

2025 Interim Results

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Macfarlane Group designs, manufactures & distributes protective packaging to customers across the UK/Europe to:

....protect their products through the supply chain

....ensure their products are cost effectively packed, stored and transported

.....reduce their working capital and administration burden

....optimise their packaging to minimise its environmental impact

#### How we differentiate:

European coverage with local service

Breadth of product / service offer

Added value customer proposition

Longstanding supplier partnerships

Expertise and focus on protective packaging



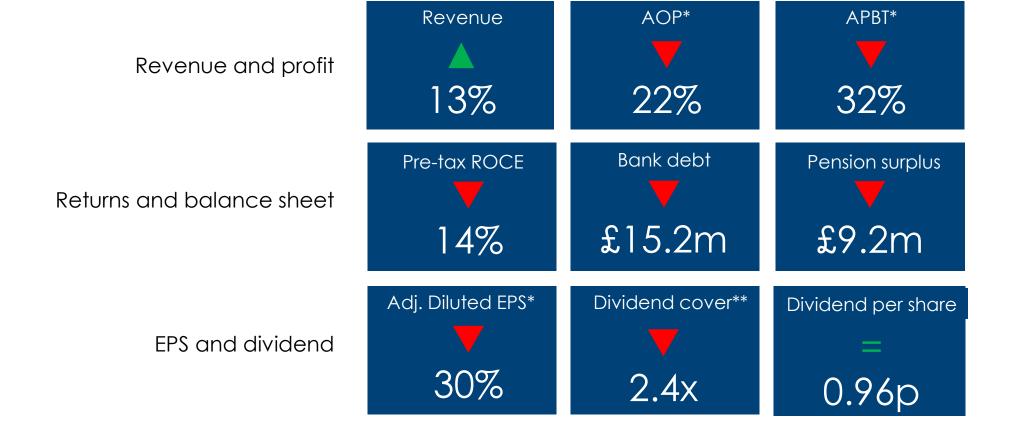
## **Executive Summary**

£m	H1 2025 £m	H1 2024 £m	Change
Adjusted operating profit (AOP) *	9.8	12.5	(22%)
Adjusted profit before tax (APBT) *	7.9	11.6	(32%)
Profit before tax (PBT)	5.0	9.7	(49%)

<sup>\*</sup> Before charging amortisation and (crediting)/charging deferred contingent consideration adjustments.

- Challenging market conditions weak demand, slow customer decision making, competitive environment, rising costs
- Focus for remainder of 2025.....
  - Seasonal trading benefit
  - New business growth
  - Managing increases in raw material prices
  - Mitigating rising operating costs
  - Synergy benefits from Pitreavie acquisition
  - Management of working capital
- Strong balance sheet
- Bank facilities committed to November 2027 with options to extend two years
- Allocation of capital to share buyback





<sup>\*</sup> Before charging amortisation, charging/(crediting) deferred contingent consideration adjustments and related tax



<sup>\*\*</sup> H1 2025 diluted EPS divided by interim dividend

	H1 2025 £m	H1 2024 £m
Revenue	146.6	129.6
Gross Profit	<b>55.4</b> [37.8%]	51.5 [39.7%]
Operating expenses	(45.6)	(39.0)
Adjusted operating profit	9.8	12.5
Amortisation and deferred contingent consideration adj.	(2.8)	(1.9)
Operating profit	7.0	10.6
Interest	(2.0)	(0.9)
Profit before tax	5.0	9.7
Diluted EPS	2.34p	4.51p
Dividend	0.96p	0.96p
Dividend cover	2.4x	4.7x



## **Cash Flow**

	H1 2025 £m	H1 2024 £m
EBIT	7.0	10.6
DA	9.0	7.1
EBITDA	16.0	17.7
Working Capital	1.4	1.0
Interest	(2.1)	(1.1)
Tax	(3.2)	(3.4)
Other movements	0.3	0.4
Net cash inflow from operating activities	12.4	14.6
Acquisitions *	(15.1)	(4.1)
Net capital expenditure	(1.3)	(1.4)
Lease obligations	(4.7)	(4.2)
Purchase of own shares	(0.2)	(0.4)
Dividend	(4.3)	(4.2)
Net cash flows from investing/financing activities	(25.6)	(14.3)
Movement in net bank debt	(13.2)	0.3



