# DIGNITY PLC INVESTOR PRESENTATION

**Annual General Meeting 2021** 

DIGNITY

# Final Voting Report

Parameters											
Client	Dignity plc										
Task Name	nnual General Meeting										
	23-Jun-2021 Meeting Time 11:00:00 AM										
Issued Capital	50,028,426 Treasury 0										
Voting Capital	Holding 50,028,426										

Resolution Number	Resolution Name	Number of Cards For	Number of Votes For	% of Votes For	Number of Cards Against	Number of Votes Against	% of Votes Against	Number of Cards Discretionary	Number of Votes Discretionary	% of Votes Discretionary	Number of Cards For & Discretionary	Number of Votes For & Discretionary	% of Votes For & Discretionary	Total Votes Cast (Excluding Withheld)	Number of Cards Withheld	Number of Votes Withheld	% Votes Withheld	Total Votes Cast (Including Withheld)	Fotal % of Voting Capital voted (Including Withheld)
01	Report and Accounts	164	32,629,513	99.97%	7	5,174	0.02%	9	3,857	0.01%	173	32,633,370	99.98%	32,638,544	8	179,408	0.55%	32,817,952	65.60%
02	Remuneration Report	149	32,565,860	99.91%	16	26,731	0.08%	8	3,827	0.01%	157	32,569,687	99.92%	32,596,418	16	221,534	0.68%	32,817,952	65.60%
03	Dean Moore	137	31,073,876	94.91%	39	1,664,291	5.08%	9	3,857	0.01%	146	31,077,733	94.92%	32,742,024	10	75,928	0.23%	32,817,952	65.60%
04	Andrew Judd	155	26,573,524	99.49%	17	131,151	0.49%	10	4,102	0.02%	165	26,577,626	99.51%	26,708,777	8	6,109,175	18.62%	32,817,952	65.60%
05	Gary Channon	133	24,232,084	95.43%	31	1,156,066	4.55%	10	4,102	0.02%	143	24,236,186	95.45%	25,392,252	18	7,425,700	22.63%	32,817,952	65.60%
06	Re-appoint Auditors	159	32,690,707	99.62%	13	122,057	0.37%	10	4,102	0.01%	169	32,694,809	99.63%	32,816,866	3	1,086	0.00%	32,817,952	65.60%
07	Auditors Remuneration	164	32,807,466	99.98%	9	3,931	0.01%	9	3,857	0.01%	173	32,811,323	99.99%	32,815,254	4	2,698	0.01%	32,817,952	65.60%
08	Allot Relevant Securities	158	32,750,523	99.80%	14	62,140	0.19%	9	3,857	0.01%	167	32,754,380	99.81%	32,816,520	5	1,432	0.00%	32,817,952	65.60%
09	Pre-emption Rights	151	32,788,468	99.95%	17	14,088	0.04%	10	3,938	0.01%	161	32,792,406	99.96%	32,806,494	8	11,458	0.03%	32,817,952	65.60%
10	Additional Pre-emption Rights	148	32,680,260	99.60%	20	128,221	0.39%	11	4,183	0.01%	159	32,684,443	99.61%	32,812,664	8	5,288	0.02%	32,817,952	65.60%
11	Purchase Own Shares	154	32,667,936	99.60%	17	125,854	0.38%	10	4,008	0.01%	164	32,671,944	99.62%	32,797,798	8	20,154	0.06%	32,817,952	65.60%
12	General Meeting	157	32,676,046	99.57%	18	135,677	0.41%	12	4,246	0.01%	169	32,680,292	99.59%	32,815,969	3	1,983	0.01%	32,817,952	65.60%

PERCENTAGES OF VOTES CAST FOR, AGAINST & DISCRETIONARY HAVE BEEN CALCULATED EXCLUDING THE WITHHELD VOTES. PERCENTAGES ARE ROUNDED TO 2 DECIMAL PLACES.



# Forward-Looking Statements

This presentation and the Dignity plc investor website may contain certain 'forward-looking statements' with respect to Dignity plc ('Company') and the Group's financial condition, results of its operations and business, and certain plans, strategy, objectives, goals and expectations with respect to these items and the economies and markets in which the Group operates.

Forward-looking statements are sometimes, but not always, identified by their use of a date in the future or such words as 'anticipates', 'aims', 'due', 'could', 'may', 'should', 'will', 'would', 'expects', 'believes', 'intends', 'plans', 'targets', 'goal' or 'estimates' or, in each case, their negative or other variations or comparable terminology. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. By their very nature forwardlooking statements are inherently unpredictable, speculative and involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that will occur in the future. Many of these assumptions, risks and uncertainties relate to factors that are beyond the Group's ability to control or estimate precisely. There are a number of such factors that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, changes in the economies and markets in which the Group operates; changes in the legal, regulatory and competition frameworks in which the Group operates; changes in the markets from which the Group raises finance; the impact of legal or other proceedings against or which affect the Group; changes in accounting practices and interpretation of accounting standards under IFRS, and changes in interest and exchange rates.

Any forward-looking statements made in this presentation or the Dignity plc investor website, or made subsequently, which are attributable to the Company or any other member of the Group, or persons acting on their behalf, are expressly qualified in their entirety by the factors referred to in this statement. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date it is made. Except as required by its legal or statutory obligations, the Company does not intend to update any forward-looking statements.

Nothing in this presentation is, or is intended as, a profit forecast or estimate for any period. This presentation does not contain or constitute an invitation, inducement or offer to underwrite, subscribe for, or otherwise acquire or dispose of any securities or financial instruments or any advice or recommendation with respect to such securities or other financial instruments.

