



Organic growth underpins strong momentum:

# Strategy continues to deliver



# Record engagement as we meet our audiences' needs

311m online users +31% YoY\*



# Platform effect resulting in strong operating leverage

Adjusted operating profit margin of 33% (+5ppt)



# Continued strong revenue growth

Double digit organic revenue growth, with media organic revenue growth of +30%



# Strategy continues to deliver, resulting in earnings momentum

Adjusted diluted EPS growth of +99%



Capital light model translates to ongoing excellent cash conversion

Adjusted free cashflow growth of +135%



# Financial Review



# ■ Record results: financial highlights for the 6 months to 31 March 2021

Revenue £272.6m

+89%

Adj. Operating profit £89.2m

+124%

Adj. Free Cash Flow £93.9m

+135%

Organic revenue growth

+21%

Adj. diluted **EPS** 65.4p

+99%

Net debt £241.3m

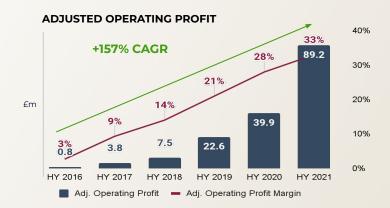
1.3x Leverage

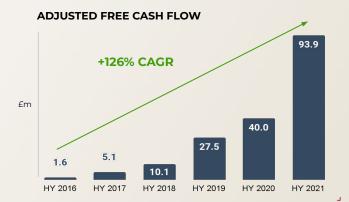


# Adding another set of strong results to our track record









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# ■ Revenue: reported growth underpinned by strong organic growth

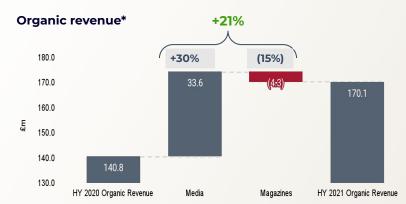
		Gross		
	HY 2021 £m	Reported growth	Organic growth	contribution
Media	182.6	+59%	+30%	85%
Magazines	90.0	+207%	(15%)	61%
Total	272.6	+89%	+21%	<b>77</b> %
UK	161.5	+177%	+5%	
US	111.1	+29%	+31%	
Total	272.6	+89%	+21%	

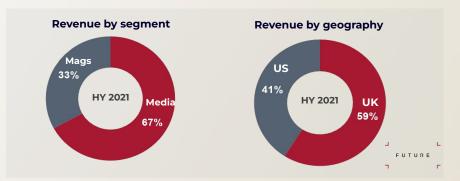
Strong organic growth complemented by contribution from acquisitions

Media continuing to perform strongly across the segments (excluding events)

Magazines impacted by the pandemic

US organic revenue growth of 31% and UK organic revenue growth of 5% (UK has a higher revenue mix of events and magazines revenues which were impacted more materially by the pandemic)





# **■** Media: strong momentum across key revenue sub-segments

	HY 2021 £m	HY 2020 £m	Reported growth	Organic growth
Digital ads on platform	69.5	47.8	+45%	+30%
Digital ads off platform (principally email & AVOD)	21.9	18.3	+20%	+15%
eCommerce affiliate	85.2	39.4	+116%	+56%
Events, digital licensing, other online	6.0	9.5	(37%)	(56%)
Revenue	182.6	115.0	+59%	+30%
Revenue excluding GoCo	159.9	115.0	+39%	+30%
Gross contribution %	85%	<b>87</b> %	(2ppt)	
Gross contribution % excluding GoCo	90%	87%	+3ppt	

Digital ads up +30%, with high yielding directly sold advertising increasing

Strong digital ads off platform performance on email newsletters and AVOD

Organic eCommerce revenue growth across all verticals; reported growth driven by contribution from GoCo

Estimated one off COVID-19 (including US stimulus payments) eCommerce benefit of £5m in H1 2021

Other media impacted by the pandemic with events down (£5.6m) or (81%) in the period

GoCo contributed £22.7m to Group revenue

Excluding GoCo, positive revenue mix driving gross contribution improvement



# ■ Magazines : improving trend

	HY 2021 £m	HY 2020 £m	Reported growth	Organic movement
Newstrade	42.2	10.8	+291%	(17%)
Subscriptions	22.8	8.0	+185%	2%
Print ads & other	25.0	10.5	+138%	(26%)
Revenue	90.0	29.3	+207%	(15%)
Gross contribution %	61%	60%	+1ppt	

# Total Magazines frequency-adjusted <sup>1</sup> (newstrade, subscriptions, print advertising)



Newstrade trends have improved from prior year Q4 exit rates. Inorganic portfolio (comprising weekly frequency titles and strong grocery/independent store distribution footprint) recovering faster

Organic subscriptions growth of +2% driven by digital subscriptions with inorganic subscriptions growing +8% vs the proforma

Print advertising remains challenging



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Revenues shown are frequency adjusted sales at constant currency. TI Media revenues are like for like compared with proforma revenue excluding IFRSIS Q4 organic revenues adjusted in FY20 for comparability year-on-year

# **■** GoCo reporting: mapping into Future segmentation

		Proforma since	acquisition	H1 2021 proforma	
Segment mapping		H1 2021 since acquisition £m	Growth %	H1 2021 Oct-Mar £m	Growth %
eCommerce	Price Comparison (GoCompare)	18.1	+9%	69.0	+7%
eCommerce	AutoSave (LAMB)	3.2	+38%	10.6	+34%
eCommerce	Rewards (MVC)	1.0	+82%	3.9	+35%
Other Media	Other	0.4	(45%)	1.5	(54%)
	Revenue	22.7	+13%	85.0	+9%
	Trading profit	11.2	+54%	42.2	+37%
	Trading profit %	49%	+13ppt	50%	+11ppt

