

Sustained private label momentum

20 January 2026

McBride's H126 trading update confirms that demand for private label cleaning products remains at high levels, with volume growth of 0.4% and total sales growth of 0.8%. Moreover, McBride continues to win new contracts leading to management's confidence in achieving FY26E expectations of Adj. EBIT of c.£64m, being the third year of c.£65m Adj. EBIT. Having announced a £20m share buyback last November we raise our Adj. EPS forecasts by 7%-8%. Yet despite rallying c.30% since November the stock is still trading on only 5.7x cal 2026 PER and we see scope for a significant rerating towards our 235p Fair Value (equivalent to a 6.6% cal 26 FCF yield). For more detail on why the group's low valuation is an anomaly among the consumer sector please see our recent initiation "[McBride: Proudly, profitably, private label](#)".

H126 revenue +0.8% as private label volumes continue to edge up

High levels of private label penetration were sustained across Europe's largest markets in McBride's H126 and despite some pressure on average selling prices, profitability has been sustained through product engineering and excellent cost control and service. H126 Adj. EBIT is anticipated to be just slightly behind the strong £32m achieved in H125, and with new contract wins across divisions underpinning the positive outlook for H226 (and beyond), management is confident in meeting consensus expectations for FY26E of c.£64m Adj. EBIT.

High 30%+ ROCE at odds with low valuation; Fair Value 235p per share

As a result of the group's improved profitability, ROCE has sustained a jump to 32%-33% and net debt is only 1.4x EBITDA. Dividends were reinstated in FY25, and the company has announced a £20m share buy-back for FY26E. Yet despite the recent rally, McBride is still trading on only c.5.7x cal 26 PER, significantly below the rest of the consumer sector.

| Key financials & valuation metrics | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Year to 30 June (£m) | 2024 | 2025 | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
| Revenue | 934.8 | 926.5 | 928.7 | 941.7 | 961.3 |
| Revenue growth (%) | 5.2 | -0.9 | 0.2 | 1.4 | 2.1 |
| Adj. EBITDA | 87.1 | 85.8 | 87.0 | 89.3 | 90.9 |
| Adj. EBIT | 67.1 | 66.1 | 66.6 | 68.2 | 69.1 |
| Adj. PBT | 53.1 | 54.9 | 56.6 | 58.2 | 59.8 |
| Adj. PBT margin (%) | 5.7 | 5.9 | 6.1 | 6.2 | 6.2 |
| Adj. diluted EPS (p) | 21.7 | 21.1 | 25.0 | 25.7 | 26.4 |
| Dividend per share (p) | 0.0 | 3.0 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 3.8 |
| Adj. operating free cashflow | 81.7 | 93.9 | 82.9 | 85.0 | 86.6 |
| Free cashflow | 36.3 | 28.9 | 23.8 | 24.7 | 26.1 |
| Net cash / (debt) /Adj. EBITDA (x) | (1.5) | (1.2) | (1.3) | (1.1) | (0.9) |
| EV / Sales (x, calendarised) | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | | |
| PER (x, calendarised) | 6.2 | 5.7 | 5.5 | | |
| Dividend yield (%, calendarised) | 2.3 | 2.5 | 2.6 | | |
| Free cashflow yield (%, calendarised) | 10.3 | 9.4 | 9.9 | | |

Source: Company data, Equity Development, Priced as at 19 January 2026

| Company data | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| EPIC | MCB |
| Price (last close) | 143.8p |
| 52 weeks Hi/Lo | 161p/106p |
| Market cap | £254m |
| ED Fair Value / share | 235p |
| Net cash / (debt) 2026E | £(114m) |
| Avg. daily volume (3m) | 473k |



Description
McBride plc ("McBride") is the European market leader in private label household cleaning products. It manufactures from 14 factories, 12 across Europe and one each in Malaysia and Vietnam and supplies 90% of the top 50 European grocery retailers, generating £927m revenues in FY25.

Next event
1H26 results 24 February 2026

Caroline Gulliver (Analyst)
0207 065 2690
caroline.gulliver@equitydevelopment.co.uk