# Agenda

- 1. Dignity Snapshot
- 2. Funeral Plans
- 3. At-Need Funerals
- 4. Crematoria
- 5. Other Opportunities
- 6. Organisation & Culture
- 7. Capital Structure
- 8. Value Creation

01

# DIGNITY SNAPSHOT

DIGNITY

# Dignity Snapshot

UK's only vertically integrated nationwide end of life business



Est. 1812



46 Crematoria



75k Cremations<sup>1</sup>



558k Active Pre-arranged Plans<sup>1</sup>



c.800 Branches



c.500 Trading Names



80k Funerals<sup>1</sup>



c.3,000 FTE



c.1,600 in Fleet



c.100 Service Chapels



c.5k Mortuary Capacity



£314m Underlying Revenue<sup>1</sup>

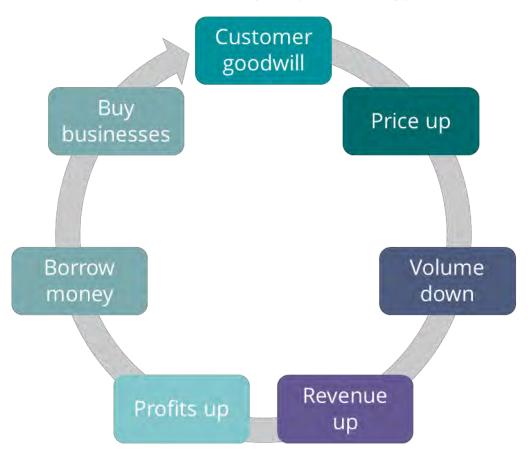


# **Previous Strategy**

Set the business up for long term failure

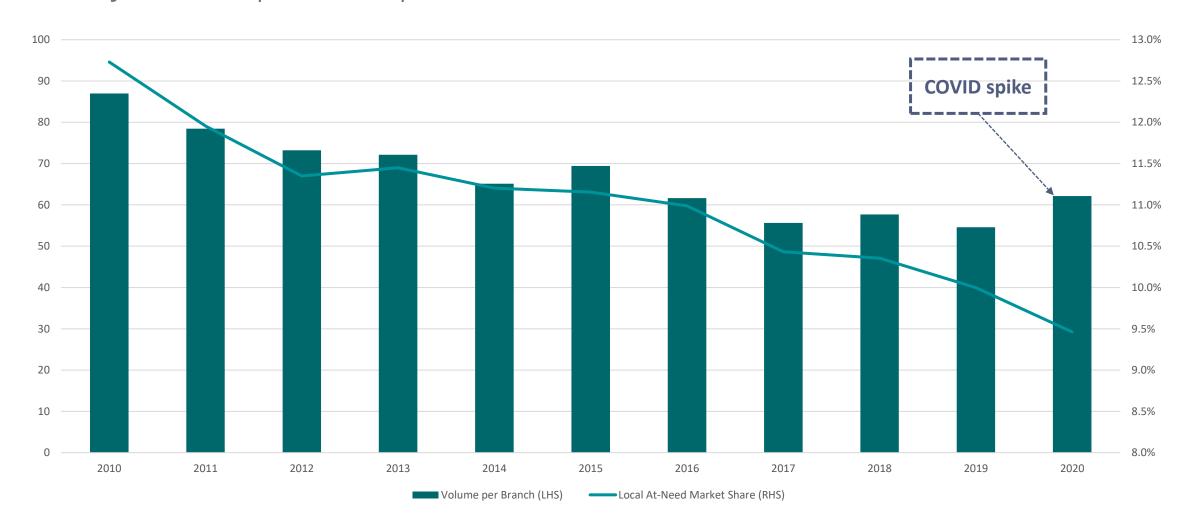
- Strategy to grow profits by increasing prices faster than volume losses
- Growth was purchased through acquisition, paying ever increasing prices for new businesses
- Price increases led to a loss of competitiveness
- Many new competitors emerged
- Market share losses
- Transformation plan failed to tackle core problem

## Previous Dignity strategy



## The Result

A steady decline in per branch performance and market share



**Source:** Dignity reporting database, Dignity management accounts

Note: Estimated local market share calculated as all funerals excluding pre-need, child, contract and simplicity, for people who lived within a local area (postcode sector centroid within 5 miles of a branch), over the number of deaths in the local area. This uses modelled ONS death data to account for location and date of death. The local market share data only includes England and Wales.

02

# FUNERAL PLANS

DIGNITY

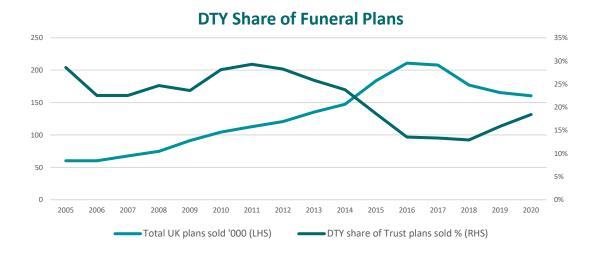
## Funeral Plans – The Past

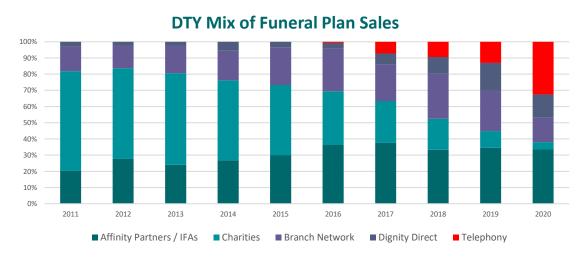
We did have a problem but it is now behind us

- Phoenix raised concerns about third-party telephony partners' conduct and the economics of 25 year plans subject of the General Meeting requisition
- Learned on first day of internal concerns in relation to third-party telephony partners' conduct.
   Internal audit appointed to investigate
- Slaughter and May appointed to carry out an external investigation
- No evidence that Dignity's Board were aware of the internal concerns when they responded to shareholders
- Contracts with third-party telephony partners now terminated
- In process of reorganising the division

# Dignity Funeral Plans Evolution

Mix shifted to telephony partners with longer instalment plans and higher cancellation rates