# Improving performance

- **GoCompare**: overall revenue growth despite the loss of travel insurance as a result of the pandemic
- **LAMB**: continued growth of customer acquisitions
- MyVoucherCodes: improved SEO rankings driving improved performance across key categories

**Trading profit** growth also impacted by the phasing of marketing costs (lower spend in TV during UK lockdown) and improvement in AutoSave profitability

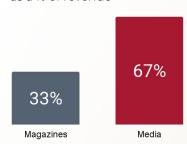


# ■ Driving profitable growth by design

# Continuous improvement in profitability is supported by:

### **Revenue mix**

Revenue by segment as a % of revenue



HY 2021

Magazines division accounts for 33% of revenue, with a gross contribution of ~60%, declining at (15)% organically

Media division accounts for 67% of revenue, with a gross contribution of ~80-85%, and organic growth rates of +30%

Higher underlying growth rates of organic Media and eCommerce revenues having highest gross contribution margins

# **Platform effect**

Sales, marketing and editorial costs % of revenue

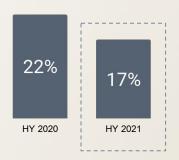


Multiple monetisation opportunities deriving from sales, marketing and editorial investment

Evergreen content

### Scalable business model

Overhead costs as a % of revenue



Scalability of the business model and tech stack with ability to deploy capabilities across the portfolio combined with continued investment in technical capability

Full integration of acquisitions and removal of duplicative costs and technical debt

Centres of excellence in low cost locations



# 

£m	HY 2021	HY 2020	YoY Var
Revenue	272.6	144.3	+89%
Gross contribution <sup>1</sup>	209.8	117.5	+79%
GC margin	<b>77</b> %	81%	(4ppt)
Sales, marketing and editorial	67.5	42.5	+59%
Profit after direct costs	142.3	75.0	+90%
Margin after direct costs	<b>52</b> %	<b>52</b> %	-
Admin costs & other overheads	45.3	31.7	+43%
Adjusted D&A <sup>2</sup>	7.8	3.4	+129%
Adjusted operating profit	89.2	39.9	+124%
Adjusted operating profit margin	33%	28%	+5ppt
Adjusted profit after tax	68.3	31.7	115%

Adjusted operating profit	89.2	39.9	+124%
Share based payments	(2.7)	(1.7)	+59%
Acquired intangible amortisation	(15.3)	(9.1)	+68%
Exceptional costs	(11.5)	(4.4)	+161%
Operating profit	59.7	24.7	+142%
Profit before tax	56.9	27.1	+110%
Profit after tax	42.5	21.0	+102%

GC margin dilution of (4)ppt due to higher weighting of magazine revenue post TI acquisition (33% in HY 2021 vs 20% in HY 2020)

Adjusted AOP margin +5ppts, reflecting strong digital ads and eCommerce affiliates growth, platform effect and scalable business model

Exceptional costs largely relate to GoCo acquisition deal fees (£10.2m) and subsequent integration and restructuring

Growth in operating profit outstrips adjusted operating profit growth



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Gross contribution is after deducting distribution costs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Adjusted D&A excludes amortisation of acquired intangible assets from business combinations

# **■** Cash flow demonstrating strong conversion of profits

£m	HY 2021	HY 202
Adjusted cash generated before changes in working capital and provisions <sup>1</sup>	98.1	41.3
Adjusted movement in working capital and provisions	(O.1)	0.9
Adjusted operating cash inflow	98.0	42.2
Capex	(4.1)	(2.2)
Adjusted free cash flow <sup>2</sup>	93.9	40.0
Exceptional items	(15.3)	(2.8)
Share schemes	(O.1)	(5.5)
Interest	(2.2)	(0.8)
Tax	(6.2)	(2.2)
Acquisitions and financing	(62.5)	147.2
Dividend paid	(1.6)	(1.0)
Net cash flow	6.0	174.9
Exchange adjustments	(2.4)	0.3
Adjusted free cash flow <sup>2</sup> (£m)	93.9	40.0
Adjusted free cash flow <sup>3</sup> %	105%	100%

Adjusted free cash flow up +135% yoy to £93.9m, translating to conversion<sup>3</sup> of 105%

Capital light model - (£4.1m) capex

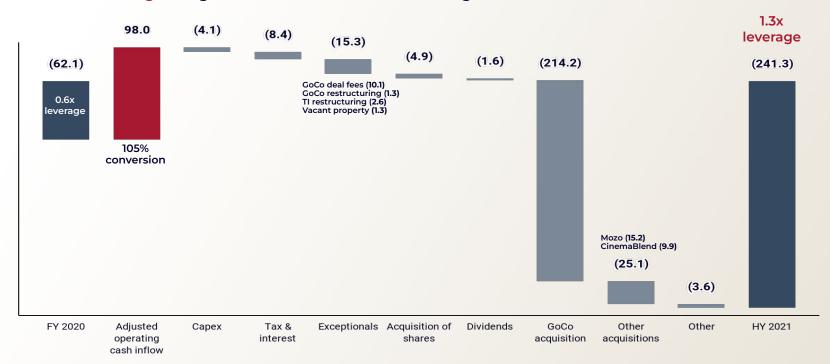
Dividend of 1.6p per share paid in February

 $^3$  Adjusted free cash flow % represents adjusted free cash inflow as a  $^\%$  of adjusted operating profit



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Adjusted cash generated before changes in working capital and provisions adds back exceptional items and includes lease repayments following adoption of IFRS 16 *Leases* in the prior period <sup>2</sup> Adjusted free cash flow is defined as adjusted operating cash inflow less capital expenditure. Adjusted operating cash inflow represents operating cash inflow adjusted to exclude cash flows relating to exceptional items and employers taxes on share based payments, and to include lease repayments following adoption of IFRS 16 *Leases* in the prior period