Andy Edmond
0207 065 2691
andy@equitydevelopment.co.uk

McBride: Overview of investment attractions

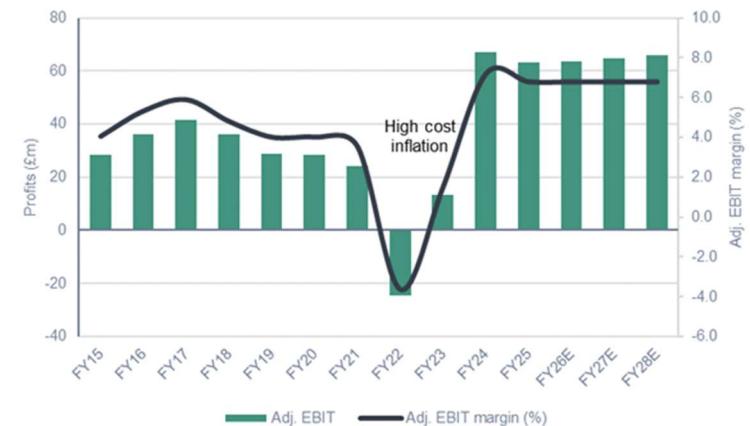
| Investment Highlights | Risk Factors |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> McBride is the European market leader in private label household cleaning products with a c.30% market share, c. 2x its nearest competitor. The company is proud of its reputation for expertly making everyday value cleaning products. The group has recovered from unprecedented high-cost inflation in 2022 and grown revenues to over £900m and adj. operating profits to over £65m in both FY24 and FY25 (a c.7% operating margin). Private-label penetration of the European market has stabilised at c.35% of volumes but there are growth opportunities for McBride from product innovation, winning new contracts and building share in certain product markets (e.g. Laundry) and geographies (e.g. Germany and Spain). McBride has a strong focus on sustainability and innovation to reduce carbon and non-recyclable packaging. As such, McBride is the only major private label players signed up to science-based targets ("SBT"). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rapid high-cost inflation, though having been through this in 2022 and introduced input cost hedges and quarterly pricing reviews there would be less of a time lag between passing cost inflation on in prices now. Irrational competitive pricing behaviour, from either branded producers or smaller private label producers. Loss of a major contract with a large supermarket chain (though McBride has over 150 customers and the top 10 customers account for only 53% of revenues). Supply chain disruption, leading to a drop in customer service levels ("CSL") though having 14 factories across Europe and Asia diversifies this risk. Technology disruption, though the roll out of the latest ERP software is progressing to plan. Brand reputation risk, for product health or sustainability issues or other reasons. |
| <p>Forecast Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group's tailored divisional strategies and investment plans underpin our group revenue growth of 1%-2% FY26E-FY28E which is a mix of volume growth and price investment/product mix. Management's aim is 2% revenue growth p/a. Management's Transformation and Excellence programme to save £50m over 5 years, leading to annualised £17m cost savings, is back-end weighted to FY27E/FY28E. We forecast this will offset cost headwinds and lead to a stable 7.2% operating margin FY26E-FY28E. Each £1m of cost savings retained could boost operating profit by c.1.5%. We forecast almost 100% conversion of Adj. EBITDA to adj. operating free cashflow of c.£85m (FY26E-FY28E). This funds capex of c.£30m, the reinstated dividend, a £20m share buy-back and a further fall in net debt to < 1x Adj. EBITDA in FY28E (pre acquisitions and any further buybacks). | <p>Valuation Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> McBride is trading on only 0.4x EV/Revenues, 4x EV / Adj. EBITDA and c.5.7x Adj. PER and offers a c.9.5% FCF yield (our forecasts, all Calendar 2026E – "cal 2026E") despite offering a high ROCE. This is very low end of McBride's historic trading range (average PER 13.6x for 2019-2024 excluding 2021/2022 losses) and is significantly lower than other consumer stocks. We expect McBride to rerate as investor confidence in maintaining existing profitability grows. As McBride has no direct comparable companies we take a wide basket of 16 consumer stocks, split into three groups, and conclude McBride's fair value should at least equate to 6x EV/EBITDA and a 6% FCF yield (cal 2026). Hence, we reiterate our Fair Value of 235p per share. |

A profitable and cashflow generative market leader in private label household cleaning

Over 9% Adj. EBITDA margin driving cashflow

- McBride's robust business model, generating revenues of c.£700m and adj. operating profits of c.£24m-£42m FY15-FY21, faltered in 2022 as high cost-inflation led to temporary operating losses.
- However, from that difficult period has grown a bigger, more profitable business with revenues of over £900m and adj. operating profits of over £65m in FY24 and FY25 (and on track for c.£64m in FY26E).
- The company's "Compass" strategy for each of its five divisions and its Transformation and Excellence cost saving plans, backed by investment in technology and data, have already yielded results, with more to come.
- We forecast c.100% conversion from Adj. EBITDA to adj. operating cashflow of over £80m p/a (FY26E-FY28E) allowing for c.£30m capex investment p/a, the return of dividends, and share buy-backs or net debt reductions.

A new level of c.£65m Adj. operating profit



Source: Company data, Equity Development

Tailored divisional strategies driving higher profit margins



Source: Company data, Equity Development

Very high conversion of profits to cash



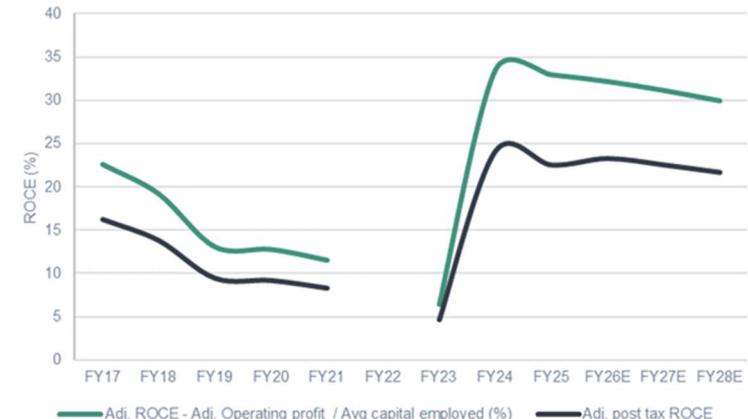
Source: Company data, Equity Development