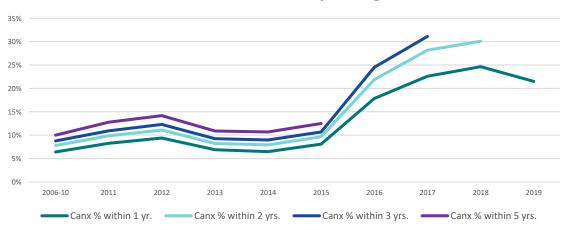




## **DTY Changing Mix of Instalment Plans**

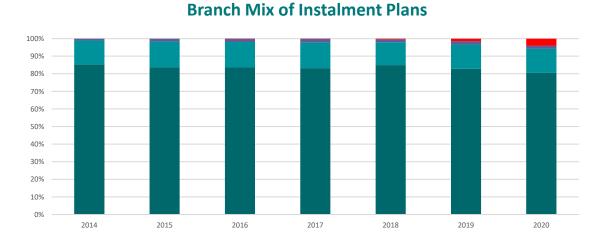


### **Cancellation Rates by Vintage**

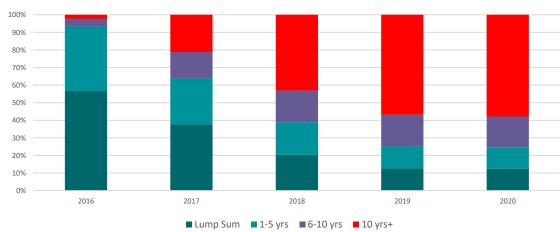


# Branch vs. Telephony Partners

We will prioritise sales through the branches in the future

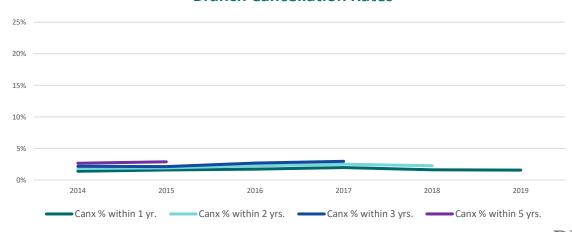


### **Telephony Partner Mix of Instalment Plans**

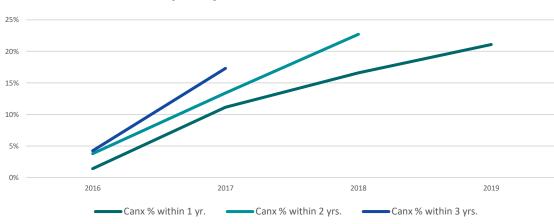


### **Branch Cancellation Rates**

■ Lump Sum ■ 1-5 yrs ■ 6-10 yrs ■ 10 yrs+



### **Telephony Partner Cancellation Rates**



# Impact of cancelled contracts

We cancelled contracts with 5 telephony partners

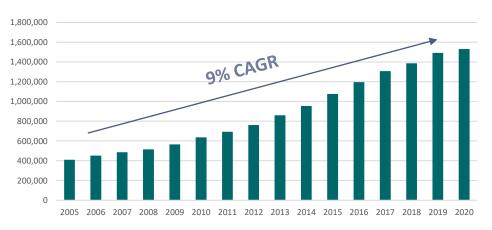
- Insignificant in context of total Dignity undrawn plans
  - 18k (6%) of active plan holders in Trust were sold via Telephony partners
- No clients harmed all will be given a Dignity funeral
- In process of withdrawing from all 10 year+ plans
- Loss of c.35% of 2021 Funeral Plan division budgeted revenue, but largely mitigated through £12m saving from the budgeted 2021 Telephony commission costs
- Rebase division aim to remain break-even

# Funeral Plans – The Opportunity

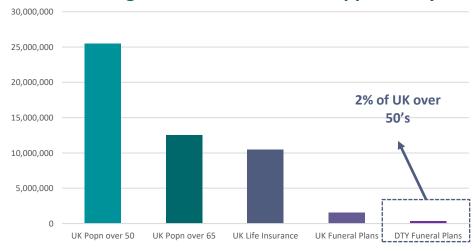
A growing market that's good for the client

- Funeral Plans are a growth industry but remain underpenetrated as an end of life planning product
- Penetration vs. addressable market is very low
  - In Europe, penetration is much higher. E.g. Netherlands 60% of Dutch adult population have some sort of funeral insurance
- Dignity have 21% share of undrawn plans and 18% share of new plans taken out
- Incoming FCA regulation will open up new distribution channels
- CMA wants to help build the industry to avoid stressed purchase decision

### **UK Undrawn Plans**



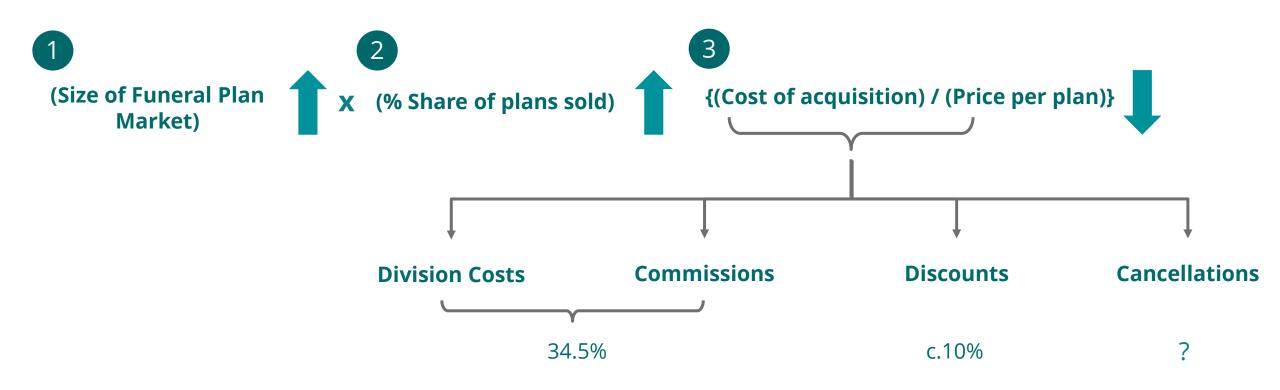
## **Huge Market Penetration Opportunity**





## **Funeral Plans**

How to judge this division in the future



## **Funeral Plans**

How we will engineer success

1

Grow addressable market Portion of over 50's with a funeral plan

- Increased population awareness and acceptance of funeral plans
- FCA regulated plans more widely sold as part of wealth planning process
- Dignity marketing to increase understanding and awareness

2

Grow % share of plans sold

DTY's portion of plans sold per year

- Temporary hit as we cancel bad partnerships, but commissions also decline significantly
- Sizeable opportunity to sell funeral plans through branch network. Conversion from at-need currently very low

3

Lower cost of acquisition

All-in cost for DTY to acquire a plan

- Significant scope to reduce Division Costs and Commission Costs
- Cancellation rates improve through branch sales