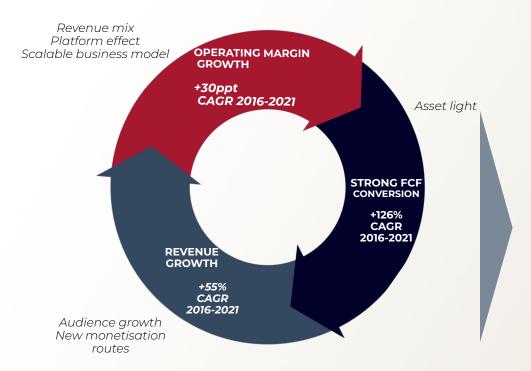
# ■ Consistent strong cash generation enables fast de-levering



- Debt facilities include a two-year term loan of £215m and RCF of £135m
- HY 2021 net debt was £241.3m giving significant headroom of c£104m in respect our facilities and cash on hand



# Capital allocation enables efficient value creation cycle



# Strict capital allocation focused on value creation and returns, with **4 priorities:**

- 1 Organic investment to support the ongoing growth in business
- **2 M&A** to add content and/or capabilities, strong cash flows provide flexibility for acquisitions
- **De-leveraging** to provide flexibility to capitalise on growth opportunities
- 4 Progressive dividend policy



# Strategy & business update



# Our strategy continues to deliver

Future is a **global platform** for intentled specialist media **underpinned by technology, enabled by data;** with **diversified revenue** streams

We help people to do the things that matter in their life, our content and brands give them a place they want to **spend** their time while meeting their needs

We diversify our monetisation models to create significant revenue streams. We are focused on three material revenue types; Advertising, Consumer Direct and eCommerce affiliate

We **leverage our data and analytics** to predict our audiences' needs, this drives innovation and execution of our strategy

We **expand our global reach** through organic growth, acquisitions and strategic partnerships

We operate as a **responsible business** driven by strong purpose, value and culture. Our strategy drives returns and sustainability for the long term



With data and content at its heart, the **Future wheel** provides the framework to meet our audiences' needs through a range of products and services. To grow we add new revenue channels or new audiences



# A strategy that delivers Underpinned by 3 core pillars

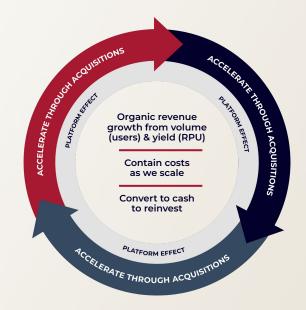
Our legacy media brands are the fuel that drives our engine, realising the platform effect from historic acquisitions, and identifying new targets to add value accelerate our growth. We create our own momentum.

# **Organic Growth**

Underpinned by best in class SEO, our legacy brands drive year in audience growth. High value audiences with intent result in sustainable double digit revenues. Supplemented with increasing CRM, Video and Social drivers to grow audience

## **Platform Effect**

Leveraging the Future digital first, global first & podium positions strategy we are able to grow new audiences from existing brands. While our podium strategy drives us to launch new brands within areas of our expertise. Our relentless focus to drive value from content means we find additional routes to monetise



## Accelerate via M&A

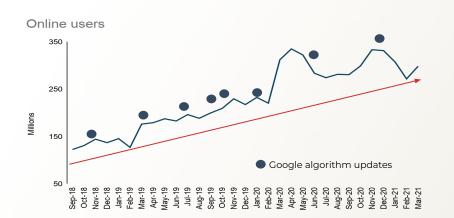
Identifying new opportunities where we increase our market leadership, or enter new markets is a core enabler to acceleration of our strategy.

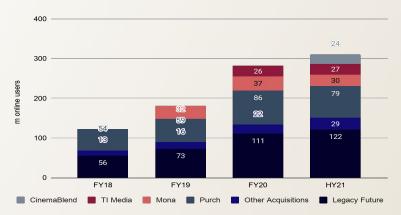


# Execution of strategy through organic growth



# Our strategy is centred around meeting our audience's needs







19







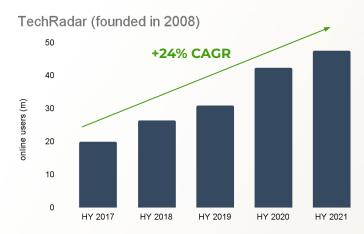


<sup>\*</sup> Audience reach includes: online users (excluding forums), print and digital magazine and bookazines circulation, email newsletter subscribers, social media followers and event attendees.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Source: comScore Media Metrix Demographic Profile, March 2021 - Desktop Age 2+ and Total Mobile 18+

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Market positions: for sources and definitions of market positions see Sources and Definitions slide

# **■** Our continued focus on audience delivers sustainable double digit organic user growth 19% CAGR since 2017



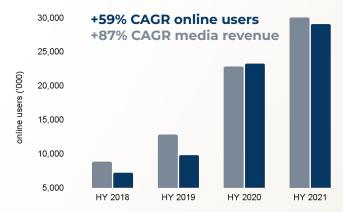






# ■ Consistent long term audience growth translates to revenue: Case Study GamesRadar+ and Louder

## GamesRadar+ media revenue and online users



GamesRadar+ was launched in 1999, 22 years ago

Migrated to Vanilla platform in October 2016

Ongoing investment in editorial with CAGR of +45% in salaries over last 4 years

Editorial expansion into video with Future Games Show and into streaming and  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{TV}}$ 

76% staff based in the UK; 55% of traffic in US, 67% of monetisation

### Louder media revenue and online users



Launched in 2014, Louder was migrated to Vanilla in April 2018

Multiple specialist tribes (Classic Rock, Metal Hammer and Prog) under one online brand

Focused resources driving expansion of content coverage

All staff based in the UK; 57% of traffic in US, 69% of monetisation



# ■ Engaged endemic audiences delivering 45% growth in on site digital advertising, 30% organic



Premium quality audiences: Our deep understanding of our audience needs, coupled with our Aperture data platform and ongoing tech investment enables our market position as destination for highly valued intent based audiences.