<sup>\*</sup> Including bank borrowings inherited of £4.4m

## **Packaging Distribution**

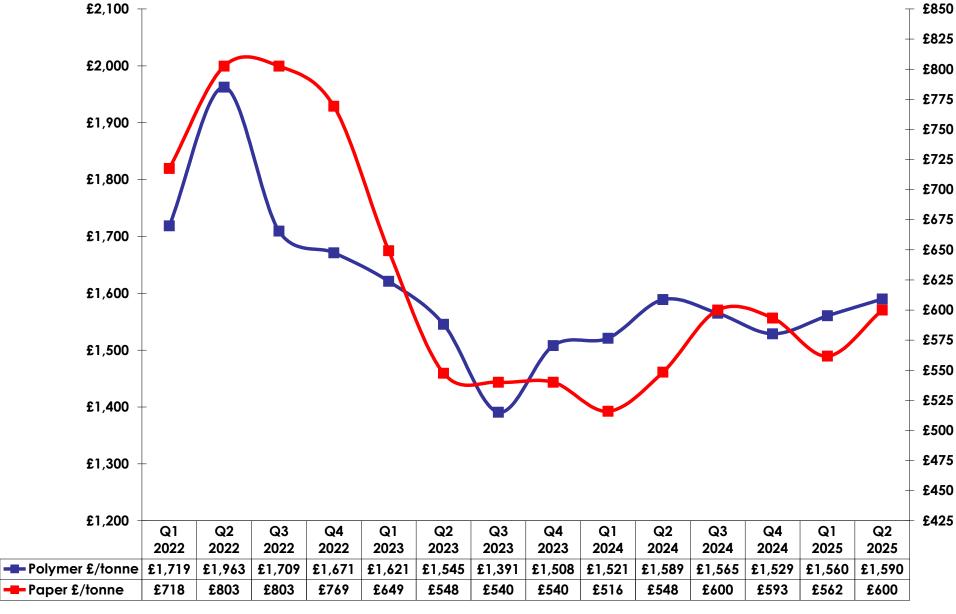
- Marginally lower revenue versus H1 2024, with weak customer demand, particularly in retail sector
- New business revenue of £3.7m; 18% lower than H1 2024
- Strong new pipeline activity, but slower decision-making by customers
- Gross margins lower than the elevated levels of H1 2024 and stabilising
- Higher operating expenses due to:
  - increases in National Insurance, National Minimum Wage
  - property rent increases
  - East Midlands property consolidation incurring dual costs
- Adjusted operating profit margin reduced to 4.3%
- Strong NPS score maintained

£m	H1 2025	H1 2024
Revenue	110.4	110.9
Gross profit [margin]	39.3 [35.6%]	42.0 [37.9%]
Operating expenses	34.5	32.7
Adjusted operating profit	4.8	9.3
Adjusted operating profit margin	4.3%	8.4%
Net Promoter Score	61	61





## Packaging Distribution – Raw Material Price Movements





## Packaging Distribution Operating expenses

	H1 2025		H1 2024	
	£m	% of Revenue	£m	% of Revenue
Employee costs	19.5	17.6%	18.6	16.8%
Transport (excluding employee costs)	3.6	3.2%	3.5	3.1%
Property (incl. IFRS 16 adjustments)	6.2	5.6%	5.0	4.5%
Utility costs	0.4	0.4%	0.5	0.5%
IT	1.5	1.4%	1.4	1.3%
Other	3.3	3.0%	3.7	3.3%
Total operating expenses	34.5	31.2%	32.7	29.5%



