

# Royal Mail plc

## Full Year 2016-17 Results

18 May 2017

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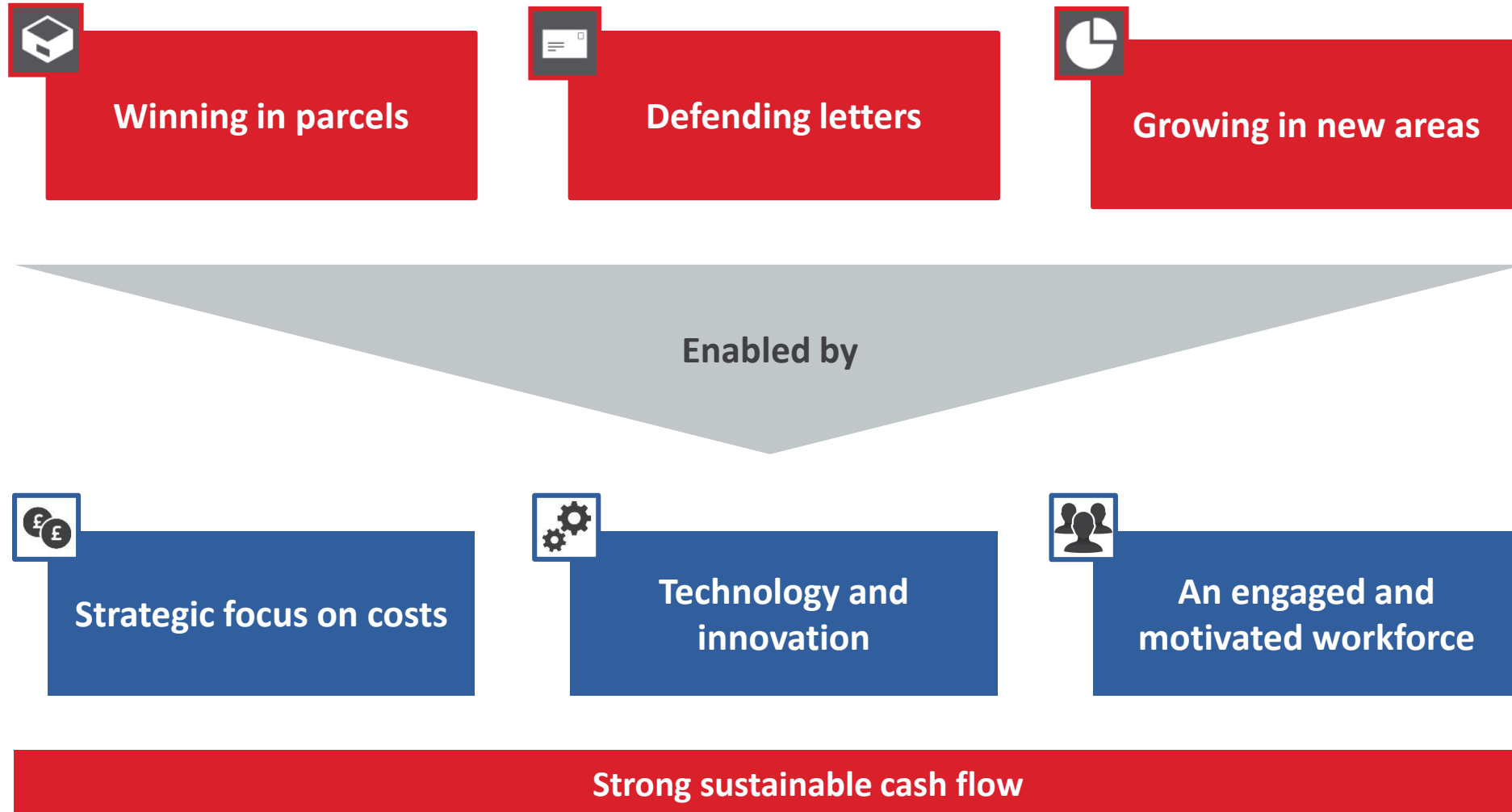
Moya Greene  
Chief Executive Officer

# FY 2016-17 Results overview

Continuing to focus on sustainable cash generation

			Underlying change	
<b>Royal Mail plc</b>	Revenue	£9,776m	1%	↑
	Adjusted operating profit before transformation costs	£712m	(6%)	↓
	In-year trading cash flow	£420m	£166m	↑
	Earnings per share	44.1p	+2.8p	↑
	Recommended full year dividend per share	23.0p	4%	↑
<b>UKPIL</b>	 Revenue		(2%)	↓
	 Adjusted operating costs before transformation costs		(1%)	↓
	Revenue		9%	↑
	Operating profit		17%	↑

# Significant progress on our strategy



# Winning in parcels – UK parcels market

## UK parcels market

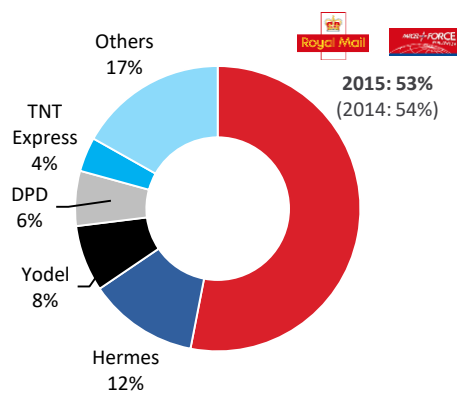
- Estimated blended market volume growth of c.4% p.a. in medium term
- Addressable market volume growth estimated at c.3%
- Royal Mail Tracked 24<sup>®</sup>/48<sup>®</sup> and Tracked Returns volume growth outpacing the market
  - 2016-17 c.170m items; c.36% growth

## Market trends

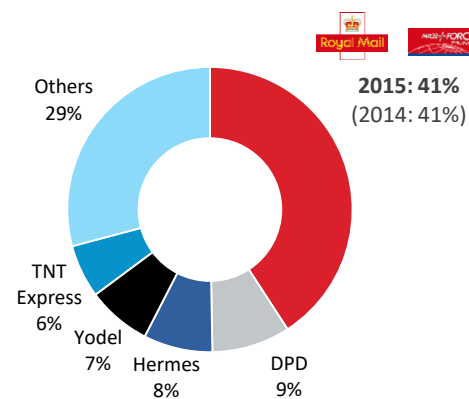
### Traditional

- Overcapacity during non-peak periods continues to impact prices
- Market driven by continued strong e-commerce growth
- E-commerce services are evolving
  - greater visibility over delivery windows
  - more control over delivery options