On platform revenue mix: Engaged audiences result in clients moving up the advertising waterfall to higher value premium advertising products using additional targeting capabilities in the ad tech stack, resulting in 19% increase in direct deals.

Meeting audiences needs - focus on video:

The business continues to transition on page video advertising, with pre roll revenues contributing 11% of total on platform; Video ad yields are in the region of 5x higher than display.

**Quality user experience:** We have been investing in our ad viewability across our sites, increasing by 7ppts since Oct 2020.

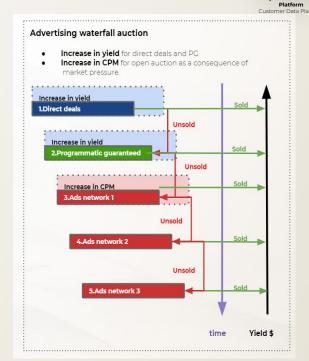
67%
Top 30 accounts in US increase in spend vs
Mar 20

19%
Increase in direct ad campaigns delivered yoy

34%
Increase in total ad display yields yoy

5x
Difference in yields achieved from video

7ppt
Improvement in ad viewability





# **■** Engaged audiences with intent deliver 116% growth in eCommerce, 56% organic

Acceleration of eCommerce: The impact of COVID-19 has seen an increase in retailers online, this has enabled us to broaden our offering to customers, with an increase of 95% of merchants having sold goods via a Future affiliate link.

**Underlying growth:** Some COVID-19 spike due to lockdown & stimulus payments in US, estimated underlying impact to growth rate is, c.£5m of revenue in HY 2021. Underlying organic growth in region of 49% vs 56% reported organic growth.

# Ongoing investment in proposition:

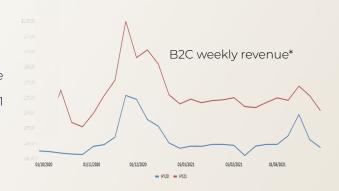
During H1 significant increase in new product & technology investment including social, image led and video purchase with overall social transactions up 308% yoy.













\*UK & US Weekly revenue for buying guides and review content b2c

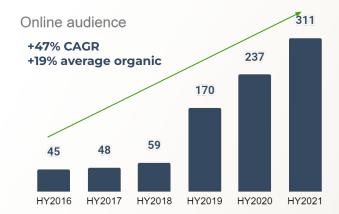


# Execution of strategy through platform effect



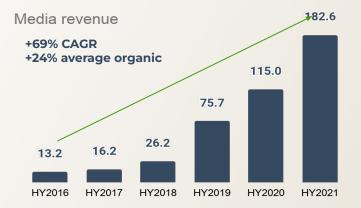
# **■** Execution of our strategy through the platform delivers consistent track record

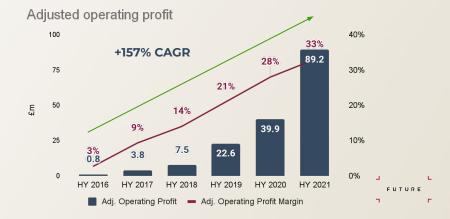
Characteristics of the group, makes it designed for consistent double digit growth



Total indirect costs % sales







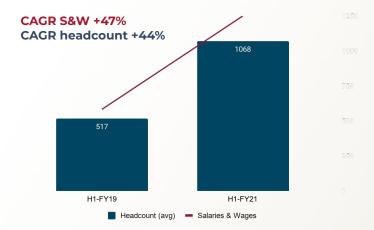
# ■ Growth through platform effect

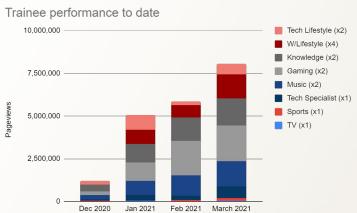
Evergreen content results in article led revenue compounding over time, as the back catalogue underpins a base level of revenue Apr-19 May-19 Jun-19 Jul-19 Aug-19 Sep-19 Oct-19 Nov-19 Dec-19 Jan-20 Feb-20 Mar-20 Apr-20 May-20 Jun-20 Jul-20 Aug-20 Sep-20 Oct-20 Nov-20 Dec-20 Jan-21 Feb-21 Mar-21 Month

unknown year ■ 2021 ■ 2020 ■ 2019 ■ 2018 ■ 2017 ■ 2016 ■ 2015 ■ < 2015



# ■ Growth through platform effect underpinned by ongoing sustainable investment

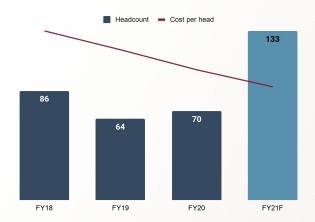




- Ongoing investment in editorial to ensure that growth is sustainable in longer term, focus of investment both in new brands and investing in the core
- Material new investment in editorial resource during H1, with ~150 new roles created this year in editorial
- Launch of a new editorial graduate scheme, with 16 colleagues joining in January 2021
- Detailed modelling of editorial ROI, engagement and creativity ensures we are meeting our audiences needs not just today but tomorrow