## The Trust

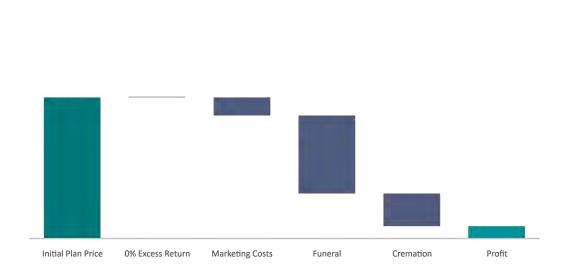
Trust to become important lever of value creation

- Trust solvency becomes a competitive advantage for Funeral Plans division
- Change of Trust Investment Manager
  - Previous strategy did not keep up with funeral cost inflation
  - c.£1bn of Trust assets with average duration c.10+ years. Small improvements to investment returns are incredibly valuable to the equity
- Target +3% returns over and above funeral cost inflation (£30m on £1bn of Assets)
- Trust surplus to become meaningful lever of value creation

## The Trust

Small gains in investment performance translate to a big increase in profit

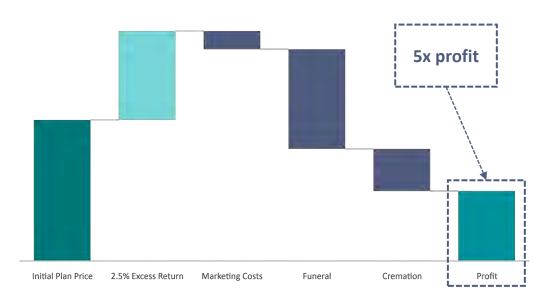
## **Current Investment Strategy**



Net investment performance = inflation

Minimal profit generation

### **Indicative Returns Over 10 Years**



Net investment performance = 2x inflation at 5%

2x investment performance translates to 5x profit

03

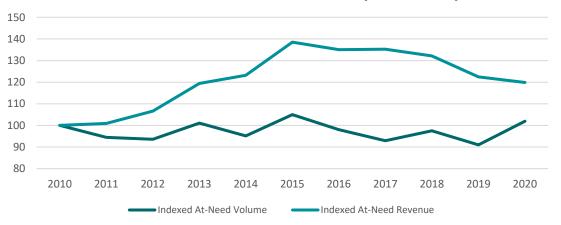
# AT-NEED FUNERALS

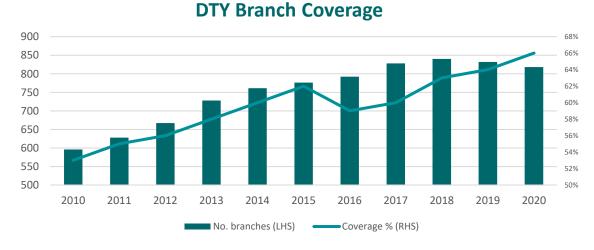
DIGNITY

# At-Need Funeral Challenge

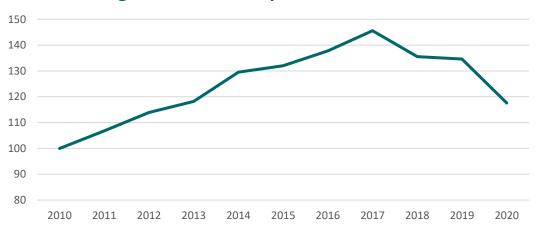
Per branch volume and revenue are in continual decline (excl. pandemic)

## At-Need Indexed Performance (2010=100)

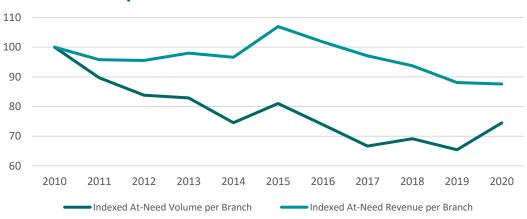




### **Average At-Need Price per Funeral Indexed**



### **DTY per Branch Indexed Performance**



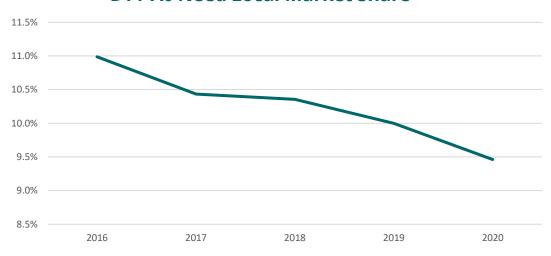
**Source:** Dignity management accounts, Dignity reporting database

Note: Coverage (%) refers to the portion of the country covered by Dignity branches. All data refers to controllable at-need volume and revenue, which excludes Pre-Need, Contract, Child and Simplicity business

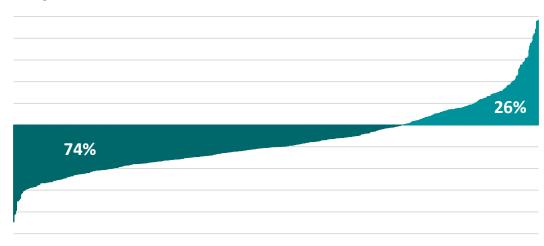
# At-Need Funeral Challenge

This has resulted in declining market share

### **DTY At-Need Local Market Share**



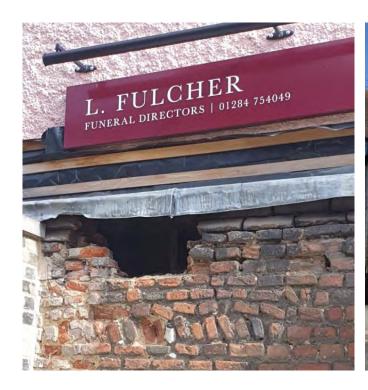
## **Proportion of Branches that Gained Local Share L5 Yrs.**



- Dignity bought volume through acquisition
- Price increases were not matched by service improvements
- Branches underinvested / staff unempowered
- Low barriers to entry meant competitive intensity increased
- Per branch performance suffered and we continue to lose market share at the local level