A high-returning and undervalued business

Trading significantly below our 235p fair value

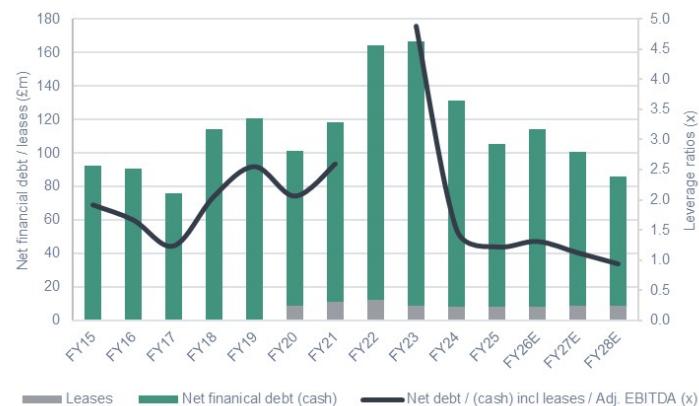
- With the recovery in profits, alongside strategic investment in facilities and technology, has come a step change in return on capital employed ("ROCE") to c.32%-33% (adj. operating profits / adj. capital employed) in FY24 and FY25, above management's internal target of 25%.
- Adj. return on equity ("ROE") is also very high (at 40% in FY24 and 32% in FY25), coming down because equity has risen as net debt has fallen significantly – to only 1.2x Adj. EBITDA in FY25.
- Yet despite improving profitability, deleveraging, reinstating a dividend and announcing a £20m share buy-back, McBride only trades on 0.4x cal 2026 EV/Revenues and c.5.7x cal 2026 PER.
- Our Fair Value of 235p per share equates to 0.6x EV/Revenues, c.6x EV/Adj. EBITDA, c.9x PER and c.6% FCF yield (all cal 2026).

Adj. ROCE has leapt to over 30%, above 25% target



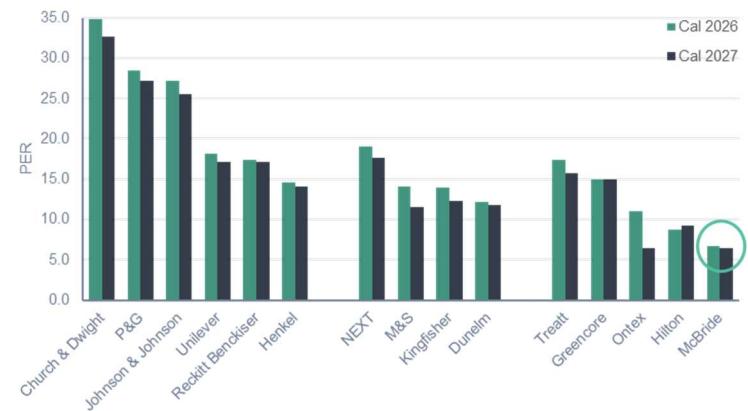
FY22 was loss-making; Source: Company data, Equity Development

Net debt / Adj. EBITDA only 1.3x and forecast to fall further



Source: Company data, Equity Development

Undervalued versus a wide range of consumer stocks



Source: Koyfin for consensus estimates, Equity Development

Management confident in meeting FY26E profit expectations of c.£64m EBIT

- H126 Adj. EBIT is expected to be slightly behind the strong £32m achieved in H125 (a 6.8% margin). However, with new business wins underpinning the outlook for H226, management is confident in sustaining a third year of Adj. EBIT around £65m.
- Given management's confidence in H226E and meeting FY26E expectations, we make no changes to our revenue or EBIT forecasts at this stage. We do factor in the £20m share buy back and c.£5m of EBT share purchases which raises Adj. diluted EPS by 7%-8% and net debt (including leases) to c.£115m for FY26E.
- We do not at this stage forecast further share buy-backs (beyond those for the EBT) from FY27E, though we note the substantial free cashflow of c.£25m p/a, and relatively low levels of net debt (1.3x FY26E) would potentially allow for greater shareholder returns.