# ■ Growth through platform effect Centres of excellence & low cost location strategy drives capability and returns



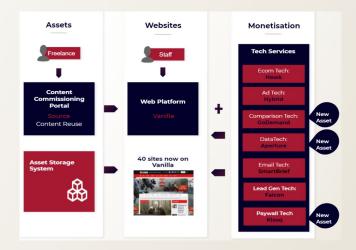
Our operating model means we create centres of excellence across our business, enabling us to respond quickly to changes and to share best practice across the business. Our approach to technology is a great case study of how we achieve this:

- Expected FY 2021 increase in headcount of 90%, while cost per head reduced by 13% year-on-year
- Staff located across 3 centres; 11% are in the US, 17% in Europe, 72% in the UK
- We create efficiencies by creating centres of excellence working in low cost locations

Over last 4 years we have invested in technology engineering as a core enabler to growth in the business. In H1 we launched:

- Aperture our customer audience data platform
- Kiosq our new proprietary reusable paywall service for monetization of gated editorial content

Whilst also integrating the GoDemand technology into our technology stack, being the eCommerce service that enables the monetisation of our content through service affiliates

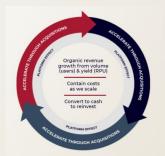




# Accelerating the execution through acquisitions



# Acceleration of strategy via M&A



# The right acquisition for Future is one we believe can uniquely create additional value while accelerating our strategy

#### Clear criteria Ability to add value **Speedy integration** Use data and analytics to identify Integrate rapidly and efficiently Clear investment criteria focussing assets where we can add value on financial and non-financial Have a clear plan, involve the right people early (but only them) Opportunity to increase operating Focus on people & IP leverage Free up resource from BAU to focus on delivering integration Digitizing and growing brands Look at longer term NPV/Value through our platforms multiples Identify opportunities for further additional value creation Hurdle rates vs where we want to be. not our current valuation

Over the last 5 years we have acquired assets for ~£1.1bn, while our underlying business has increased in value by ~£1.9bn. The combination of Future + acquired businesses creates intrinsic value



# Accelerating the execution of 3 core pillars from acquisitions



Over last 5 years our acquisitions have facilitated our strategy, adding new capabilities to legacy brands, diversifying audiences into new high value verticals and facilitating an acceleration in market leadership positions.

We segment our acquisitions into tactical, operationally strategic and transformational.

## **Organic Growth**

## **Building scale in core markets**

2016 - **Imagine** publishing business enough scale to invest in growth, at time **transformational** 

2017 - Team rock -tactical

2018 - **Purch** brought scale in US and technology vertical leadership

### transformational

# Vertical leadership underpinning podium positions

2018 - Haymarket - tactical

2019 - **Mobile Nations** - operationally strategic

2020 - Cinemablend - tactical

2021 - Marie Claire US - tactical

### **Platform Effect**

# Adding new platform capabilities to monetise all verticals

2019 - **Barcroft Studios** added video production and AVOD expertise - operationally strategic

2019 - **Smartbrief** added newsletter monetisation - operationally strategic 2021 - **GoCo** adds ecommerce services -

transformational

# Investing in technology

Purch added ad tech Smartbrief added email tech GoCo adds comparison tech and PPC capabilities

# Accelerate through M&A

## **New verticals**

2017 - **Centaur home interest** portfolio adds home portfolio - **transformational** 2020 - **TI Media** womens, homes, sports verticals - **transformational** 

### **New markets B2B**

2018 - **Newbay** media added B2B capability - operational strategic

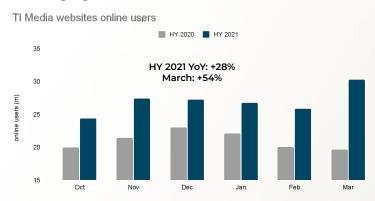
# New global audiences

2021- **Mozo** adds comparison audience in Australia - operationally strategic



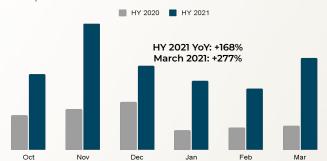
# TI Media Momentum building underpinned by platform

# 1. Driving significant increase in audience 1



# 3. Strong progress monetising brands

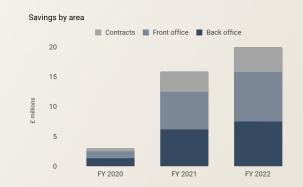
TI Media eCommerce revenue (excl. Bingo and entreprise revenue)



# 2. Benefits of the platform 1,2

	Media revenue growth	Online users growth	Online users (m)
Marie Claire	+35%	+26%	3.5
Ideal Homes	+44%	+65%	2.9
Wallpaper	+36%	+16%	1.0
Cycling Weekly	+38%	+48%	2.6
Decanter	+49%	(10)%	0.9
Woman and Home	+20%	+45%	3.0
G2K	(19)%	+15%	4.8
Golf Monthly	+34%	+122%	1.4
Country Life	+30%	+39%	0.8
Homes & Gardens	+126%	+709%	0.8
Total	+32%	+38%	21.7

# 4. Delivered on synergies



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**32** 

1 Source: Google Analytics, excludes forums

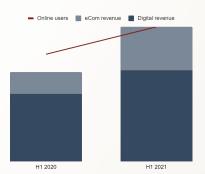
2 Proforma yoy excluding IFRS15 (HY 2021 vs HY 2020), Media revenue excluding Events

# ■ TI Media delivering on strategy through growth in new verticals <sup>1</sup>

Leveraging existing brands<sup>2</sup>

# marie claire

- Online users growth +26%
- Media revenue growth +35%
- Building out the revenue streams by using Future's ads (Hybrid) and eCom (Hawk) platforms
- eCommerce revenue has almost doubled compared to prior year and now represents 47% of total Media revenue