### Addressable volume



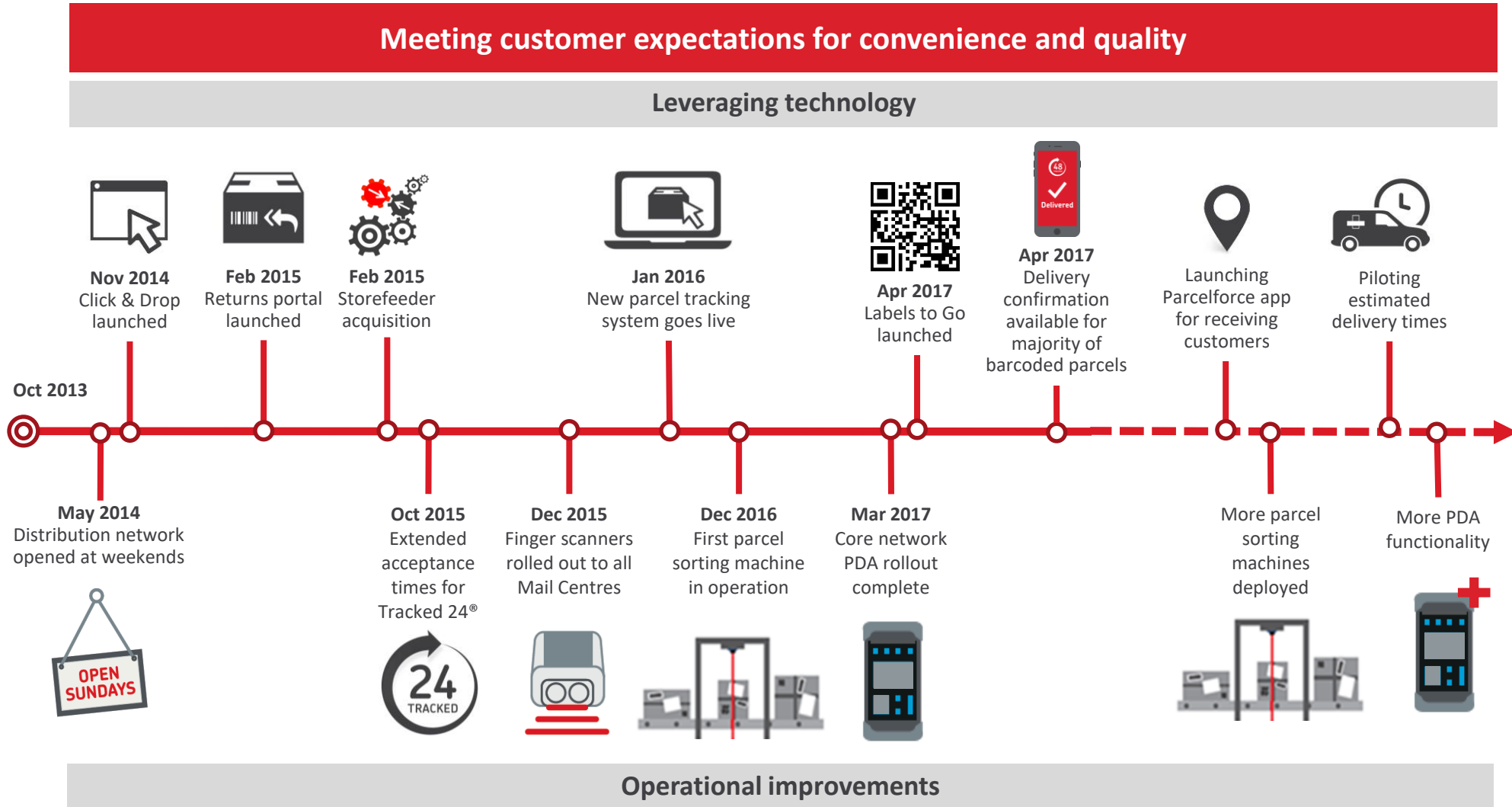
### Addressable revenue



### Disruptive/Other

- Amazon network investment shifting to food and markets outside UK
- Weaker Sterling impacting import/export volumes

# Winning in parcels – Our journey



# Winning in parcels – International

## Royal Mail export/import trends



Low AUR  
Slowing volumes  
Royal Mail delivery costs

High AUR  
Volume trend improving  
3<sup>rd</sup> party, volume related, delivery costs

International accounts for 18% of volume and 19% of revenue of UKPIL parcels

## Initiatives

### Imports



- Higher rates for improved UK delivery service



- Enhanced UK delivery services for marketplace traders

### Exports

- Launching new services in 2017-18 focused on capturing growth in cross-border e-commerce



# Winning in parcels – GLS

## GLS performance

Continues to perform well since IPO

€m	2013-14	2016-17
Revenue	1,957	2,521
Operating profit	128	196
Operating profit margin	6.5%	7.8%

## GLS strategy

- Establishing strong footprints in local markets
- Focus on B2B with selective B2C growth
- Further growth in existing markets as well as geographical expansion
- Underpinned by technology

## GLS Group strategy

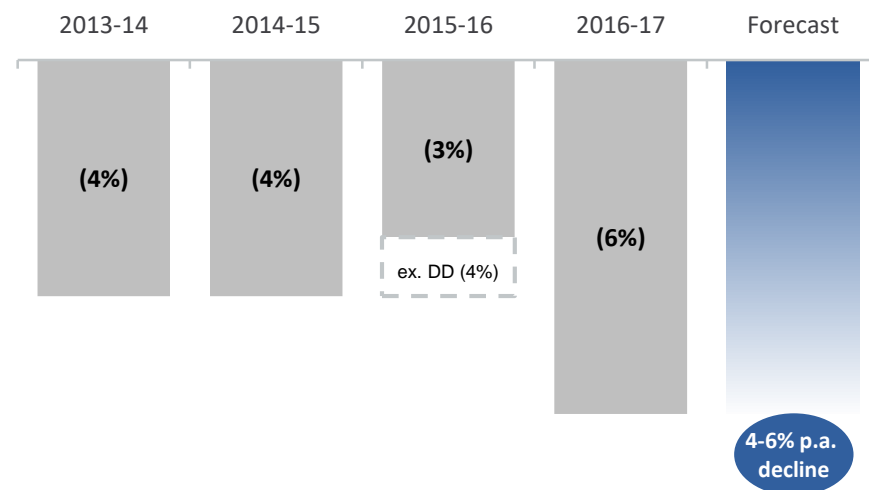
### Individual country strategies



### Stable IT infrastructure

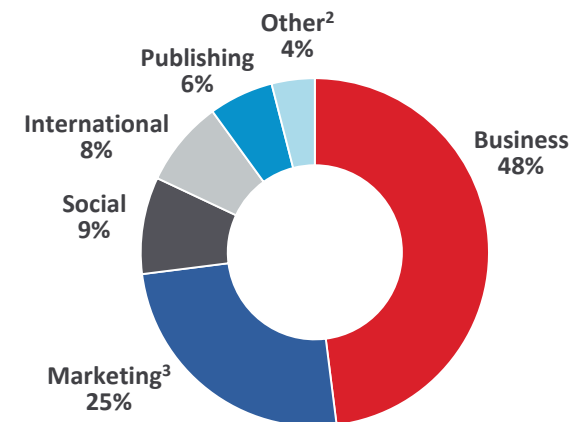
# Defending letters – UK letters market

## Addressed letter volume<sup>1</sup> trends



- Medium term forecast of 4-6% decline p.a. still holds
- Rate of e-substitution not expected to increase
- Letters largely B2X so impacted by business uncertainty
- Marketing mail highly geared to business confidence
- Decline expected to be at higher end of range in 2017-18 if current levels of business uncertainty persist

## UKPIL letter revenue



### Business mail

- Economic conditions negatively impacted performance as customers downgraded and reduced discretionary mailings

### Marketing mail

- Total UK advertising spend up 4%<sup>3</sup>, driven by internet up 13%<sup>3</sup>
  - all print media down, direct mail down 10%<sup>3</sup>
- UKPIL marketing mail revenue down 8% to £1,087m

# Defending letters – Initiatives

## Initiatives to defend letter volumes and revenues

### Protecting mail volumes



- Introduced incentives for incremental advertising mail
- Extended Keep me Posted campaign
- Refreshed Mailmen campaign
- Relaunched Strategic Mailing Partnership

### Maximise profitability



- Increased Mailmark® barcode to c.80% of target mail
- Enhanced revenue protection measures
- Targeted pricing initiatives to drive incremental volume/profit

### Optimise customer experience



- Commencing Mailmark® roll-out to unsorted mail
- Addressing scam mail

# Strategic focus on UKPIL costs

**£225m costs avoided**  
**Underlying operating costs<sup>1</sup> down 1% in 2016-17**



**Collections**



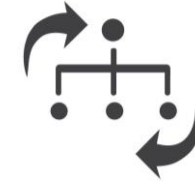
**Processing**



**Logistics**



**Delivery**



**Central functions**

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Target
Gross core network hours	(2.9%)	(2.3%)	(2.0%)	<b>(1.9%)</b>	
Workload	(1.3%)	0.1%	0.4%	<b>0.7%</b>	
<b>Productivity<sup>2</sup></b>	1.7%	2.5%	2.4%	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>2.0-3.0%</b>