## Underinvestment in the Estate

Estimated underinvestment in range of £50-£75m







# Levers to Regain At-Need Market Share

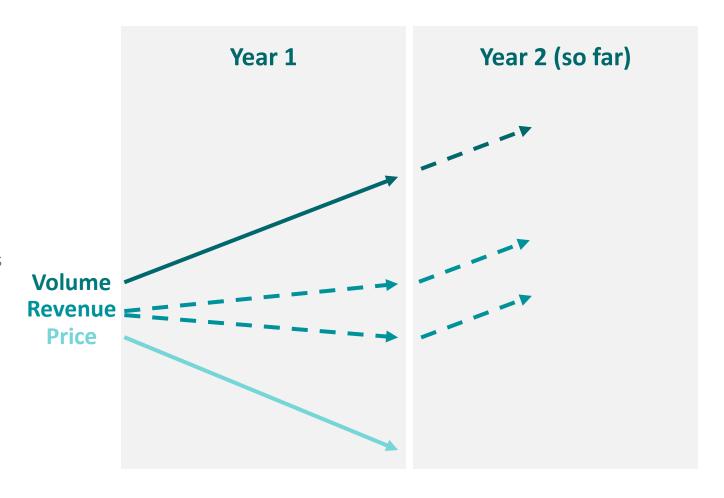
Price alone is enough to generate significant volume growth

Investment Address underinvestment in branches Autonomy of decision making in branch Empowerment Act like owners – do what is necessary to best serve clients Price competitively across the estate Price Offer more choice, flexibility and innovation Local brands Invest in and build our strong local brands

## Price – Low Price Trials

Low price trials demonstrate volume is highly sensitive to price

- Trials began on 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020
- Conducted so far across c.70 branches, with another c.50 soon to go live
- Trials across: price, proposition, empowerment, branding
- Large volume increases in all instances
- Range of outcomes includes both revenue declines and increases
- Impact appears enduring with volume continuing to grow in year 2
- Excellent marginal returns due to fixed cost base and current low capacity utilisation
- COVID noise means we continue to trial



# Investment in the Estate

Commitment to restore pride to the Dignity estate







## Funeral Directors - The Vision

We aspire to 20% share in 10 years (pre/at-need funerals)

- Become the UK's leading chain of Funeral Directors
- Leader in both Service and Price
- Offer an unbundled service providing more choice to clients
- Local brands with local leadership, embedded in the community and supported by a national infrastructure and central functions
- Empowered branch colleagues delivering outstanding customer service
- Offering a full end of life service including funeral plans, burial plots, memorials, etc.

# **At-Need Funerals**

How to judge at-need performance in the future

1 Local Market Share

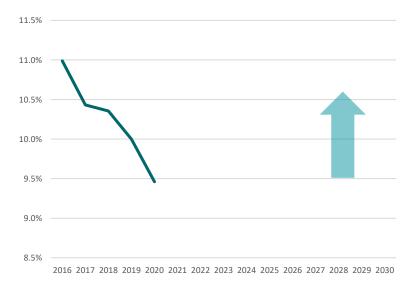


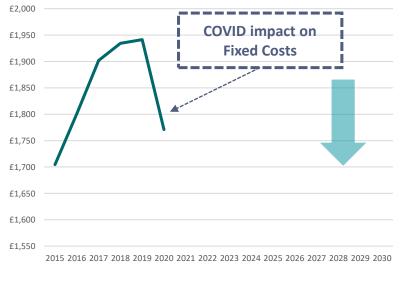
2 Cost to Deliver a Funeral

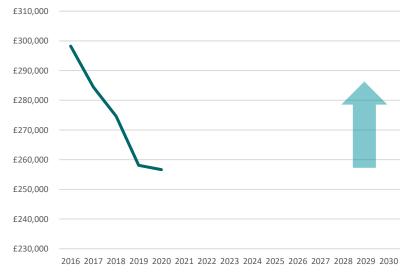


Contribution per Branch









04

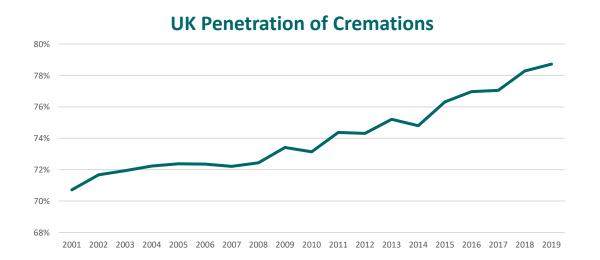
# CREMATORIA

DIGNITY

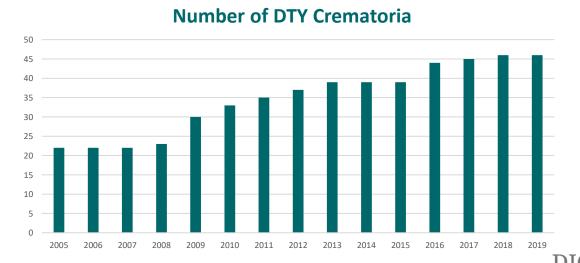
# Crematoria Challenge

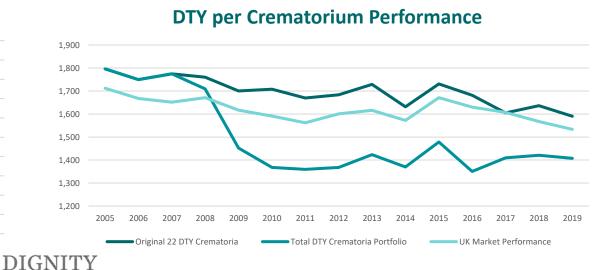
Whilst Dignity's total volume has grown, volume per crematorium has declined

