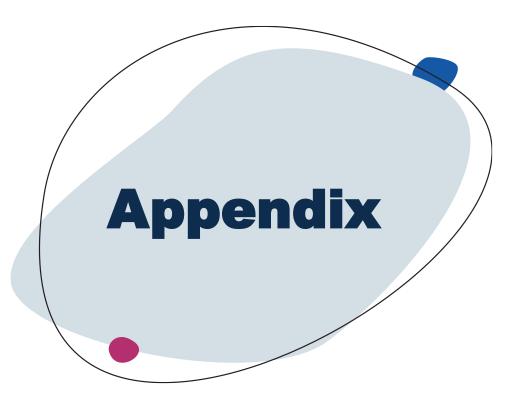
Temporary recruitment continued to outperform permanent

Intend to hold onto fee earner headcount

Highly diversified and adaptable business model

Continue to see benefits from investments in innovation and technology

Expect 2024 FY Operating Profit to be in line with previous guidance of c. £60m



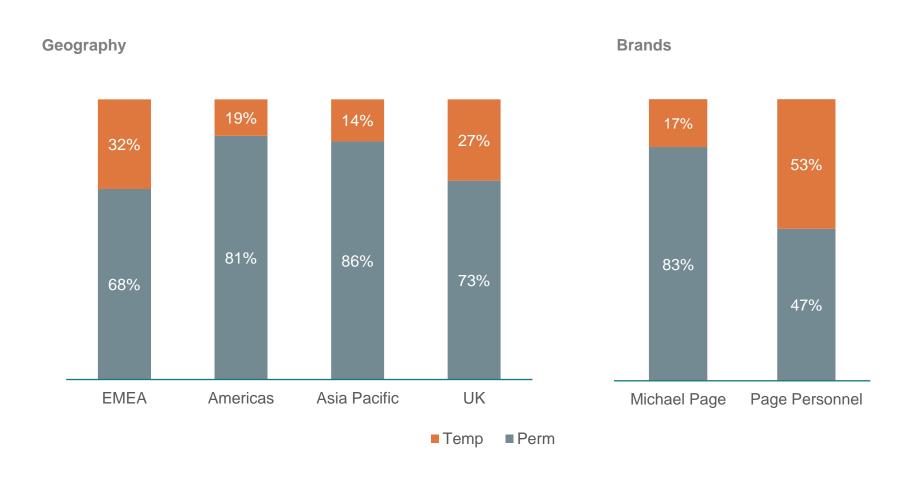
## PAGEGROUP CHANGES LIVES



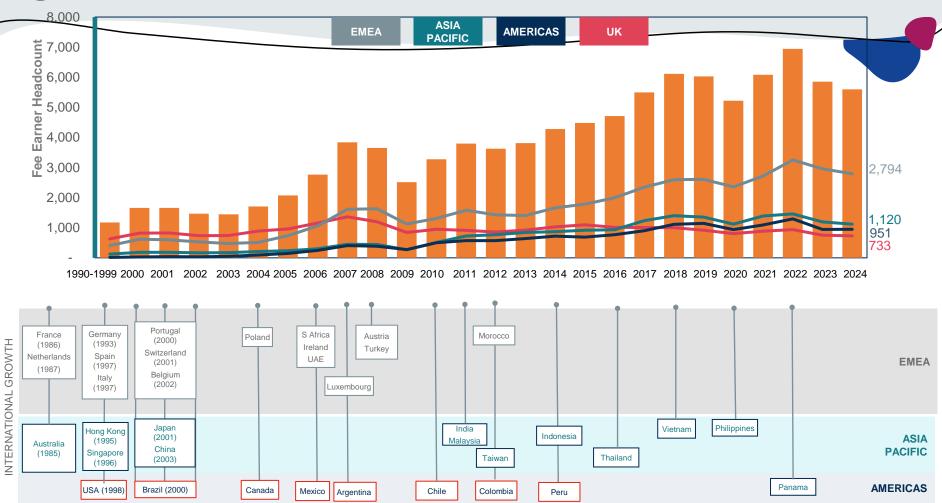
#### **Our business model**



## Significant variations in recruitment mix

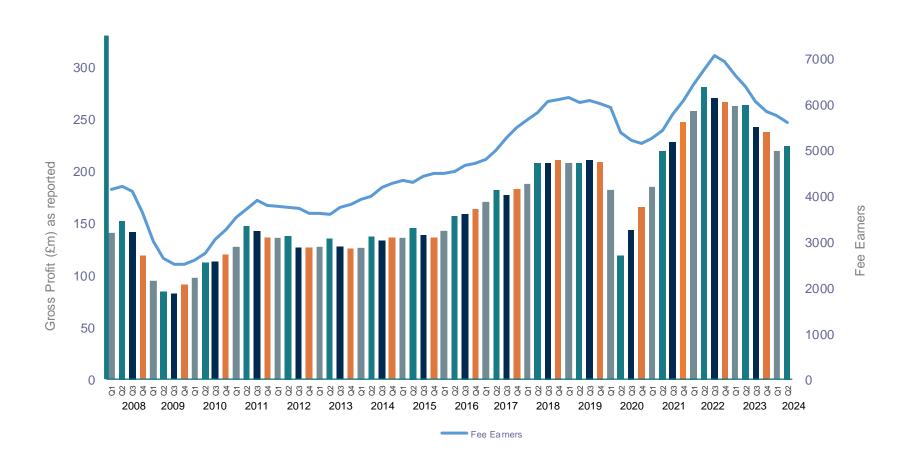


## Long term fee earner & international growth



## **Quarterly gross profit & fee earners**

Quarterly gross profit reduced from Q2 2022



## **Year-on-Year gross profit growth rates**

|                 | 2022   |        |        | 2023   |        |        |        | 2024   |        |        |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                 | Q1     | Q2     | Q3     | Q4     | Q1     | Q2     | Q3     | Q4     | Q1     | Q2     |
| EMEA            | +41.1% | +29.4% | +22.1% | +11.9% | +6.8%  | +1.4%  | -1.3%  | -6.1%  | -12.7% | -10.2% |
| Asia Pacific    | +35.8% | +11.7% | -3.9%  | -15.8% | -17.0% | -17.2% | -11.0% | -10.3% | -15.7% | -19.8% |
| – Asia          | +39.9% | +8.8%  | -6.4%  | -19.8% | -21.1% | -20.9% | -11.1% | -6.4%  | -10.6% | -14.2% |
| – Australasia   | +21.6% | +24.3% | +6.5%  | -0.5%  | +0.8%  | -4.1%  | -11.2% | -24.2% | -32.5% | -38.1% |
| Americas        | +56.6% | +34.1% | +18.3% | +6.9%  | -7.6%  | -8.8%  | -13.3% | -8.0%  | -5.5%  | -6.6%  |
| – North America | +60.1% | +31.0% | +15.3% | +2.8%  | -14.3% | -16.2% | -25.0% | -24.4% | -15.3% | -18.7% |
| – Latin America | +51.3% | +39.6% | +23.5% | +13.0% | +4.0%  | 2.8%   | +6.7%  | +17.5% | +9.0%  | +9.3%  |
| UK              | +43.4% | +22.6% | +9.5%  | -1.8%  | -9.4%  | -17.0% | -18.9% | -19.9% | -19.2% | -17.4% |
| Group Total     | +42.6% | +25.5% | +14.0% | +3.6%  | -2.4%  | -6.5%  | -7.9%  | -8.9%  | -12.8% | -12.0% |

#### **Contacts and Calendar**

#### Contacts

Matt Clark – Group Financial Controller

Tel: +44 (0) 1932 264 022

Email: investorrelations@michaelpage.com

Web: https://www.page.com/investors

Date

**Event** 

14 October 2024

Q3 2024 Trading Update