**Targeting to avoid c.£600m of annualised costs by 2017-18<sup>3</sup>**

# Pensions and pay update



- Decision taken to close RMPP at 31 March 2018
- Triennial valuation of RMPP completed
- Current Royal Mail pension proposal, main elements:
  - Defined Benefit cash balance scheme
  - Enhanced Defined Contribution scheme
- Negotiations ongoing around pay, including working week, agreements and future shape of Royal Mail
  - encompasses conditions for new starters, allowances and sick pay
  - envisages new, more flexible labour model

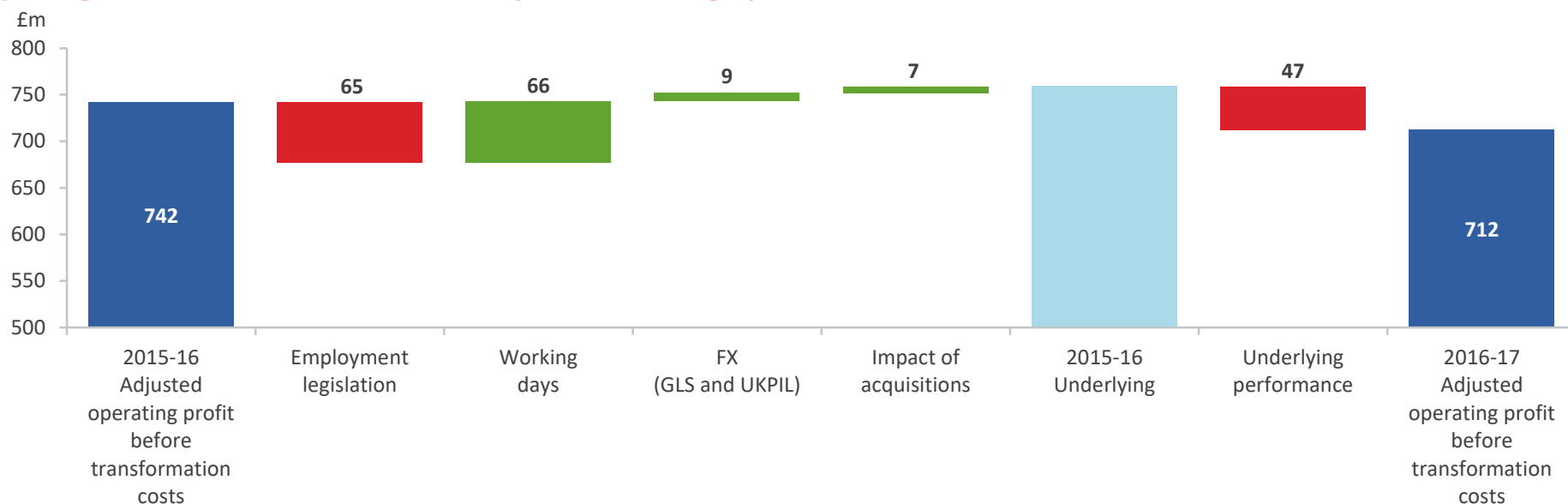
Matthew Lester  
Chief Finance Officer

## 2016-17 Financial summary

£m	Adjusted 2016-17	Adjusted 2015-16	Underlying change	£m	2016-17	
					Reported	Adjusted
Revenue	<b>9,776</b>	9,251	1%	Operating profit before transformation costs	490	712
Operating profit before transformation costs	<b>712</b>	742	(6%)	Profit before tax	335	559
Transformation costs	<b>(137)</b>	(191)		Earnings per share	27.5p	44.1p
Operating profit after transformation costs	<b>575</b>	551				
Operating profit margin after transformation costs	<b>5.9%</b>	6.0%	+10bps*			
Profit before tax	<b>559</b>	538				
Earnings per share	<b>44.1p</b>	41.3p	+2.8p			
In-year trading cash flow	<b>420</b>	254				
Net debt	<b>(338)</b>	(224)				
Recommended dividend per share	<b>23.0p</b>	22.1p	4%			

- Cash to IAS 19 pension charge adjustment £222m (2015-16: £257m)
- Rises substantially in 2017-18 due to increase in IAS 19 pension charge rate to 41.1%
  - estimated at c.£440m

## Underlying movement in operating profit



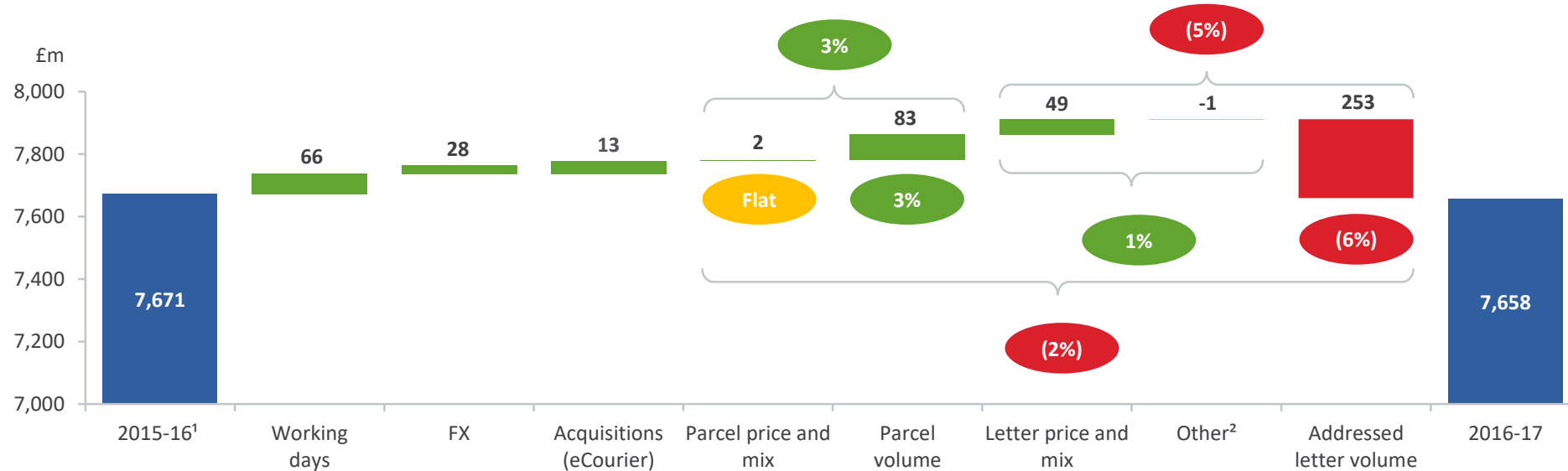
- £65m increase in National Insurance due to introduction of new 'single-tier' state pension scheme
  - in cost base going forward
- £66m impact in UKPIL due to c.3 more working days in 2016-17
  - estimated impact in 2017-18 due to c.1 less working day c.(£15m)
- £9m increase due to net impact of weaker Sterling
  - average rate £1 = €1.19 (2015-16: £1 = €1.37)
  - negative impact in UKPIL of £9m offset by positive impact in GLS of £18m
- £7m increase due to impact of acquisitions in the year



## UKPIL results

£m	Adjusted 2016-17	Adjusted <sup>1</sup> 2015-16	Underlying change
Revenue	<b>7,658</b>	7,671	(2%)
Operating costs	<b>(7,110)</b>	(7,046)	(1%)
Operating profit before transformation costs	<b>548</b>	625	(11%)
Transformation costs	<b>(137)</b>	(191)	
Operating profit after transformation costs	<b>411</b>	434	(4%)
Operating profit margin after transformation costs	<b>5.4%</b>	5.7%	(10bps)