PLC









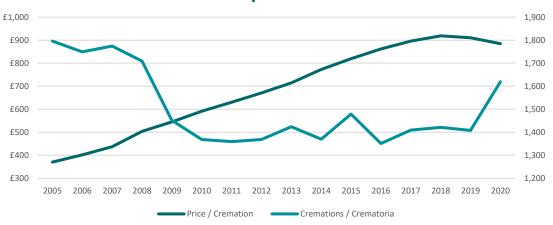
# Crematoria Challenge

Yield has increased but it's been driven purely by price

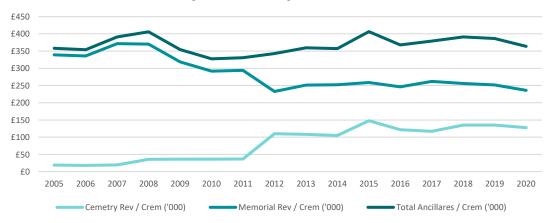
## **DTY Yield (£k) per Crematoria**



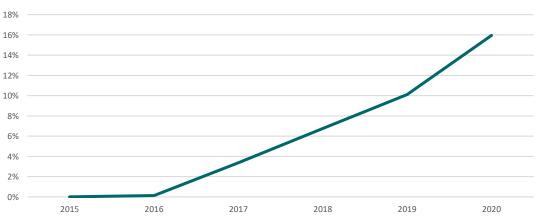
### **DTY Price per Cremation**



## **Ancillary Revenue per Crematorium**



### **Direct Cremations as Portion of DTY Cremations**



# Crematoria Opportunity

Increase both volume and yield per crematoria

- Crematoria have highest operational leverage of all divisions
  - Marginal cost of performing extra cremation is very low
  - Currently running way below capacity
- Direct Cremation separates celebration of life from cremation which removes the geographic constraint on available capacity
- Creates opportunity for DTY, as the only owner of a national network of crematoria and the infrastructure to transport and store the deceased all over the country
- Local authority main competitor, typically invest less in client experience
- Opportunity to work more closely with Funeral Directors to increase penetration of ancillary sales (e.g. memorials)

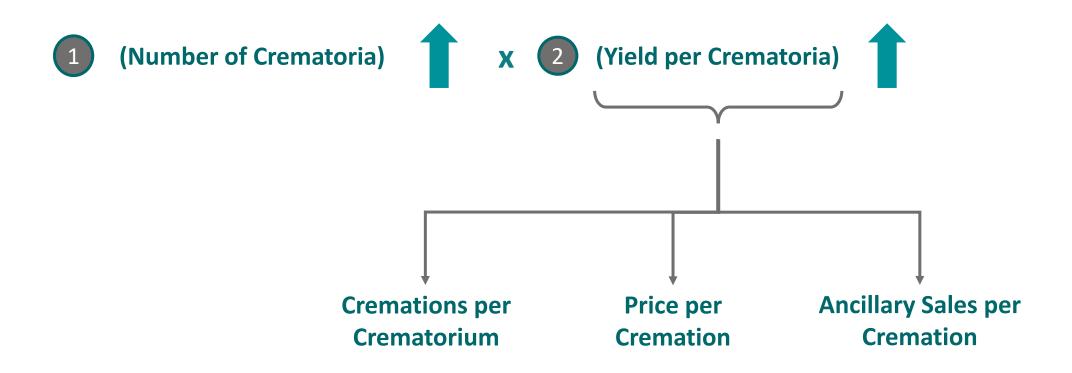
# Crematoria Future Strategy

Increase both volume and yield per crematoria

- Dignity crematoria to serve the local community
- Service and proposition leaders through well invested, high quality crematoria with onsite tertiary services available
- Embrace direct cremations and become price leaders for location agnostic value segment of market
- Continue to build out pipeline of crematoria
- Build additional capacity onto existing facilities (service chapels)
- Business plan created for each of the 46 crematoria
  - Increase throughput
  - Improve penetration of ancillary sales (memorials / catering)
  - Property opportunities

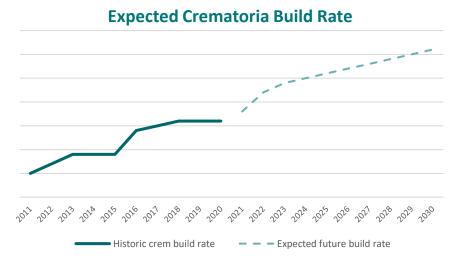
## Crematoria

How to judge this division in the future



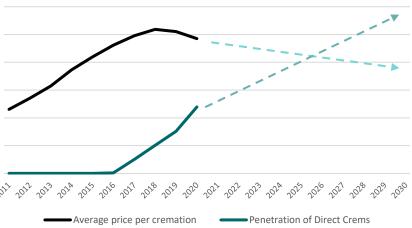
# Crematoria Strategy

We have a pipeline of crematoria planned for the next 10 years



- Planning permission for 6 crematoria
- Expect to build another ten over following decade
- 6 new builds should generate c.£6-8m EBITDA at maturity
- After the prolonged exercise to gain permission we have the capability to build assets with an attractive return on capital



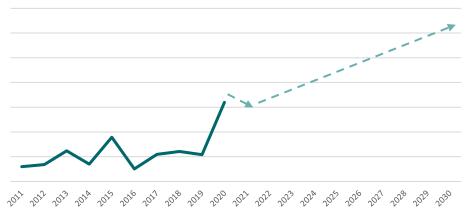


 Price likely to trend down as penetration of Direct Cremations increases

# Crematoria Strategy

Improve yield by increasing throughput and growing ancillary sales

## **Expected Throughput per Crematoria**



- Increase throughput per crematoria
  - Embrace direct cremations / price leadership
  - Use our service chapels to increase capacity at peak hours

## **Expected Ancillary Revenue per Crematoria**



- Grow ancillary revenue per crematoria
  - Grow memorial and cemetery plot sales
  - Introduce catering and café revenue where appropriate

# Sustainability

Bold vision for Dignity to achieve negative carbon impact

- Dignity ranked Top 200 in FT/Statista's <u>Europe's Climate Leaders 2021</u> report (27% reduction in core emissions since 2014-19)
- Flue Gas Treatment (reduce heavy metals and acid content of gasses). 25 sites fitted so far
- Increase Bio-gas usage from current 10%. Aiming for 100%
- NOx abatement fitted on all sites
- Testing burner 'Pilot Gas' upgrades
- Energy reclamation reclaimed heat from water cooling system. Heat exchangers already fitted at each site
- Goal for new build crematoria is to be Carbon Neutral
- With heat reclamation Dignity could achieve a negative carbon impact

## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES



## Property & Manufacturing

Two new profit centres for Dignity

#### **Dignity Property**

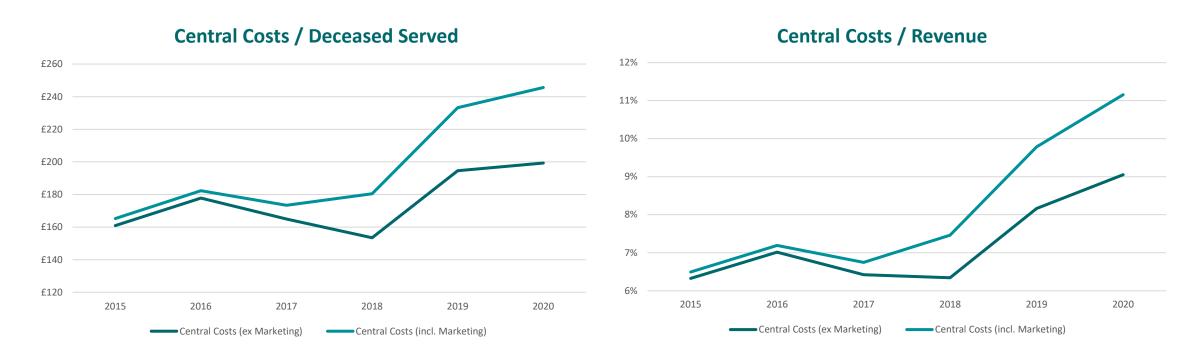
- c.400 freehold properties in the estate
- c.300 residential properties of which c.40% are currently vacant
- Working on attaining valuation for the estate
- Sizeable opportunities for: rental, planning gain, sale of assets

#### **Dignity Manufacturing**

- Dignity's Yorkshire manufacturing facility produces over 60k coffins per year
- Lean manufacturing
- Capacity to build 120k per year
- Opportunity to become the low-cost producer and service our peers

## Significant Opportunity to Improve Efficiency

Central costs have ballooned since Transformation Program



- Significant inefficiency in the business (e.g. 3x call centres / fleet at 30% utilisation)
- Substantial scope to reengineer the business to a leaner cost base

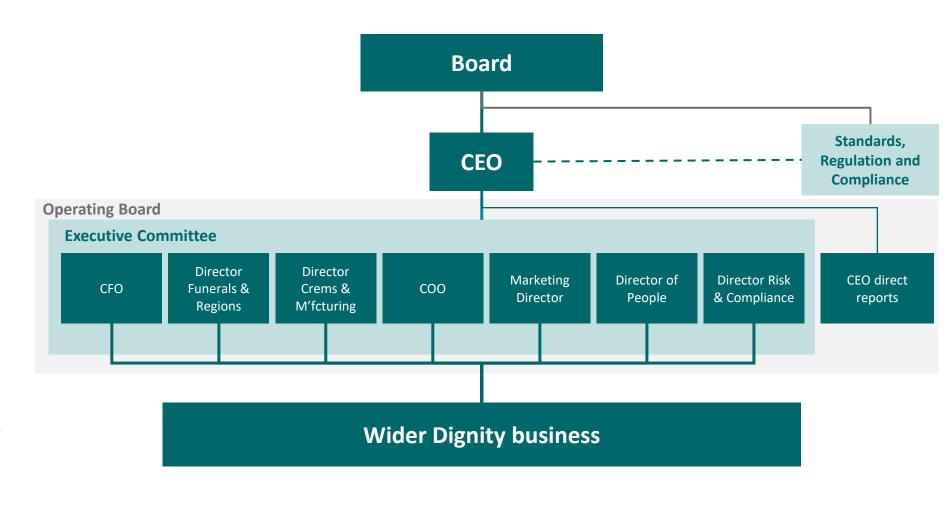
#### ORGANISATION & CULTURE

DIGNITY

#### New Organisational Structure

We are restructuring the company to be more open and dynamic

- Leaner, flatter structure with more empowerment
- Executive Committee runs the business
- COO (Kate Davidson) new hire
- Operating Board covers entire DTY business
- Director of People added to Executive Committee emphasising importance of cultural shift
- Standards, Regs & Compliance, new division, with elevated priority



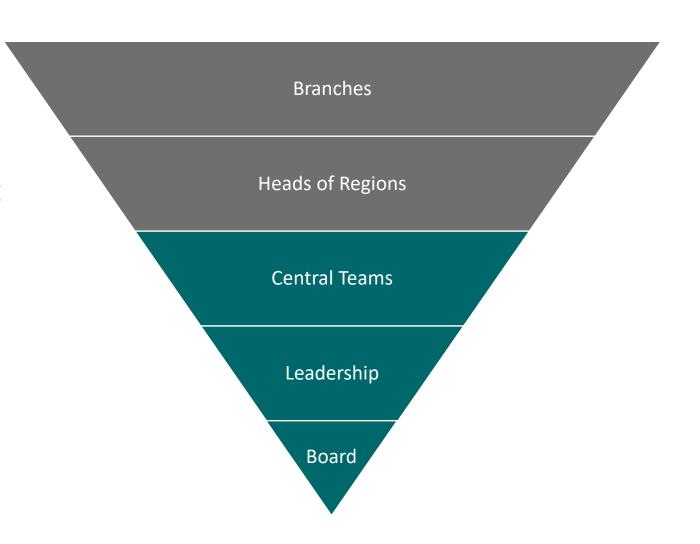
#### **Cultural Transformation**

Invert the organisational pyramid to best serve the client

Empowered locally

Less bureaucracy / faster decision making

- Engaged in community
- Head office a support function
- DTY principles to be built from within



### Standards, Regulation & Compliance

Dignity to become the benchmark for industry standards

Separate body reporting directly to the Board **Dignity Standards** Dignity Standards will be codified, trained and tested We will offer a Standards Network for our peers to join Lower the cost of dying in UK and increase options for clients **CMA** We will commission an annual report on the cost of dying DTY Funerals applying for FCA authorisation for Funeral Plans **FCA** Embrace Funeral Plan regulation Redesign Health & Safety Standards Health & Safety Monitor and report on these Standards