| Upgrades to group Adj. EPS forecasts on £20m share buy-back, announced in November | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------|--------|---------------|--------|--------|----------|-------|-------|
| Year-end 30 Jun (£m) | New forecasts | | | Old forecasts | | | % change | | |
| | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E | 2025E | 2026E | 2027E |
| Group Revenue | 928.7 | 941.7 | 961.3 | 928.7 | 941.7 | 961.3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Revenue growth (%) | 0.2 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 0.2 | 1.4 | 2.1 | | | |
| Adj. PBT | 56.6 | 58.2 | 59.8 | 56.6 | 58.8 | 60.5 | 0 | -1 | -1 |
| Adj. PBT margin (%) | 6.1 | 6.2 | 6.2 | 6.1 | 6.2 | 6.3 | | | |
| Adjusted diluted EPS (p) | 25.0 | 25.7 | 26.4 | 23.1 | 24.0 | 24.7 | 8 | 7 | 7 |
| Adj. EPS growth (%) | 18.5 | 2.9 | 2.7 | 9.6 | 4.0 | 2.8 | | | |
| DPS (p) | 3.6 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.5 | | | |
| Capex | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Free cashflow | 23.8 | 24.7 | 26.1 | 23.8 | 25.1 | 26.6 | 0 | -2 | -2 |
| Net financial cash / (debt) | (106.0) | (92.2) | (77.1) | (81.4) | (64.6) | (46.4) | 30 | 43 | 66 |
| Total net cash / (debt) incl leases | (114.4) | (100.7) | (85.7) | (89.8) | (73.0) | (55.0) | 27 | 38 | 56 |
| Net financial cash / (debt) / Adj. EBITDA (x) | (1.2) | (1.0) | (0.8) | (0.9) | (0.7) | (0.5) | | | |
| Total net cash / (debt) / Adj. EBITDA (x) | (1.3) | (1.1) | (0.9) | (1.0) | (0.8) | (0.6) | | | |

Source: Company data, Equity Development

Financial Forecast tables

| Divisional revenue analysis | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Year-end 30 June (£m) | 2021A | 2022A | 2023A | 2024A | 2025A | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
| Liquids | 376.1 | 383.9 | 497.9 | 532.8 | 529.6 | 529.6 | 534.9 | 545.6 |
| Unit dosing | 181.5 | 171.5 | 234.2 | 233.6 | 228.9 | 228.9 | 231.2 | 233.5 |
| Powders | 66.3 | 68.6 | 85.9 | 92.8 | 85.5 | 81.2 | 78.0 | 76.4 |
| Aerosols | 34.0 | 31.9 | 46.2 | 50.9 | 58.9 | 66.6 | 74.5 | 82.0 |
| Asia Pacific | 24.4 | 22.4 | 24.8 | 24.7 | 23.6 | 22.4 | 23.1 | 23.8 |
| Total revenue | 682.3 | 678.3 | 889.0 | 934.8 | 926.5 | 928.7 | 941.7 | 961.3 |
| Group revenue growth (%) | (3.4) | (0.6) | 31.1 | 5.2 | (0.9) | 0.2 | 1.4 | 2.1 |
| Group FX impact (%) | 0.6 | (3.5) | 2.7 | (1.0) | (1.6) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Liquids | (2.5) | 5.6 | 27.3 | 7.7 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 |
| Unit dosing | (1.8) | (1.9) | 33.9 | 0.7 | (0.3) | 0.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Powders | (15.9) | 7.2 | 22.7 | 9.2 | (6.0) | (5.0) | (4.0) | (2.0) |
| Aerosols | (4.2) | (2.1) | 40.8 | 11.6 | 18.3 | 13.0 | 12.0 | 10.0 |
| Asia Pacific | (5.4) | (6.7) | 6.9 | 8.3 | (5.6) | (5.0) | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| Total revenue growth, ex FX (%) | (4.0) | 2.9 | 28.4 | 6.2 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 1.4 | 2.1 |
| Liquids | | | 5.0 | 6.6 | 3.5 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 4.0 |
| Unit dosing | | | 13.2 | 6.2 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| Powders | | | (9.5) | (3.9) | (4.4) | (3.0) | (2.0) | 0.0 |
| Aerosols | | | | 6.6 | 21.4 | 15.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 |
| Asia Pacific | | | | 9.0 | 6.3 | 0.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| Sales volume growth (%) | | | 5.6 | 5.7 | 4.3 | 2.3 | 3.1 | 3.9 |
| Implied group price/mix effect (%) | | | 22.8 | 0.5 | (3.6) | (2.1) | (1.7) | (1.8) |

Source: Company data, Equity Development

- We forecast the £17m p/a cost saving programme underpins at least a stabilisation of group margin at c. 7%, though management's medium term margin ambitions are higher. At the group's 2024 capital markets event, management set out medium term operating margin targets of: 7%-10% for Liquids; 8%-11% for Unit dosing; 4%-7% for Powders; 7%-10% for Aerosols and 9%-12% for Asia-Pacific. FY26E is the third year of the 5-year cost savings programme with the savings back-end weighted to years 4 / 5 (i.e. FY27E / FY28E). For every £1m of cost saving that is retained to profit, operating profit increases by 1.5%.