# UKPIL revenue



## Parcels – Revenue £3,337m, Volume 1,169m

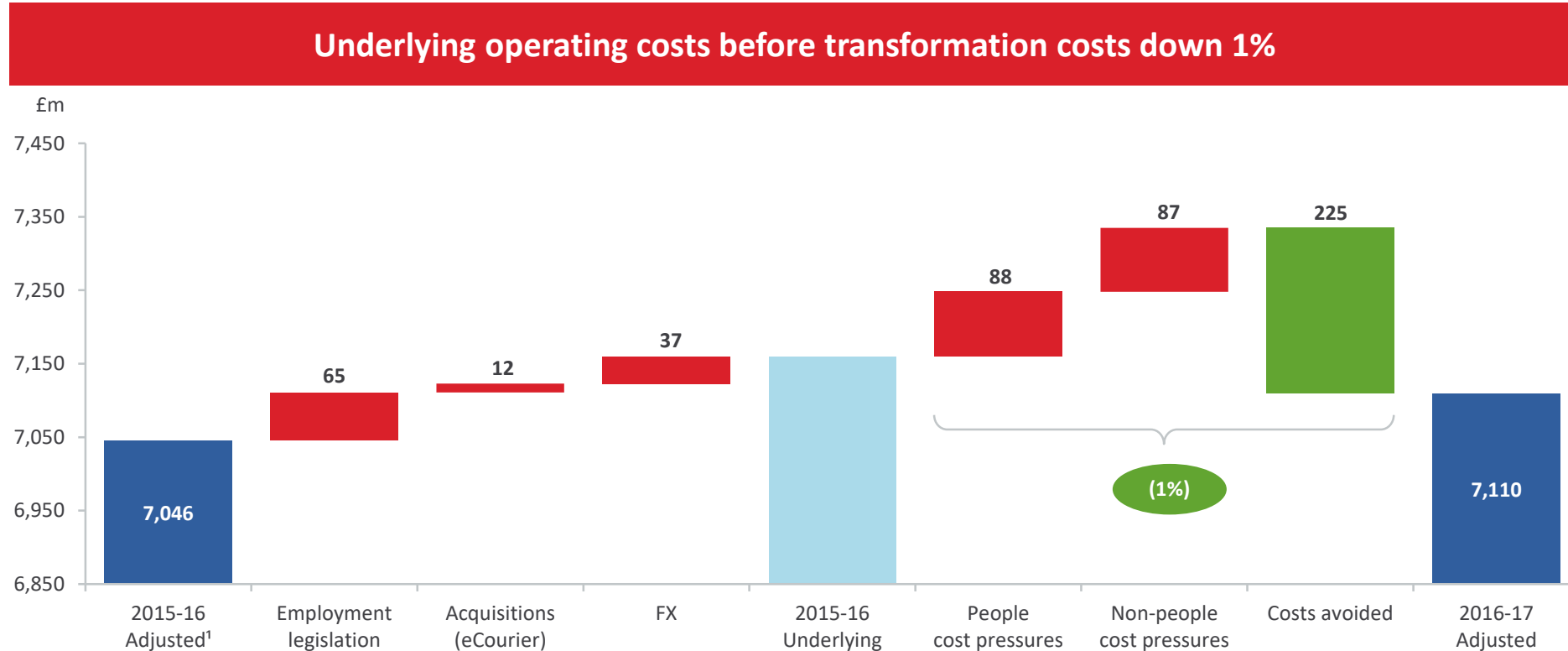
- Account volumes continue to grow, up 4% excluding Amazon
- Impact of weaker Sterling
  - import volume growth slowing but higher AURs
  - export volumes still impacted by competition but grew in H2
- Improving trends in consumer channel

## Letters – Revenue £4,321m, Volume<sup>3</sup> 11,922m

- Addressed letter volume decline of 6%
- Impact of low inflation on revenue
- Marketing mail<sup>4</sup> revenue down 8%, reflecting business uncertainty
- Unaddressed letter volumes down 3%

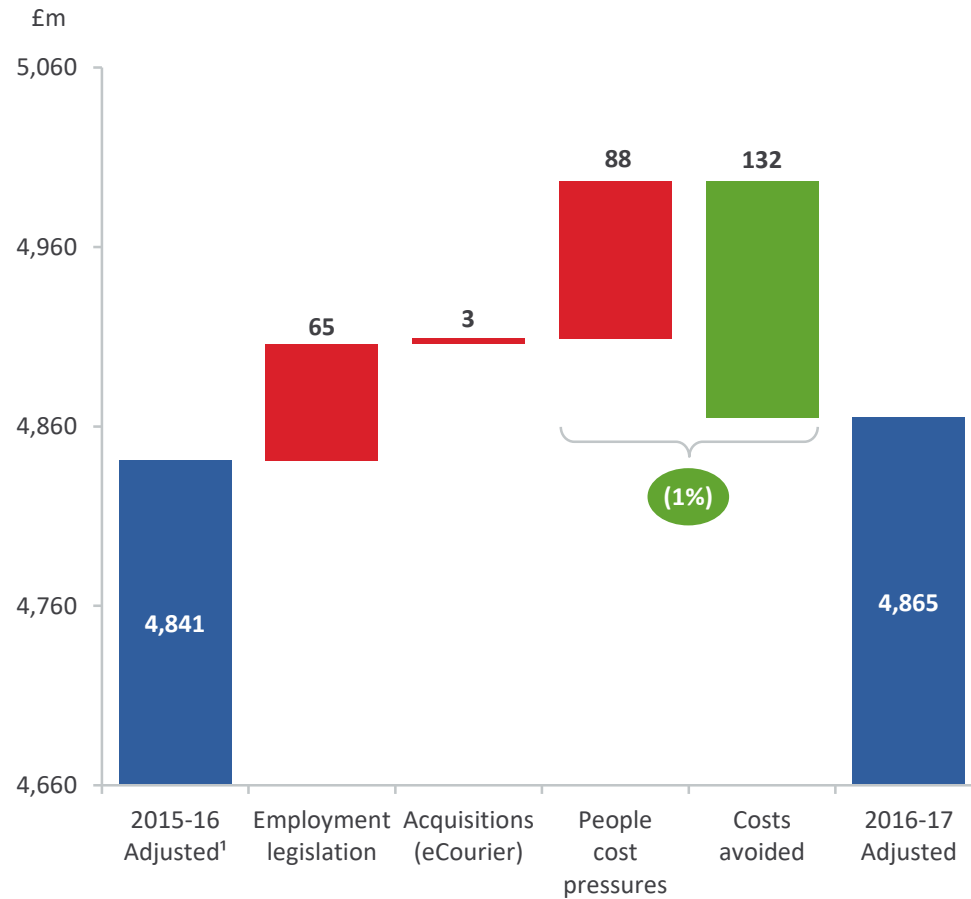
Note: Underlying change is calculated after adjusting for working days, foreign exchange movements, acquisitions and other one-off items that distort the Group's underlying performance. For volumes, underlying movements are adjusted for working days, acquisitions and exclude political parties' election mailings in letter volumes <sup>1</sup> Re-presented for consolidation of Romec into UKPIL <sup>2</sup> Other includes elections, philatelic, unaddressed and other non-volume related items <sup>3</sup> Total addressed letter volumes including political parties' election mailings <sup>4</sup> Includes data, redirections, Address Management Unit, and addressed & unaddressed advertising mail

# UKPIL operating costs



- Cost avoidance projects delivered £225m costs avoided of which:
  - people costs £132m
  - non-people costs £93m
- Cost avoidance programme delivered over £400m to date, targeting to avoid c.£600m of annualised costs by 2017-18