# woman&home

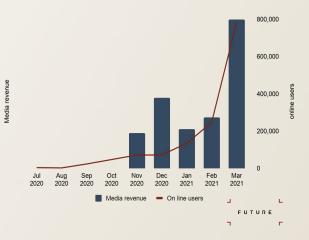
- Migrated to Vanilla in November 2020
- Online users growth +45%
- Media revenue growth +20%
- Launch of endorsements programme, generating new revenue from Future wheel



# Leveraging existing content

# **Gardeningetc**

- New launch in July 2020 utilising content expertise from legacy TI brands
- Audience growing to c.0.8m online users at the end of March 2021
- Fast growth since launch, evidence of US-first strategy working and power of the .com domain, with 76% of revenue from the US in the period



Source: Google Analytics, excludes forums

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Proforma yoy excluding IFRS15 (HY 2021 vs HY 2020, Media revenue excluding Events

Accelerating through acquisition GoCo update

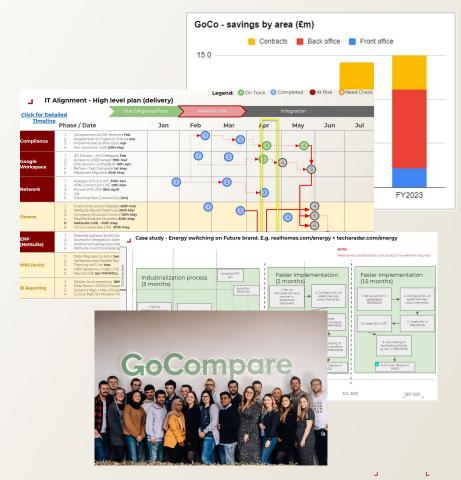
# Integration is well underway, enabling focus to shift to revenue realisation

# **Transaction Recap**

- Acquired GoCo Plc on 17 Feb 2021; Total enterprise value of £629m
- Initial expectation £10m recurring cost synergies, 47% cost to deliver. Upgrading savings to £15m, cost to deliver 31%
- On track to be materially earnings enhancing within 12 months

# First 90 Days

- Tupe process completed within 8 weeks and all staff now part of wider Future Group, onboarding and training on Future University well underway
- New organisation structure in place, with centres of excellence agreed and unified teams, including Tech, Finance, People, SEO, Digital Marketing and eCommerce
- Back office systems in progress of being migrated, with completion target for end of June 2021





# Accelerating through acquisition GoCo update

# Significant progress on investment thesis

# 1. Lower customer acquisition costs

Successful trials ran during February-March for GoCompare of marketing spend on display ads vs Future inventory. Identified upside in region of £1m with first few trials. Longer term integrate with 1st party data & propensity models to improve efficiency

# 2. Increase diversification and global opportunities

mparison since 2008, Mozo

Working teams set up across Mozo & GoCo to collaborate, broadband comparison launched on Mozo in May

Why choose Mozo to compare?

tools, guides and savings tips exist for one reason, to help

tiveme ALDImoble amaysim 4% Assig BELONG





# ■ Accelerating through acquisition GoCo update

# Significant progress on investment thesis

# 3. Grow the addressable market

**a.** SEO now represents the biggest revenue generating channel for **MVC**, reducing reliance on PPC, yoy revenue up 82% since acquisition

**b. GoCompare** SEO shows the biggest positive yoy movement of all marketing channels, including increasing in **no.1 slot for car insurance** 







# 4. New vertical Personal & Home Wealth

New vertical created with number of new consumer media sites in development, new content hub created across the business and launch of savings bookazine within 6 weeks of completion



FUTURE

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Delivering sustainable growth as a responsible business



# We operate as a responsible business

Today we are a purpose-driven organisation creating value for all our stakeholders

# **Environment**

We strive to **positively impact our environment** and **minimise harm to our planet.** Initiatives include:

- Centralised waste policy, increasing recycling and minimising landfill
- LED lighting upgrade to all offices
- Sourcing recyclable paper from sustainable managed forests and recyclable packaging
- Recycling 100% of our unsold magazines and gifts
- Reducing our carbon footprint by reducing travel
- Decanter wine award 2020 achieved zero waste





## **Governance**

Average tenure of the Board is under 3 years Board diversity

- Gender: 44% female, exceeds Hampton Alexander targets
- Diverse set of skills including backgrounds in Media, Finance & Tech
- Average age: 54, Oldest 65, Youngest 46
- 11% American /89% British

The Board is regularly updated on all our stakeholders including:

Employees

Commercial partners

Audience

Suppliers

Investors

The Board holds regular site visits (pre-COVID-19) and individual Board members have attended online employee events enabling engagement with employees



# ■ We operate as a responsible business

Over the next 6 months, we commit to publishing our ESG strategy with clear targets where applicable for the next 5 years

## Social

#### **Society & Community:**

- Future Foundation social mobility programme of coaching and mentoring disadvantaged children
- **Ethics committee** in place to ensure content is appropriate and of the right quality
- Working with DreamYard in the US and Future Frontiers and Centre Point in the UK
- Donated money to support school meals within our communities & provided laptops to schools during pandemic



# Media category, Bronze medal winners

Leading in:

- Community and environmental responsibility
- Inspirational leadership

#### **Employees:**

- Health & Safety (physical & mental) is a key priority: we have trained over 50 Mental Health First Aiders
- COVID-19 measures, including hardship funds & stipends, (over £1.5m paid out to staff since pandemic)
- Diversity & Inclusion programme including training, mentoring & awareness programme, systematic review of processes (e.g. hiring) and diversity toolkit
- Pay above living wage thresholds, minimum pay of \$50k in premium US locations
- All employees share in our success with our Value Creation Plan & Profit Pool

# employees globally 2,520

51% Men 49% Women

Average age: 38



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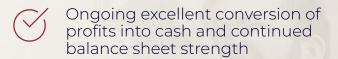
# Summary



# Summary & Outlook







While we remain cautious around the wider macroeconomic uncertainties associated with COVID-19, we expect full-year results to be materially ahead of market expectations, underpinned by exceptional H1 performance.