| Divisional operating profit analysis | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Year-end 30 June (£m) | 2021A | 2022A | 2023A | 2024A | 2025A | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
| Liquids | 11.7 | (15.9) | 10.5 | 45.6 | 41.0 | 42.1 | 43.0 | 43.9 |
| Unit dosing | 16.7 | (0.8) | 10.0 | 19.4 | 22.5 | 23.0 | 23.9 | 24.1 |
| Powders | (2.3) | (2.5) | (0.7) | 6 | 6.8 | 6.1 | 5.4 | 4.9 |
| Aerosols | 0.8 | (1.5) | 0.3 | 2.1 | 3.1 | 3.8 | 4.7 | 5.5 |
| Asia Pacific | 1.9 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| Corporate costs | (4.7) | (4.5) | (7.7) | (7.4) | (8.4) | (9.3) | (9.9) | (10.6) |
| Total operating profit | 24.1 | (24.5) | 13.5 | 67.1 | 66.1 | 66.6 | 68.2 | 69.1 |
| Liquids | 3.1 | (4.1) | 2.1 | 8.6 | 7.7 | 7.9 | 8.0 | 8.0 |
| Unit dosing | 9.2 | (0.5) | 4.3 | 8.3 | 9.8 | 10.0 | 10.3 | 10.3 |
| Powders | (3.5) | (3.6) | (0.8) | 6.5 | 8.0 | 7.5 | 7.0 | 6.5 |
| Aerosols | 2.4 | (4.7) | 0.6 | 4.1 | 5.3 | 5.8 | 6.3 | 6.8 |
| Asia Pacific | 7.8 | 3.1 | 4.4 | 5.7 | 4.7 | 4.2 | 4.7 | 5.2 |
| Corporate | (0.7) | (0.7) | (0.9) | (0.8) | (0.9) | (1.0) | (1.1) | (1.1) |
| Total operating profit margin (%) | 3.5 | (3.6) | 1.5 | 7.2 | 7.1 | 7.2 | 7.2 | 7.2 |
| Liquids | | | | 37.8 | 40.5 | | | |
| Unit dosing | | | | 32.8 | 35.4 | | | |
| Powders | | | | 21.5 | 30.0 | | | |
| Aerosols | | | | 17.7 | 23.1 | | | |
| Asia Pacific | | | | 15.9 | 15.1 | | | |
| Adjusted ROCE* | 11.5 | (11.5) | 6.4 | 33.5 | 33.0 | 32.2 | 31.2 | 30.0 |

Note: * Adj. Operating profit / Average capital employed (%); Source: Company data, Equity Development

- We forecast 0%-2% revenue growth FY26E-FY28E comprising 2%-4% volume growth offset by pricing investment/mix of c.2%. Management's ambition is 2% organic revenue growth p/a with medium term volume growth of 4% in Liquids; 3%-4% in Unit dosing; flat volumes in Powders, over 10% volume growth in Aerosols and 8% volume growth in Asia-Pacific.
- We forecast c.1%-2% p/a operating profit growth, with upside if costs savings are not reinvested in the business. We do not anticipate exceptional costs, though some may occur from further transformation activities.
- We forecast 3%-4% p/a Adj. PBT growth from operating profit growth and financial deleveraging. We forecast Adj. EPS growth is c.18.5% in FY26E due to a lower tax rate and the £20m share buy back, and c.3% p/a thereafter.

| Key group growth and margin metrics | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Year-end 30 June | 2021A | 2022A | 2023A | 2024A | 2025A | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
| Revenue growth (%) | (3.4) | (0.6) | 31.1 | 5.2 | (0.9) | 0.2 | 1.4 | 2.1 |
| Gross profit growth (%) | (2.9) | (19.5) | 38.2 | 32.0 | (1.7) | 0.2 | 1.4 | 2.1 |
| Adj. EBITDA growth (%) | (7.3) | n/m | n/m | 155 | (1.5) | 1.4 | 2.7 | 1.8 |
| Adj. Operating profit (%) | (14.8) | n/m | n/m | 397 | (1.5) | 0.7 | 2.4 | 1.4 |
| Adj. PBT growth (%) | (17.8) | n/m | n/m | n/m | 3.4 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 2.8 |
| Adj. EPS growth (%) | 23.0 | n/m | n/m | n/m | (2.7) | 18.5 | 2.9 | 2.7 |
| DPS growth (%) | | | | | | 18.5 | 2.9 | 2.7 |
| Gross profit margin (%) | 34.7 | 28.1 | 29.7 | 37.2 | 36.9 | 36.9 | 36.9 | 36.9 |
| Adj. EBITDA margin (%) | 6.7 | (0.5) | 3.8 | 9.3 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.5 |
| Adj. Operating margin (%) | 3.5 | (3.6) | 1.5 | 7.2 | 7.1 | 7.2 | 7.2 | 7.2 |
| Adj. PBT margin (%) | 2.9 | (4.4) | 0.0 | 5.7 | 5.9 | 6.1 | 6.2 | 6.2 |
| Distribution costs / revenues (%) | 8.2 | 9.5 | 8.8 | 8.7 | 9.2 | 9.2 | 9.2 | 9.2 |
| Administrative costs / revenues (%) | 23.0 | 21.9 | 18.9 | 21.0 | 20.6 | 20.5 | 20.5 | 20.5 |
| Op costs incl D&A / revenues (%) | 32.5 | 32.1 | 28.5 | 30.3 | 30.2 | 29.8 | 29.7 | 29.7 |
| D&A / revenues (%) | 3.1 | 3.1 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.3 |
| Op costs excl D&A / revenues (%) | 28.1 | 28.7 | 25.8 | 27.9 | 27.7 | 27.6 | 27.4 | 27.5 |
| Tax rate (adj.) (%) | -5.5 | 31.4 | n/m | 27.9 | 31.5 | 27.5 | 27.5 | 27.5 |