## **Packaging Distribution Acquisitions**

Acquisition		Location	Year	Sales	EBITDAx	Placing price
Lane	<u>lane</u>	Reading	2014	£3m	5-6x	N/A
Network	NETWORK PACKAGING	Wolverhampton	2014	£9m	5-6x	Sep-14 <b>37.5p</b>
One	P	Bingham	2015	£5m	5x	N/A
Colton	COLTON PACKAGING TEESSIDE	Teesside	2016	£3m	5x	N/A
Edward McNeil	NE.	Glasgow	2016	£3m	5x	N/A
Nelsons		Leicester	2016	£9m	5-6x	Jul-16 <b>58.0p</b>
Greenwoods	BOXESDIRECT	Nottingham	2017	£15m	5x	Sep-17 <b>66.0p</b>
Tyler	Tyler Packaging	Leicester	2018	£2.5m	5x	N/A
Harrisons	HARRISON'S PACKAGING LTD Were gold all me appeal up	Leyland	2018	£3.5m	5x	N/A
Ecopac	€ ECOPAC	Aylesbury	2019	£6.5m	6x	N/A
Leyland	Leyland Packaging Co. Ltd.	Leyland	2019	£4.0m	5x	N/A
Armagrip	Armagrip	Durham	2020	£1.5m	5x	N/A
Carters	CPL	Redruth	2021	£5.3m	6x	N/A
PackMann	Partition.	Germany	2022	£11.0m	6x	N/A
Gottlieb	90551ieb Packaging Materials Ltd	Manchester	2023	£4.5m	5x	N/A
Allpack Direct	Allpack Direct	Bury St Edmunds	2024	£3.0m	5x	N/A



New Business Growth	Cost Inflation	Sourcing	Environmental Challenge	Pricing
Fully utilise benefits of Significant Six Programme and Innovation Labs  Leverage benefits of World Class Sales Programme - Microsoft Dynamics	Improve productivity to offset impact of costs inflation	Strengthen partnerships with key suppliers  Improve utilisation of in-house supply opportunities	Leverage skills/knowledge/tools to support the sustainability goals of our customers	Maintain close management of sales pricing in line with input pricing changes
Online Capability	UK Acquisitions	Europe	Property	
Deliver benefits from the website recently relaunched to improve online presence and visibility	Continue to successfully identify and execute quality UK acquisitions	Increase the pace of progress in Europe through Follow the Customer Programme  Identify and execute quality European acquisitions	Manage the property footprint to ensure space is fully optimized:  2025 - East Midlands consolidation	

## **Manufacturing Operations**

- £17.9m increase in revenue due to:
  - good contribution from Polyformes acquired July 2024 and Pitreavie acquired in January 2025 of £17.8m
  - organic growth of 0.3%
- Partnership with Distribution continues to develop- 15% growth in internal buying
- Lower margins due to impact of Pitreavie (lower margin business) and to a lesser extent raw material price increases
- Operating expenses under control

£m	H1 2025	H1 2024
Revenue *	39.2	21.3
Gross profit [margin]	<b>16.1</b> [41.0%]	9.4 [44.3%]
Operating expenses	11.1	6.2
Adjusted operating profit	5.0	3.2
Adjusted operating profit margin	12.7%	15.1%
Sales to Distribution (as % of revenue)	8%	12%

<sup>\*</sup> Including inter-group sales

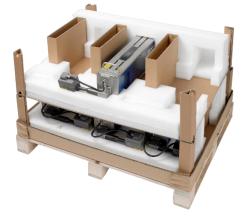


















Acquisition		Location	Year	Sales	EBITDA X	Placing price
GWP	<b>GWP</b> Group	Swindon/Salisbury	2021	£13.1m	5.5x	N/A
Suttons	Suttons	Chatteris	2023	£7.4m	5x	N/A
B&D Group	■ Barum & Dewar	Southampton	2023	£2.6m	5.5x	N/A
Polyformes	<u>Polyformes</u>	Leighton Buzzard	2024	£9.3m	5x	N/A
Pitreavie Group	Pitreavie Packaging Relmagined	Glasgow x 2, Aberdeen, Glenrothes	2025	£24.8m	5-6x	N/A



New Business	Cost Inflation	In House Supply	Environmental Challenge
<ul><li>Targeted sector growth:</li><li>Medical</li><li>Electronics</li><li>Aerospace</li><li>Space</li><li>Food &amp; Drink</li></ul>	Improve productivity to offset impact of cost inflation	Strengthen in-house supply relationship with Distribution	Support our customers in achieving their sustainability goals
Integration	Execute UK Acquisitions	Drining	
	LACCOIC OR ACQUISITIONS	Pricing	Investment