#### **Disclaimer**

This presentation contains certain statements that are neither reported financial results nor other historical information. The information contained in this presentation is not audited, is for personal use and informational purposes only and is not intended for distribution to, or use by, any person or entity in any jurisdiction in any country where such distribution or use would be contrary to law or regulation, or which would subject any member of the PageGroup plc group of companies to any registration requirement. No representation or warranty, express or implied, is or will be made in relation to the accuracy, fairness or completeness of the information or opinions made in this presentation.

Certain statements included or incorporated by reference within this presentation may constitute "forward-looking statements" that are based on current expectations or beliefs, as well as assumptions about future events. There are risk factors that can cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in or implied by such statements. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that any particular expectation will be met and reliance should not be placed on any forward-looking statement.

PageGroup plc disclaims any intention or obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements that may be made in this presentation, regardless of whether those statements are affected as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Nothing in this presentation should be construed as a profit forecast.

This presentation does not constitute or form part of any offer or invitation to sell, or any solicitation of any offer to purchase any shares in PageGroup plc, nor shall it or any part of it or the fact of its distribution form the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any contract or commitment or investment decision relating thereto, nor does it constitute a recommendation regarding the shares of PageGroup plc. Past performance cannot be relied upon as a guide to future performance. Liability arising from anything in this presentation shall be governed by English Law. Nothing in this presentation shall exclude any liability under applicable laws that cannot be excluded in accordance with such laws.

PageExecutive
MichaelPage
PagePersonnel
PageOutsourcing

Part of PageGroup