Source: Company data, Equity Development

- We forecast Group Adj. PBT rising to c.£60m by FY28E, a CAGR of 3%, and Adj. EPS rising to 26.4p in FY28E, a CAGR of 8%.

| Income statement | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Year-end 30 June (£m) | 2021A | 2022A | 2023A | 2024A | 2025A | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
| Group revenue | 682.3 | 678.3 | 889.0 | 934.8 | 926.5 | 928.7 | 941.7 | 961.3 |
| Cost of sales | (445.3) | (487.5) | (625.4) | (586.9) | (584.4) | (585.8) | (594.0) | (606.3) |
| Gross profit | 237.0 | 190.8 | 263.6 | 347.9 | 342.1 | 342.9 | 347.7 | 354.9 |
| Distribution costs | (56.0) | (64.3) | (77.9) | (81.3) | (85.5) | (85.7) | (86.9) | (88.7) |
| Administrative costs | (156.6) | (148.8) | (168.4) | (196.3) | (190.5) | (190.7) | (192.6) | (197.1) |
| Impairment losses / losses on PPE disposal | (0.3) | (2.2) | (3.8) | (3.2) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Add back: D&A | 21.4 | 20.9 | 20.6 | 20.0 | 19.7 | 20.4 | 21.1 | 21.8 |
| Operating costs, Adj. ex D&A | (191.5) | (194.4) | (229.5) | (260.8) | (256.3) | (255.9) | (258.4) | (264.1) |
| Adj. EBITDA | 45.5 | (3.6) | 34.1 | 87.1 | 85.8 | 87.0 | 89.3 | 90.9 |
| Depreciation & amortisation | (21.4) | (20.9) | (20.6) | (20.0) | (19.7) | (20.4) | (21.2) | (21.8) |
| Adj. Operating profit | 24.1 | (24.5) | 13.5 | 67.1 | 66.1 | 66.6 | 68.2 | 69.1 |
| Finance costs | (4.2) | (5.1) | (13.2) | (14.0) | (11.2) | (10.0) | (9.9) | (9.3) |
| Adj. PBT | 19.9 | (29.6) | 0.3 | 53.1 | 54.9 | 56.6 | 58.2 | 59.8 |
| Amortisation of acquired intangible assets | (2.4) | (2.6) | (2.4) | (2.0) | (1.9) | (1.9) | (1.9) | (1.9) |
| Impairment losses / losses on PPE disposal | | 2.8 | | | | | | |
| Exceptional operating costs | (6.2) | (2.4) | (0.8) | (0.8) | (4.0) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Exceptional finance costs | | (3.5) | (12.2) | (3.8) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| PBT | 11.3 | (35.3) | (15.1) | 46.5 | 49.0 | 54.7 | 56.3 | 57.9 |
| Tax | 2.7 | 11.3 | 3.6 | (13.2) | (15.8) | (15.6) | (16.0) | (16.4) |
| Adj. PAT | 21.0 | (20.3) | (0.0) | 38.3 | 37.6 | 41.0 | 42.2 | 43.4 |
| Reported PAT | 14.0 | (24.0) | (11.5) | 33.3 | 33.2 | 39.1 | 40.3 | 41.5 |
| No of f/d shares (m) | 179.4 | 174.0 | 174.1 | 176.9 | 178.5 | 164.4 | 164.4 | 164.4 |
| Adjusted diluted EPS (p) | 11.7 | -11.7 | 0.0 | 21.7 | 21.1 | 25.0 | 25.7 | 26.4 |
| DPS (p) | | | | | 3.0 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 3.8 |

Source: Company data, Equity Development

- We forecast a minimal net working capital outflow but a £5.7m contribution to the pension scheme to reduce the deficit, as announced.
- After capex of c.£30m, dividend payments of c.£5m-£6m and c.£5m+ on share buybacks for the employee benefit trust ("EBT") we forecast £14m-£15m of net cashflow p/a from FY27E, to reduce net debt or fund acquisitions, or further shareholder returns (after the anticipated £20m buy-back in FY26E).