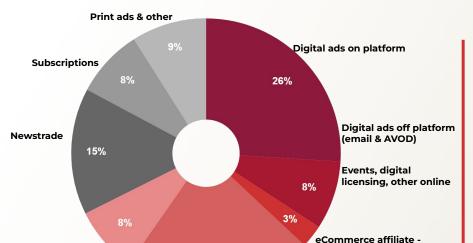






# Revenue segmentation

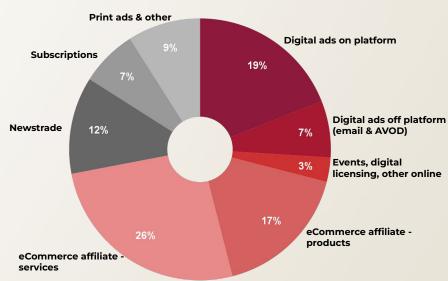
HY 2021



23%

products

#### March 2021





eCommerce affiliate -

services

# ■ Revenue breakdown by segments

	HY 2021 HY 2020				Reported growth HY	Organic growth	Organic growth * HY		
	Organic £m	Inorganic £m	Total £m	Organic £m	Inorganic £m	Total £m	2021 v HY 2020	HY 2021 v HY 2020	2021 v HY 2019
Digital ads on platform	60.4	9.2	69.5	47.8	-	47.8	+45%	+30%	+52%
Digital ads off platform (mainly email & AVOD)	15.9	5.9	21.9	14.5	3.8	18.3	+20%	+15%	+14%
eCommerce affiliate	59.8	25.5	85.2	39.4	-	39.4	+116%	+56%	+166%
Events, digital licensing, other online	4.0	2.0	6.0	9.3	0.2	9.5	(37)%	(56)%	(69)%
MEDIA	140.1	42.6	182.6	111.0	4.0	115.0	59%	+30%	+57%
Newstrade	8.9	33.2	42.2	10.8	-	10.8	291%	(17)%	(26)%
Subscriptions	8.1	14.7	22.8	8.0	-	8.0	185%	+2%	(8)%
Print ads & other	7.7	17.3	25.0	10.4	0.1	10.5	138%	(26)%	(35)%
MAGAZINES	24.7	65.2	90.0	29.2	0.1	29.3	+207%	(15)%	(24)%
TOTAL	164.8	107.8	272.6	140.2	4.1	144.3	+89%	+21%	+34%



# **■** GoCo reporting: mapping into Future segmentation

Segment		Profe	orma since acquisiti	on		H1 2021 proforma	,	ı	FY 2020 (Jan-Dec	)
mapping	£m	H1 2021 since acquisition	H1 2020 since acquisition	Growth	H1 2021 Oct-Mar	H1 2020 Oct-Mar	Growth	2020 Jan-Dec	2019 Jan-Dec	Growth
eCommerce	Price Comparison (GoCompare)	18.1	16.6	+9%	69.0	64.4	+7%	138.3	131.9	+5%
eCommerce	AutoSave (LAMB)	3.2	2.3	+38%	10.6	7.9	+34%	22.7	9.0	+151%
eCommerce	Rewards (MVC)	1.0	0.5	+82%	3.9	3.0	+35%	5.5	6.6	(17)%
Other Media	Other	0.4	0.7	(45)%	1.5	3.0	(54)%	3.9	4.9	(19)%
	Revenue	22.7	20.1	+13%	85.0	78.3	+9%	170.4	152.4	+12%
	Trading profit	11.2	7.2	+54%	42.2	30.9	+37%	75.7	62.9	+20%
	Trading profit %	49%	36%	+13ppt	50%	39%	+11ppt	44%	41%	+3ppt
	АОР							30.7	25.2	+22%



# Audience<sup>1</sup> - Top 10 organic and reported brands online users

Top 10 organic brands millions	HY 2021 Excl Forums	HY 2020- HY 2021 growth	CAGR 2019-2021
TechRadar	47.4	+12%	+24%
GamesRadar	29.1	+25%	+72%
Toms Guide	27.7	+62%	+35%
PC Gamer	24.4	+41%	+38%
Live Science	23.7	(30)%	+15%
Space.com	14.1	+7%	+26%
iMore	11.2	(14)%	(3)%
Windows Central	9.9	+5%	+14%
Android Central	8.1	(34)%	(6)%
What Hi-Fi?	6.1	+41%	+55%
Other	109.5	+115%	+60%
Total	311.2	+31%	+35%

Top 10 reported brands millions	HY 2021 Excl Forums	HY 2020- HY 2021 growth	CAGR 2019-2021
TechRadar	47.4	+12%	+24%
GamesRadar	29.1	+25%	+72%
Toms Guide	27.7	+62%	+35%
PC Gamer	24.4	+41%	+38%
CinemaBlend <sup>2</sup>	24.1		
Live Science	23.7	(30)%	+15%
Space.com	14.1	+7%	+26%
iMore	11.2	(14)%	(3)%
Windows Central	9.9	+5%	+14%
Android Central	8.1	(34)%	(6)%
Other	91.5	+66%	+42%
Total	311.2	+31%	+35%

# **■** Succeeding in an evolving landscape We operate across high growth sectors

#### **OTT Video**

"Online video is eroding linear TV advertising as platforms like Youtube become more popular and reach more TV devices. Audiences care more about the content than the delivery platform." 1