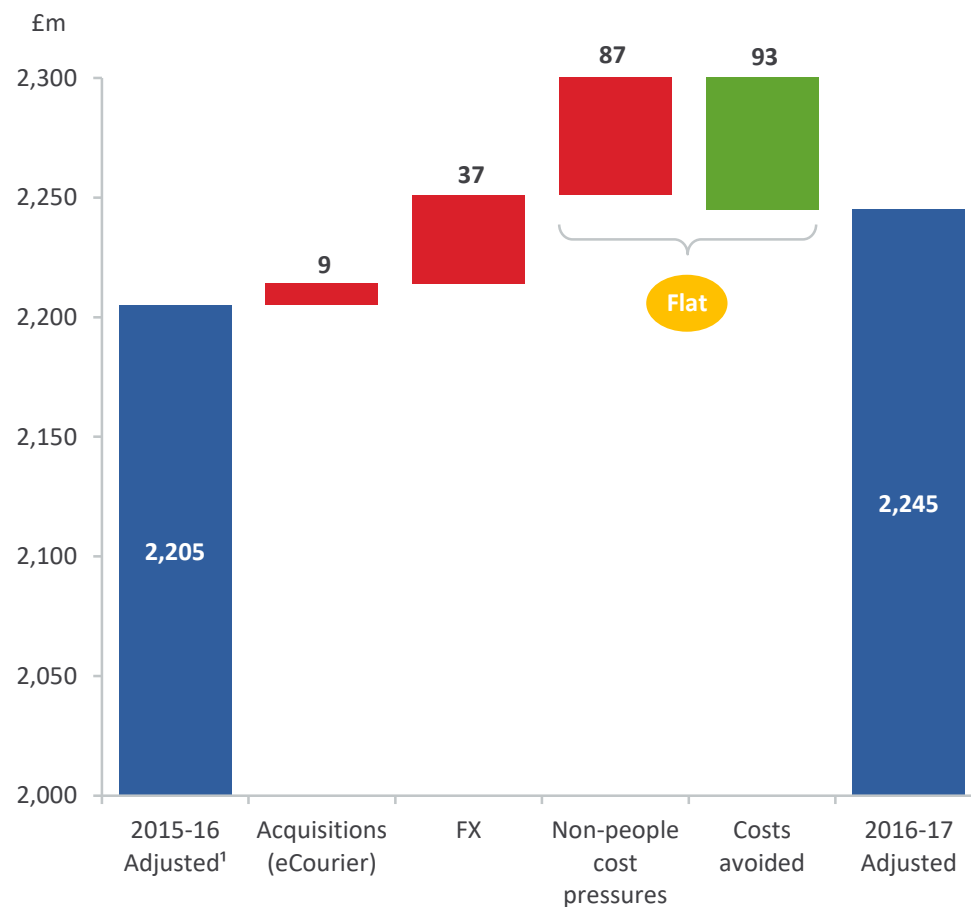
# UKPIL people costs



## People costs down 1%

- National Insurance headwind (not included in underlying)
- Cost pressures:
  - 1.6% frontline pay award and other pay increases
  - tracked products driving workload, up 0.7%
- Offset by:
  - total core network hours down 1.9%
  - additional savings largely due to reduced management costs and lower driver hours
  - headcount down c.730
  - FTEs down c.3,500, reflecting change in full/part-time mix and reduction in variable hours

# UKPIL non-people costs



## Non-people costs flat

- Cost pressures include cost of sales due to parcels mix, depreciation & amortisation, and non-pay inflation of c.1.1%

## Distribution & Conveyance £828m up 1%

- Terminal dues higher due to £37m impact from Sterling weakness (excluded from underlying movements)
  - further £25m impact due to mix of export parcels revenue
- Higher cost of sales due to increasing parcel sizes and tracked volumes

## Infrastructure £740m down 1%

- Benefits from cost avoidance programme more than offset increase in depreciation & amortisation of c.£20m
- Benefits from property management programme including Romec integration

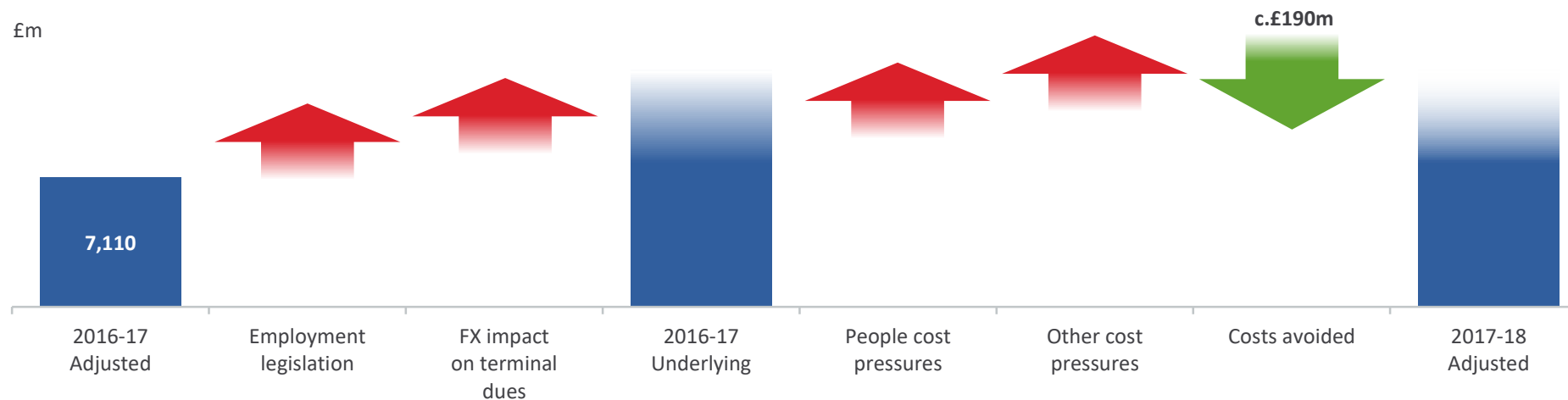
## Other £677m flat

- Focus on discretionary spend

# UKPIL cost performance 2017-18

Three years of good cost performance, significant headwinds in 2017-18

2017-18 cost performance dependent on outcome of pay negotiations, significant non-people cost pressures and delivery of cost avoidance projects



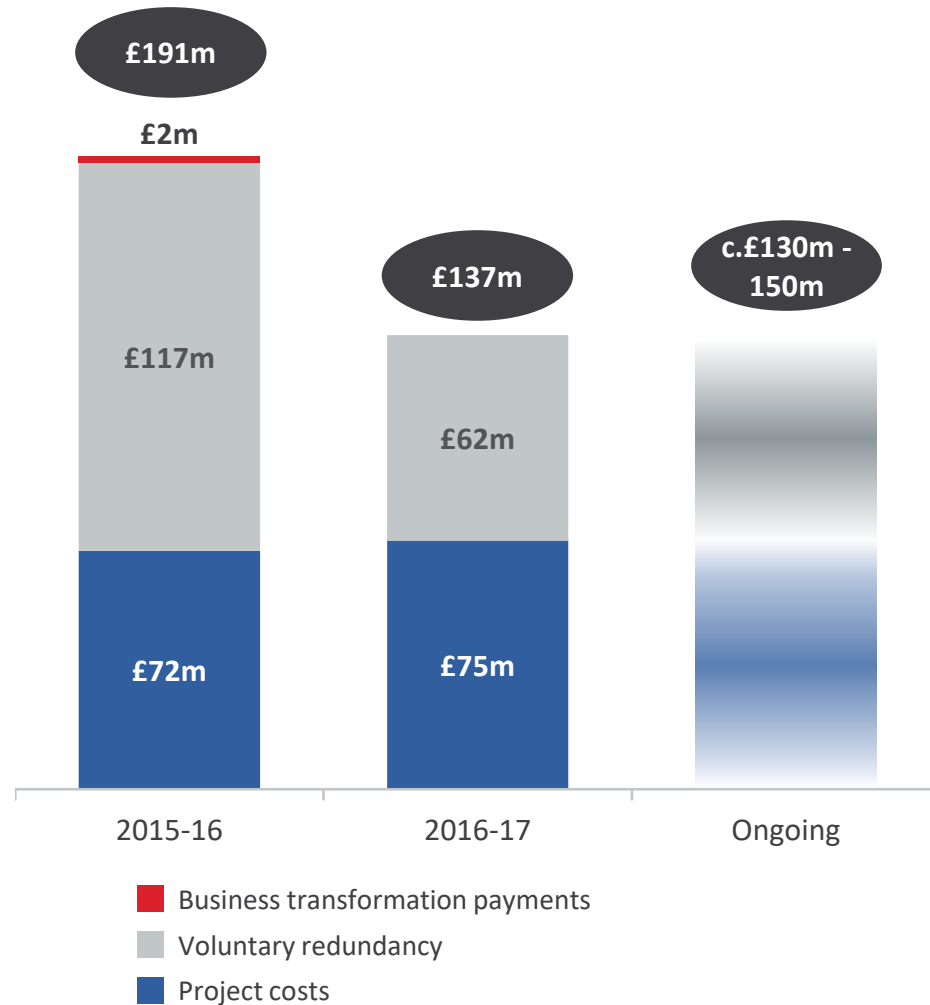
## Underlying adjustments

- Employment legislation includes new Apprenticeship Levy (c.£20m)
- FX impact on terminal dues largely in H1