| Cashflow statement | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Year-end 30 June (£m) | 2021A | 2022A | 2023A | 2024A | 2025A | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
| Adj. EBITDA, pre SBP | 45.5 | (3.6) | 34.1 | 87.1 | 85.8 | 87.0 | 89.3 | 90.9 |
| Add back: Share based payments charge | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.1 |
| Change in inventories | (0.4) | (25.7) | (2.7) | 0.6 | (2.4) | (0.3) | (1.7) | (2.6) |
| Change in trade receivables* | 13.2 | (27.4) | (1.3) | (5.2) | 9.9 | (0.3) | (2.0) | (2.9) |
| Change in trade payables* | (22.2) | 37.8 | 11.1 | 0.0 | 6.2 | 0.5 | 3.2 | 4.8 |
| Working capital movement | (9.4) | (15.3) | 7.1 | (4.6) | 13.7 | (0.1) | (0.5) | (0.7) |
| Pension scheme funding | (4.0) | (4.0) | (4.0) | (4.0) | (7.0) | (5.7) | (5.7) | (5.7) |
| Other | 0.7 | | 0.3 | 1.6 | (0.2) | | | |
| Adj. free operating cashflow | 33.1 | (22.9) | 38.0 | 81.7 | 93.9 | 82.9 | 85.0 | 86.6 |
| Net financial interest paid | (2.7) | (2.7) | (11.1) | (10.5) | (7.5) | (9.0) | (9.6) | (9.0) |
| Interest paid on lease liabilities | (0.3) | (0.4) | (0.3) | (0.3) | (0.4) | (0.4) | (0.4) | (0.4) |
| Lease payments (principal) | (4.9) | (5.0) | (4.3) | (4.5) | (4.2) | (4.2) | (4.4) | (4.7) |
| Tax paid | (7.3) | (0.1) | (1.8) | (5.1) | (17.9) | (15.6) | (16.0) | (16.4) |
| Exceptionals (cash) | (8.0) | (4.1) | (1.4) | (1.0) | (3.2) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other incl refinancing costs | 0.0 | (1.8) | (12.3) | (5.5) | (1.8) | | | |
| Capex (net) | (19.8) | (7.8) | (11.6) | (18.5) | (30.0) | (30.0) | (30.0) | (30.0) |
| Free cashflow | (9.9) | (44.8) | (4.8) | 36.3 | 28.9 | 23.8 | 24.7 | 26.1 |
| Dividends | | | | | | (5.4) | (5.8) | (6.0) |
| Share buy backs / equity issues | (9.1) | (0.2) | 0.0 | (2.8) | (2.4) | (27.0) | (5.0) | (5.0) |
| Other (incl. FX) | (1.2) | (0.5) | (0.7) | 0.2 | (0.2) | | | |
| Net cashflow | (20.2) | (45.5) | (5.5) | 33.7 | 26.3 | (8.6) | 13.8 | 15.1 |

Source: Company data, Equity Development

| Net debt metrics | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Year-end 30 June (£m) | 2021A | 2022A | 2023A | 2024A | 2025A | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
| Gross financial debt | (132.0) | (156.9) | (159.1) | (132.4) | (131.1) | (131.7) | (131.7) | (131.7) |
| Net cash | 24.9 | 4.5 | 1.6 | 9.3 | 34.2 | 25.6 | 39.4 | 54.5 |
| Net financial cash / (debt) | (107.1) | (152.4) | (157.5) | (123.1) | (96.9) | (106.0) | (92.2) | (77.1) |
| Leases | (11.3) | (12.0) | (9.0) | (8.4) | (8.3) | (8.4) | (8.5) | (8.6) |
| Total net cash / (debt) incl leases | (118.4) | (164.4) | (166.5) | (131.5) | (105.2) | (114.4) | (100.7) | (85.7) |
| Net financial cash / (debt) / Adj. EBITDA (x) | 2.4 | (42.3) | 4.6 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.8 |
| Total net cash / (debt) / Adj. EBITDA (x) | 2.6 | (45.7) | 4.9 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 0.9 |

Source: Company data, Equity Development

| Balance sheet: Assets | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Year-end 30 June (£m) | 2021A | 2022A | 2023A | 2024A | 2025A | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
| Property, plant and equipment | 129.8 | 122.9 | 117.8 | 114.4 | 120.3 | 123.7 | 126.6 | 129.1 |
| Right of use assets | 10.0 | 11.3 | 8.5 | 8.1 | 7.9 | 8.4 | 8.9 | 9.4 |
| Goodwill | 19.7 | 19.7 | 19.7 | 19.7 | 19.8 | 19.8 | 19.8 | 19.8 |
| Intangible assets | 8.2 | 7.3 | 6.5 | 9.8 | 18.3 | 26.4 | 34.5 | 42.6 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 0.1 | 1.9 | 4.5 | 1.7 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Deferred tax assets & other tax assets | 22.8 | 29.7 | 41.6 | 42.8 | 38.2 | 38.2 | 38.2 | 38.2 |
| Non-current assets | 190.6 | 192.8 | 198.6 | 196.5 | 204.8 | 216.8 | 228.3 | 239.4 |
| Inventories | 92.9 | 118.9 | 121.5 | 119.6 | 123.4 | 123.7 | 125.4 | 128.0 |
| Trade and other receivables | 117.9 | 145.4 | 145.7 | 148.8 | 139.1 | 139.4 | 141.4 | 144.3 |
| Current tax assets | 3.7 | 3.9 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.6 |
| Other financial (derivative) assets | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Cash & cash equivalents | 24.9 | 4.5 | 1.6 | 9.3 | 34.2 | 25.6 | 39.4 | 54.5 |
| Current assets | 241.2 | 273.3 | 271.7 | 280.1 | 300.5 | 292.6 | 310.1 | 330.7 |