## Sustainability









#### **Reducing our Impact**

- Converted the largest truck in our delivery fleet to fully electric
- Solar panels installed at new Nottingham distribution site
- 32% reduction in carbon emissions since 2019
- 85% + of electricity sourced from certified renewables
- Scaling up engagement with suppliers on sustainability issues

#### **Supporting our Customers**

- 18% increase in customers engaged through our Innovation Labs
- 12 sustainability events hosted with over 100 customers
- Ongoing support to customers on new packaging regulations
- Retained a customer Net Promoter Score of 61 - well above the B2B average (35)
- Launched our new customer website

## Our Colleagues & the Community

- Continued roll out of our World Class Sales Training Academy
- Increased proactive observations and extensive work to mitigate manufacturing risks
- Launched our new Performance Development Toolkit and Learning Management System
- Revamped recruitment and onboarding processes to promote diversity

#### Doing Business the Right Way

- Continued membership of the UN Global Compact for responsible business
- Ranked in the top 10% of businesses globally by EcoVadis
- Completed our 3<sup>rd</sup> CDP return and improved our score to a management level (B)
- Awarded Cyber Essentials accreditation
- Scaled up ethical assurance on supply chain
- Awarded the London Green Economy Mark by the LSE



## **Existing Regulation**

Plastic Packaging Tax

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Digital Markets and Competition and Consumers Act

## Regulation anticipated within 12 months

EPR Phase 2 – Modulated Fees based on recyclability

EU Deforestation Regulations

EU Empowering

Consumers Directive

# Future Regulation (2-5 years)

EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulations

Deposit Return Scheme

International Sustainability Reporting Standards



## Pension Scheme – working towards buy-in

£m	H1 2025	H1 2024	2024
Opening surplus	9.6	9.9	9.9
Administration costs/interest income	0.2	-	0.1
Change in actuarial assumptions (Discount rate unchanged at 5.50% (H1 2024 ↑ 0.60%: 2024 ↑ 1.00%)	0.3	3.8	6.5
Investment returns	(0.9)	(3.5)	(6.9)
Closing surplus	9.2	10.2	9.6

Investments (£m)	H1 2025	H1 2024	2024
Multi-asset Diversified Fund	2.4	4.9	2.9
Securitised Credit Funds	16.6	17.4	16.9
Multi-asset Credit Funds	10.3	10.0	10.2
Liability-driven Investments	32.6	34.7	32.6
Cash	1.0	1.3	1.5
Total investments	62.9	68.3	64.1
Liabilities (£m)			
Total liabilities	53.7	58.1	54.5

- Increase in bond yields offset by LDIs which provide hedge vs. movements in bond yields and inflation
- No company contributions required going forward
- Review of implications of Virgin Media case assessed no further action required at this stage
- Working with trustees and advisers to prepare scheme for buy-in in **next 6-12 months**



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### **Approach**

#### H1 2025 Outcomes

1

Management of working capital and investment in capital expenditure to support organic growth

Working capital managed against benchmark number of days. Capital expenditure prioritised (i) essential/ replacement (ii) by investment returns

Working capital reduction £1.4m

Net capital expenditure of £1.3m

2

Earnings enhancing acquisitions

Based on investment returns and within a disciplined multiple to EBITDA range

£15.1m acquisition investment:

- £13.9m on 2024 acquisitions
- £1.2m deferred consideration

3

Sustainable and progressive dividend

Based on business performance and appropriate dividend cover

Dividends of £4.3m paid (2.70p per share)

Dividend cover 2.4 times (Diluted EPS/Interim 2025)

4

Return surplus cash to shareholders

Through share buybacks or enhanced dividends

£0.2m of shares purchased of £4m, 12-month buyback programme which commenced in June 2025



- Economic headwinds in H1 2025 resulting in weak demand, customer uncertainty and rising operating costs
- No expectation of market improvement in H2 2025 but benefit of seasonal uplift.
- Performance improvement in H2 2025 through management action.......
  - Conversion of the strong new business pipeline
  - Effectively manage raw material price changes
  - Drive operational efficiencies to offset rising labour and property costs
  - Realise the benefits of the East Midlands consolidation
  - Support customers to manage the impact of EPR
  - Deliver synergies from the **Pitreavie acquisition**
  - Strong management of working capital
- Development of **acquisition pipeline** in both UK and Europe
- Continue the share buyback programme