## Cost pressures

- People costs pressures – outcome of pay negotiations
- Other cost pressures include:
  - cost of sales related to increasing parcel sizes and tracked volumes
  - terminal dues reflecting mix of export parcels revenue
  - non-pay inflation
  - depreciation & amortisation increase c.£30m; stabilise thereafter

# Transformation costs – income statement



## 2016-17

- At bottom of expected range due to change in mix of cost avoidance projects

## Ongoing

- Transformation costs expected to be c.£130-150m p.a. dependent on absorbable rate of change

## GLS results

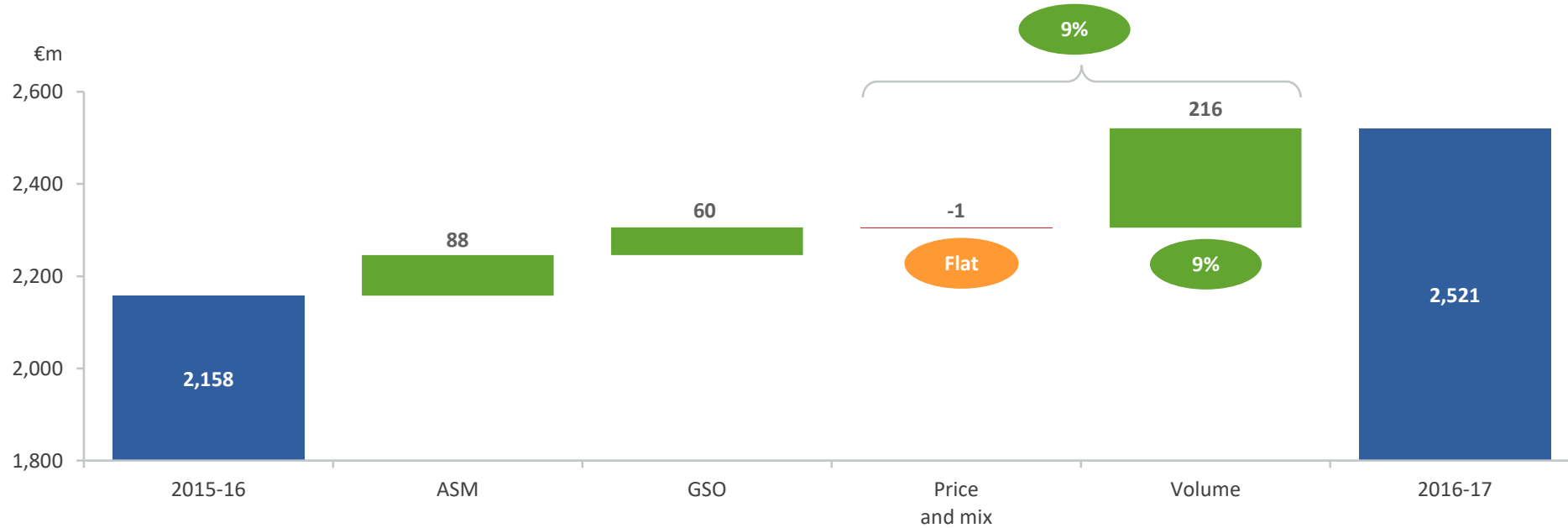
€m	2016-17	2015-16	Underlying change
Revenue	<b>2,521</b>	2,158	9%
Operating costs	<b>(2,325)</b>	(1,998)	9%
Operating profit	<b>196</b>	160	17%
Operating profit margin	<b>7.8%</b>	7.4%	50bps
Volumes (m)	<b>508</b>	431	9%
Average £1 = €	<b>1.19</b>	1.37	(13%)

£m	2016-17	2015-16
Revenue	<b>2,118</b>	1,580
Operating costs	<b>(1,954)</b>	(1,463)
Operating profit	<b>164</b>	117

- Performance largely driven by good volume growth, particularly international
  - timing of holidays across Europe benefited volumes and revenue by c.2ppts
- Operating profit increase largely due to improved profits in Italy, Germany and France
- ASM exceeded performance expectations since acquisition
- GSO expected to perform in line with expectations in first full year of ownership
- Reported results positively impacted by 13% weakening of Sterling vs. Euro



# GLS revenue



- Largest customer represents c.2% of GLS Group revenue
- Germany revenue up 5%, driven by international volumes and improved domestic pricing
- Continued strong revenue growth in Italy, up 13% mainly due to strong B2C volume growth
  - growth rate expected to slow going forward
- France delivered improved top line growth, up 8%
  - losses reduced to €8m (2015-16: €13m)
  - challenging market conditions mean break-even unlikely to be achieved in short term

## GLS costs

€m	2016-17	2015-16	Underlying change
People costs	<b>582</b>	489	8%
Distribution & conveyance costs	<b>1,521</b>	1,312	10%
Infrastructure costs	<b>152</b>	143	Flat
Other operating costs	<b>70</b>	54	11%
<b>Operating costs</b>	<b>2,325</b>	1,998	9%

- People costs up 8% due to:
  - semi-variable costs linked to volume c.4%
  - pay inflation/incentives/other c.4%
- Impact of new German minimum wage from January 2017
  - estimated 12 month impact €5m
- Distribution & conveyance costs up 10% due to higher volumes
- Infrastructure costs flat due to one-off provision release of €3m for IT related costs offsetting inflationary pressures
- Other operating costs increased by 11% driven by costs associated with geographic expansion activities
  - prior year benefitted from one-off provision release of c.€3m

## Group profit after tax

£m	Adjusted 2016-17	Adjusted 2015-16
<b>Operating profit after transformation costs</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>551</b>
Finance costs	(18)	(16)
Finance income	2	3
Net finance costs	(16)	(13)
<b>Profit before tax</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>538</b>
Tax charge	(121)	(118)
<b>Profit for the period</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>420</b>
Earnings per share	<b>44.1p</b>	41.3p

## Specific items and pension adjustment

£m	2016-17	2015-16
Employee Free Shares charge <sup>1</sup>	(105)	(158)
Amortisation of acquired intangible assets	(11)	-
Legacy/other (costs)/credit	(18)	2
<b>Total operating specific items</b>	<b>(134)</b>	<b>(156)</b>
Profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment	14	29
Loss on disposal of business	(2)	-
Net pension interest	120	113
Profit on disposal of discontinued operations	-	31
<b>Total non-operating specific items</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>173</b>
Pension charge to cash difference adjustment <sup>2</sup>	(222)	(257)