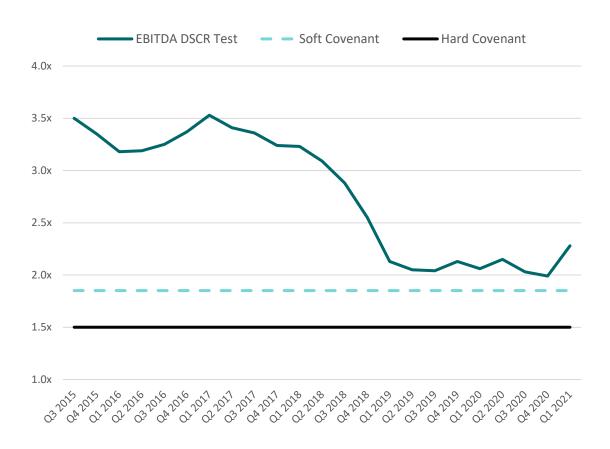
#### CAPITAL STRUCTURE

DIGNITY

### Capital Structure

Capital structure must not impede long term shareholder value

- DTY has sufficient cash and profitability to complete successful turnaround
- However, must manage future uncertainty:
  - New price competitive strategy risks short term profit decline
  - Likely to see lower death rate post-COVID 19
- Dignity must remain vertically integrated
- Exploring several solutions with investment banks



## Unlocking Value in the Crematoria Division

Valuable asset, attractive to many investors

- Crematoria division attractive asset for infrastructure investors
- Private placement of a portion of crematoria division
- List a portion of crematoria division
  - Shines light on undervaluation of wider DTY business
  - Operational improvements will drive valuation increase over time

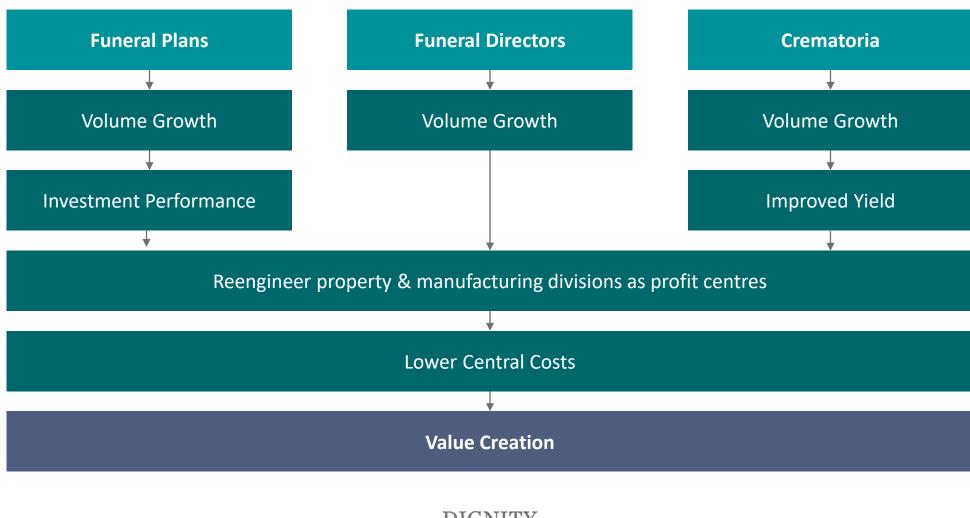


#### VALUE CREATION

DIGNITY

#### Levers of Value Creation

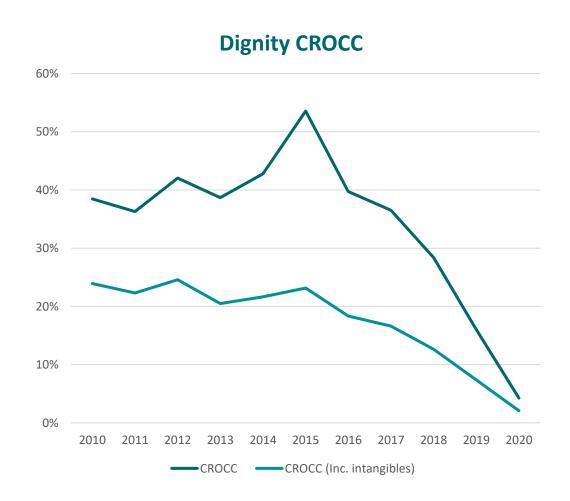
Significant opportunity for value creation in the business



### Cash Return on Core Capital (CROCC)

The primary KPI that guides all capital allocation decisions

- Ultimate generator of value over time is the allocation of capital at attractive rates
- All capital allocation decisions will aim to optimise Cash Return on Core Capital
  - Return = Cash return to business after paying necessary CAPEX,
     Tax and other routine expenditures. Includes excess return from Float
  - **Core Capital** = Tangible capital required to operate the business
- We expect excess return from the float to be a meaningful contributor to future returns
- We will continue to report our CROCC to investors



#### What this could create in c.10 years time

Below are a few potential scenarios

	То	Modest	Good	Great
% Share of Funerals	12%	17%	19%	21%
# Crematoria	46	<b>54</b>	58	60
% Share of Cremations	14%	19%	27%	29%
Ancillaries / Crematoria	£0.45m	£0.75m	£1.30m	£1.80m
<b>Active Plans</b>	320k	625k	<b>710</b> k	880k
Investment outperformance	0%	3%	3.5%	5%
<b>Operating Profit</b>	£15.9m	£116m	£221m	£290m
Annual Surplus Generation	0	£70m	£95m	£175m

The information, modelling assumptions and scenario outcomes shown above are for illustrative purposes only and based on hypothetical assumptions that may prove to be incorrect. No scenario shown above is intended to predict actual results, which may differ substantially from those reflected in the information, nor is it intended to be a complete analysis of every material fact. The scenarios shown above are based on certain assumptions with respect to significant factors that might not reflect what actually might happen. The failure of any assumptions stated herein to materialize will have a negative impact on the outcome of the scenario. Actual results will differ and may differ substantially from that shown herein. In respect of all statements by their nature consist of risks and uncertainties, as they pertain to events and depend on circumstances that may or may not occur in the future. Nothing in this presentation is, or is intended as, a profit forecast or estimate for any period.

#### What this could mean for intrinsic value

A range of possible outcomes

Discount Rate	Modest	Good	Great
5%	£58.0	£110.5	£176.0
7.5%	£31.5	£62.5	£102.0
10%	£19.3	£40.0	£66.0

Note: IV calculations include impact of post-tax surplus generation

# THANK YOU

4 King Edwards Court
King Edward Square
Sutton Coldfield
B73 6AP

t +44 (0)121 354 1557 e info@dignityuk.co.uk