Source: Company data, Equity Development

Balance sheet: Liabilities

| Year-end 30 June (£m) | 2021A | 2022A | 2023A | 2024A | 2025A | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bank overdraft & s/t loans | (53.7) | (60.5) | (49.3) | (67.4) | (69.8) | (69.8) | (69.8) | (69.8) |
| Trade payables and other liabilities | (169.2) | (206.9) | (219.6) | (220.1) | (228.0) | (228.5) | (231.7) | (236.6) |
| Lease liabilities | (3.4) | (3.9) | (3.5) | (3.1) | (3.7) | (3.7) | (3.7) | (3.7) |
| Current tax liabilities | (4.2) | (5.3) | (6.7) | (12.9) | (7.2) | (7.2) | (7.2) | (7.2) |
| Provisions | (2.7) | (3.4) | (2.7) | (2.2) | (2.7) | (2.7) | (2.7) | (2.7) |
| Other financial liabilities | (0.3) | 0.0 | (1.8) | (0.4) | (0.4) | (0.4) | (0.4) | (0.4) |
| Current liabilities | (233.5) | (280.0) | (283.6) | (306.1) | (311.8) | (312.3) | (315.5) | (320.4) |
| Capital employed | 209.3 | 218.6 | 200.1 | 200.3 | 200.8 | 197.0 | 222.8 | 249.8 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Bank borrowings | (78.3) | (96.4) | (109.8) | (65.0) | (61.3) | (61.9) | (61.9) | (61.9) |
| Lease liabilities | (7.9) | (8.1) | (5.5) | (5.3) | (4.6) | (4.7) | (4.8) | (4.9) |
| Deferred tax liabilities | (6.7) | (4.7) | (5.1) | (6.0) | (6.7) | (6.7) | (6.7) | (6.7) |
| Provisions | (3.7) | (3.8) | (2.6) | (1.4) | (1.6) | (1.6) | (1.6) | (1.6) |
| Post employment benefits | (31.9) | (16.1) | (26.6) | (29.4) | (24.9) | (19.2) | (13.5) | (7.8) |
| Other financial liabilities | | | | | (0.1) | (0.1) | (0.1) | (0.1) |
| Non-current liabilities | (128.5) | (129.1) | (149.6) | (107.1) | (99.2) | (94.2) | (88.6) | (83.0) |
| Net assets | 69.8 | 57.0 | 37.1 | 63.4 | 94.3 | 102.8 | 134.2 | 166.8 |
| Shareholders' funds | 69.8 | 57.0 | 37.1 | 63.4 | 94.3 | 102.8 | 134.2 | 166.8 |

Source: Company data, Equity Development



Contacts

Andy Edmond

Direct: 020 7065 2691

Tel: 020 7065 2690

andy@equitydevelopment.co.uk

Hannah Crowe

Direct: 0207 065 2692

Tel: 0207 065 2690

hannah@equitydevelopment.co.uk

Equity Development Limited is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Disclaimer

Equity Development Limited ('ED') is retained to act as financial adviser for its corporate clients, some or all of whom may now or in the future have an interest in the contents of this document. ED produces and distributes research for these corporate clients to persons who are not clients of ED. In the preparation of this report ED has taken professional efforts to ensure that the facts stated herein are clear, fair and not misleading, but makes no guarantee as to the accuracy or completeness of the information or opinions contained herein.

Any reader of this research should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents. This report is being provided by ED to provide background information about the subject of the research to relevant persons, as defined by the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotions) Order 2005. This document does not constitute, nor form part of, and should not be construed as, any offer for sale or purchase of (or solicitation of, or invitation to make any offer to buy or sell) any Securities (which may rise and fall in value). Nor shall it, or any part of it, form the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any contract or commitment whatsoever.

Research produced and distributed by ED on its client companies is normally commissioned and paid for by those companies themselves ('issuer financed research') and as such is not deemed to be independent as defined by the FCA but is 'objective' in that the authors are stating their own opinions. This document is prepared for clients under UK law. In the UK, companies quoted on AIM are subject to lighter due diligence than shares quoted on the main market and are therefore more likely to carry a higher degree of risk than main market companies.

ED may in the future provide, or may have in the past provided, investment banking services to the subject of this report. ED, its directors or persons connected may at some time in the future have, or have had in the past, a material investment in the Company. ED, its affiliates, officers, directors and employees, will not be liable for any loss or damage arising from any use of this document to the maximum extent that the law permits.

More information is available on our website www.equitydevelopment.co.uk

Contact: info@equitydevelopment.co.uk | 020 7065 2690