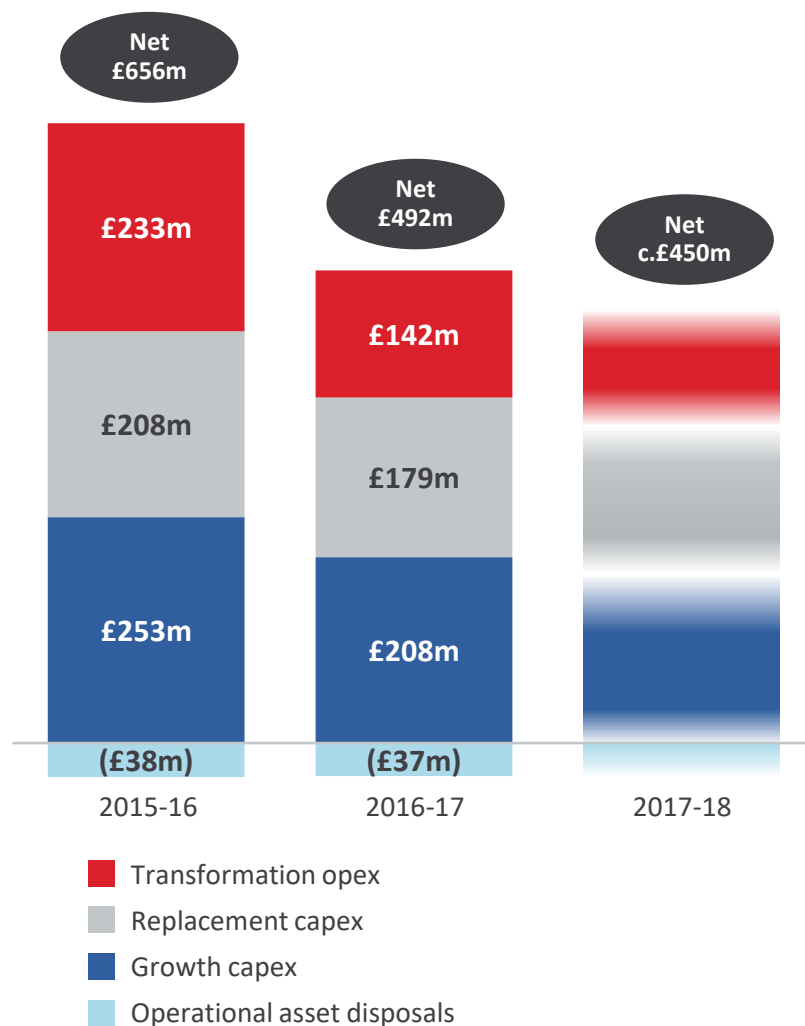
- 2016-17 Employee Free Shares charge £105m<sup>3</sup>
  - lower charge in H2 due to SIP 2013 reaching maturity in October 2016
- Legacy costs driven by reduction in discount rate used to calculate industrial diseases provision and legislative decrease in discount rates applicable to personal injury claims announced in February 2017
- Profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment mainly from sale of GLS property in Munich and Maidstone Delivery Office
- 2016-17 pension interest credit £120m driven by increase in IAS 19 pension surplus
  - c.£90m in 2017-18
- Pension charge to cash difference adjustment £222m in 2016-17
  - c.£440m in 2017-18

## Group in-year trading cash flow

£m	2016-17	2015-16
Reported EBITDA before transformation costs	<b>793</b>	756
Pension charge to cash difference adjustment	<b>222</b>	257
Adjusted EBITDA before transformation costs	<b>1,015</b>	1,013
Trading working capital movements	<b>(3)</b>	(26)
Share-based awards (SAYE/LTIP) charge	<b>11</b>	13
Dividends received from associate	-	1
Total investment	<b>(529)</b>	(694)
Income tax paid	<b>(60)</b>	(40)
Net finance costs paid	<b>(14)</b>	(13)
<b>In-year trading cash flow</b>	<b>420</b>	254

- Adjusted EBITDA before transformation broadly flat
  - higher reported EBITDA offset by lower pension charge to cash difference in 2016-17
- £23m working capital improvement largely due to change in international sales mix
- Lower investment spend due to lower voluntary redundancy payments and more efficient investment spend
- Increase in cash tax mainly due to repayment received in prior year and tax paid this year on sale of DPD SL
- UK cash tax now expected to normalise in 2020-21 due to R&D credits and other related reliefs

# Group investment - cash



## Transformation opex

£m	2016-17	2015-16
Business transformation payments	-	2
Voluntary redundancy	66	159
Project costs	76	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>233</b>

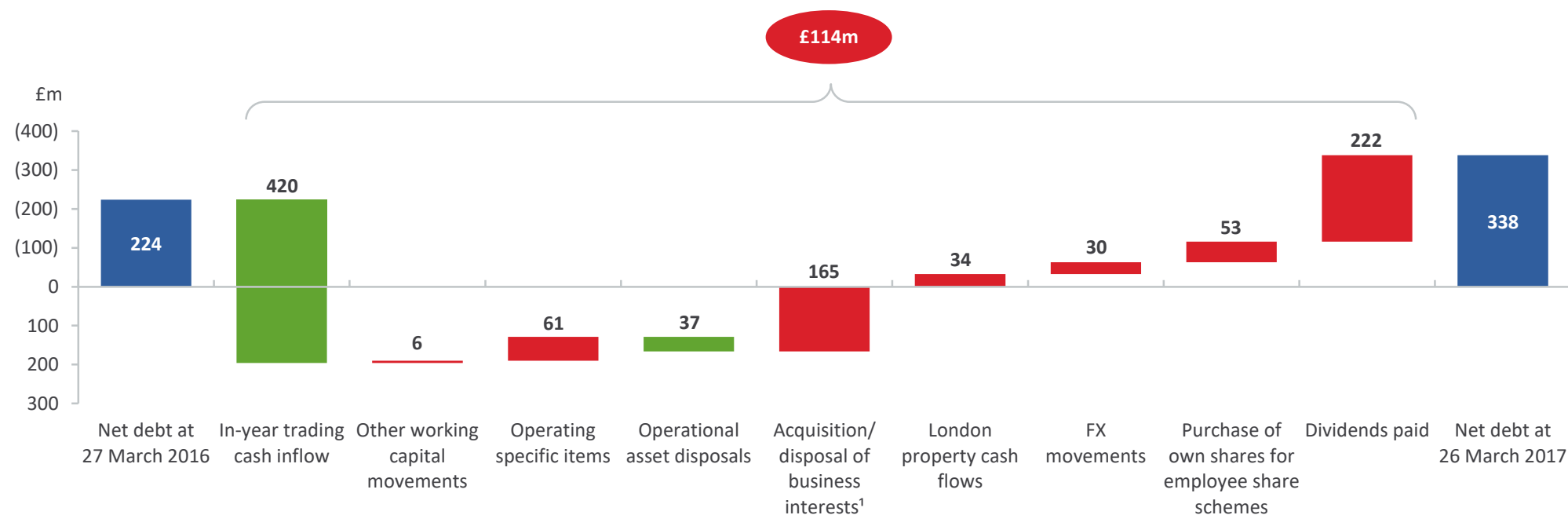
## 2016-17

- Reduction in voluntary redundancy primary driver behind reduced transformation opex
- Lower replacement capex driven by timing of ongoing property maintenance and other cost reduction activities
- Growth capex includes spend on parcel systems, parcels automation, PDAs and GLS

## Outlook

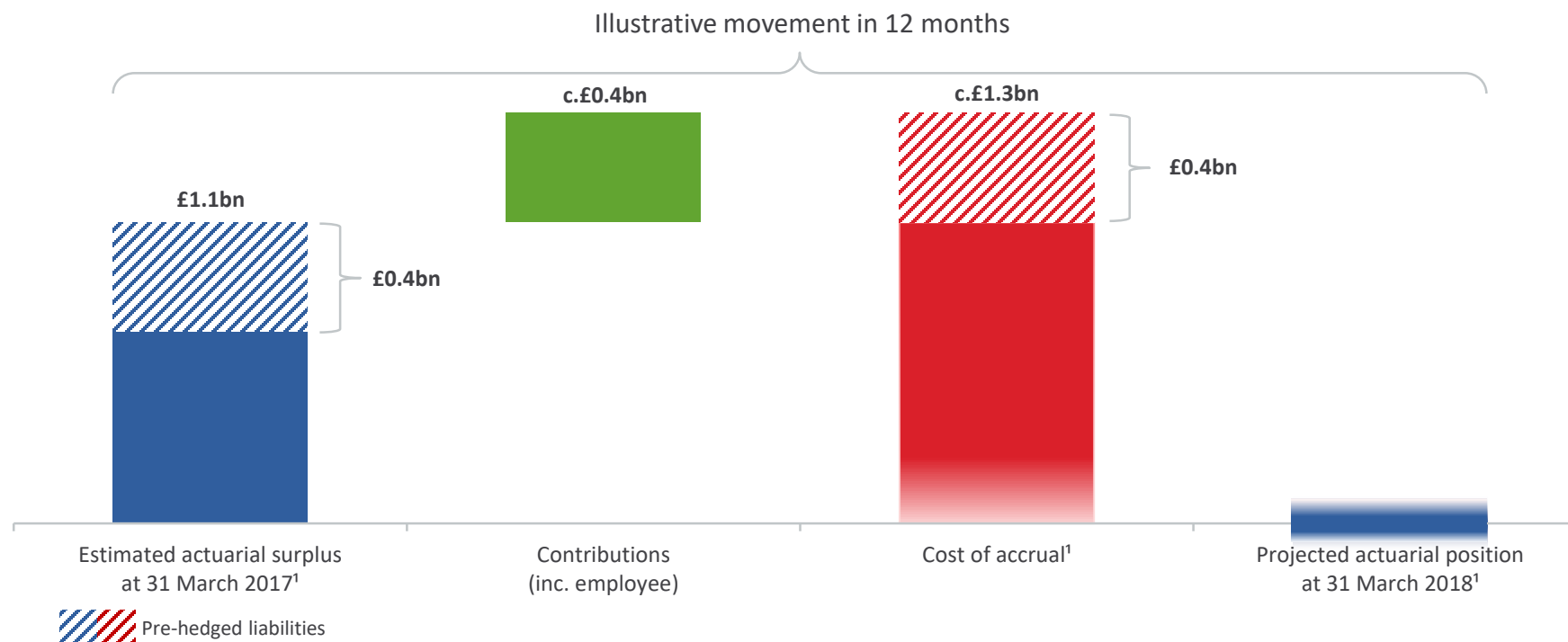
- Total net cash investment c.£450m in 2017-18 and less than £500m p.a. going forward

# Net debt



- Other working capital movements include GLS client cash held (+£9m), stamps used but purchased in previous periods and deferred revenue
- Operating specific items – GLS French Competition Authority fine of €55m, Romec integration costs and additional employer National Insurance contributions on Employee Free Share sales
- Operational asset disposals – largely relate to sale of GLS property in Munich and Maidstone Delivery Office
- Acquisitions/disposals – includes GSO, ASM, eCourier, Romec and NDC
- £34m invested in London property, mainly Nine Elms and Mount Pleasant sites
- Foreign exchange movements reflect impact of translation on Euro bond, GLS cash, lease creditors and other loans
- £53m spent purchasing Royal Mail shares for employee share schemes

# Pensions – actuarial basis



- Liabilities projected to accrue to March 2018 have been hedged in advance against movements in interest and inflation rates
- Decision taken to close RMPP to future accrual from 31 March 2018. Plan expected to close with no material surplus/deficit
- RMPP 2015 valuation assumptions are lower risk to reduce likelihood of deficit arising
- Discussion with unions over future benefits post March 2018 continue
- No change to agreement for RMSEPP deficit payments of £10m p.a. until 2018



# Property

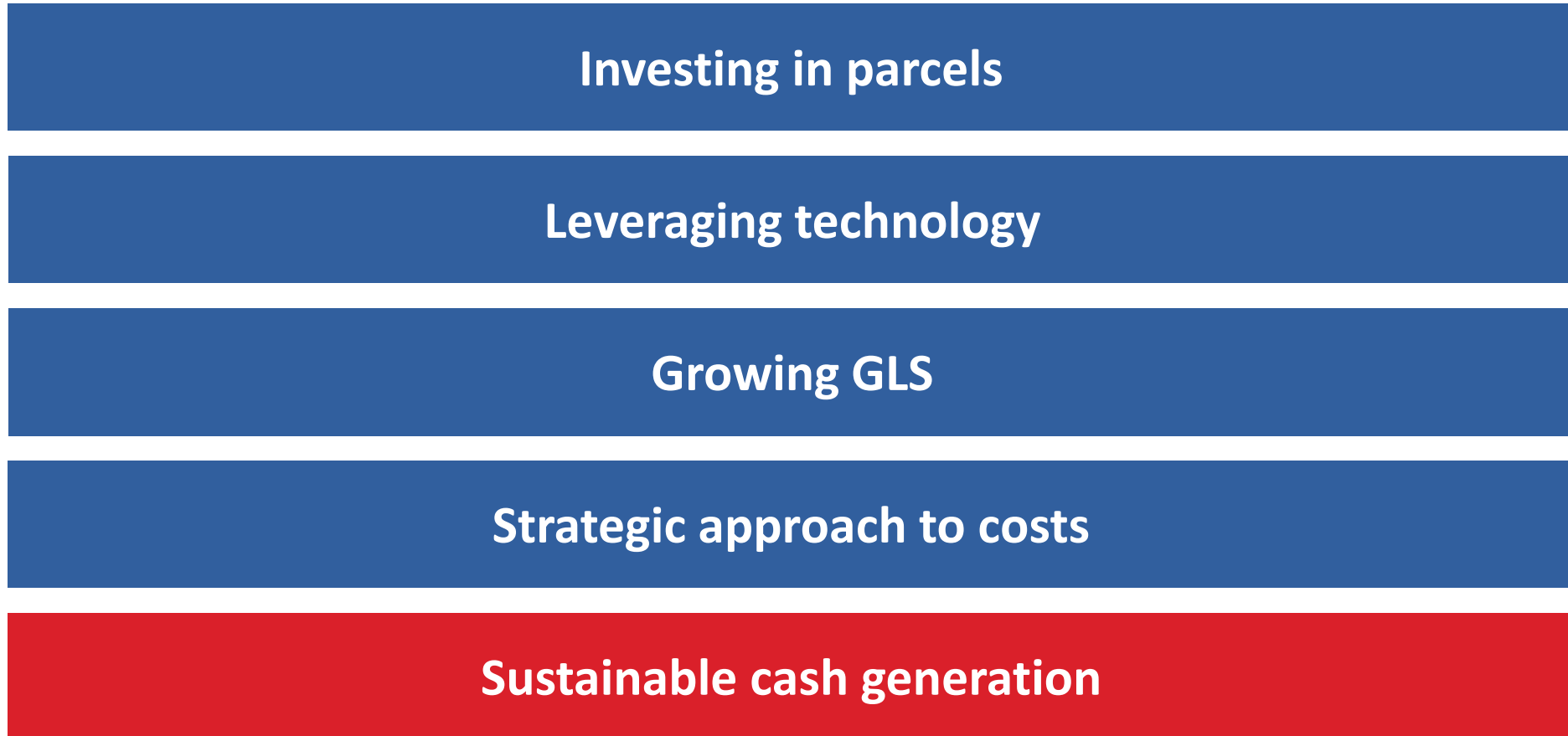
## Continuing to explore options and adopting a flexible approach to realise value

Site	Acres	Key features	Action
Nine Elms	13.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline planning consent for 1,950 residential units</li> <li>Utilities/transport companies on site to complete infrastructure works</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some further investment required (infrastructure, park)</li> <li>New Delivery Office under construction, move during 2017-18</li> <li>Site continues to be marketed</li> </ul>
Mount Pleasant	8.6 acres covered by planning consent (of which 6.5 acres for sale)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full planning permission received for up to c.680 residential units</li> <li>Tendering for separation works</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Significant further investment in separation and enabling work (will not be committed until sale is agreed)</li> <li>Marketing of site underway</li> </ul>

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Total proceeds	111	-	-	Potential sales proceeds
Total investment	(11)	(23)	(34)	Further investment only if proceeds received
Net cash position	100	(23)	(34)	
Cumulative	100	77	43	

Moya Greene  
Chief Executive Officer

## Building on key platforms to create a more resilient company





Royal Mail