+13%	Global OTT video market was worth \$46.4bn in 2019, forecast to grow to \$86.8bn in 2024. 13% CAGR. <sup>2</sup>
\$6bn	YouTube's advertising business generated \$6.01bn in 2021 Q1, almost matching Netflix's total revenue. <sup>3</sup>
71%	YouTube reaches 71% of smartphone users in the US. <sup>4</sup>
4 hrs	In a 12 day period adults spend on average 4 hours watching social media video content, compared to 4.6 hours of online TV and 4.5 hours of online films. <sup>5</sup>

· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	crading in growing verticals
+41%	In 2020 US affiliate revenue from health & wellness products grew 41% YoY. <sup>6</sup>
+86%	In 2020 US home improvement affiliate revenue grew 86% YoY. <sup>6</sup>
+6.5%	The global video games and esports market was worth \$131bn in 2019, and is forecast to grow to \$179bn by 2024 (6.5% CAGR). <sup>2</sup>
+3.1%	Global tech hardware market revenue is forecast to show a CAGR of 3.1% (2020-2025), resulting in a market volume of\$1,198bn by 2025. <sup>7</sup>
+7.7%	Global tech software market revenue is forecast to show CAGR of 7.7% (2020-2025), resulting in a market volume of \$772bn by 2025. <sup>7</sup>
+28%	US computing products & consumer electronics digital ad spending \$14.93bn in 2021, up 28% YoY.8

∧ Operating in growing verticals

A Price Companson					
1.6m	Number of new cars registered in the UK in 2020.9				
6.7m	Used cars sold in the UK in 2020. <sup>9</sup>				
>5m +10% YoY	Vehicles with a Statutory Off Road Notification at the end of 2020 Q3; year on year increase vs. 2019 Q3. Note this includes 4.9m Light Goods Vehicles, of which 3.1m cars and 1.1m motorcycles. <sup>10</sup>				
>1.2m	Number of residential property transactions in the UK in the last 12 months. <sup>11</sup>				
6m	Number of domestic customers who switched their electricity supply over the last 12 months. <sup>12</sup>				

Price Comparison

<sup>1</sup>WARC Data Global Ad Trends, COVID-19 One Year On

<sup>2</sup> Pwc Global Entertainment & Media Outlook 2020–2024

3 Alphabet, Netflix

4comScore; Feb 2021, 18 years+, iOS and Android platforms

<sup>5</sup> Limelight Networks; 1-12 Aug 2020, 18 years+

<sup>6</sup> eMarketer & Insider Intelligence Publishers & Commerce 2021 Report; data from Rakuten Advertising, Mar 2021

<sup>7</sup>Statista; Technology Market Outlook 2021

<sup>8</sup>eMarketer, August 2020

<sup>9</sup>The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT)

10 Department for Transport

11 HMRC

12 Energy UK

<sup>13</sup> Based on 2021 Interim digital advertising revenue as a percentage of eMarketer global digital advertising forecast for 2021 (adjusted for half year only)

<sup>14</sup> Based on 2021 Interim eCommerce revenue as a percentage of Statista global eCommerce revenue forecast for 2021 (adjusted for half year only)

<sup>15</sup> Based on 2021 Interim video revenue as a percentage of Pwc's global OTT video revenue forecast for 2021 (adjusted for half year only)

Significant opportunities to
expand market share
in key revenue
streams

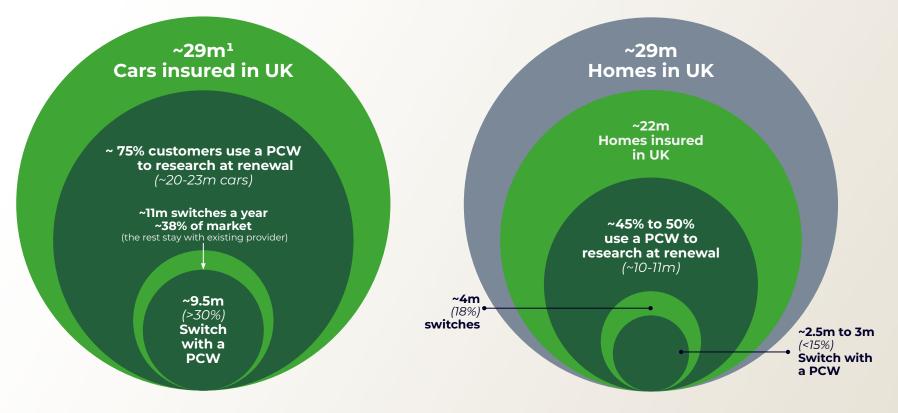
Market	Future % share
Global digital advertising revenue <sup>13</sup>	0.04%
Global eCommerce revenue <sup>14</sup>	0.01%
OTT Video revenue <sup>15</sup>	0.03%

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FUTURE

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# ■ Succeeding in an evolving landscape We operate across markets with lots of growth opportunities.





# **■** Succeeding in an evolving landscape operating model and quality audiences means we lean into change¹

Change is commonplace within the Ads ecosystem fueled by technical innovation, privacy regulation and new business models. Some very recent examples include:

- Apple removed IDFA from ios14 limiting data collection across applications putting user privacy front and centre of the change.
- 2 Agencies are integrating directly into publishers to cut out intermediary suppliers, this is part of our strategy and we have a number of live connections.
- **3** CCPA came into effect in the US giving users more control over their data and its use.
- There has been lots of innovation around the use of user IDs to deliver improved activation for buyers. Future works with and will continue to explore these solutions to ensure we can provide a route to trade with depending on buyer requirements.
- Google recently updated the industry on the progress of replacing the targeting capabilities that 3rd party cookies allows marketers. The new privacy compliant targeting solution uses cohorts as the basic principle to target adverts to users. Google have said this is 95% as good as 3rd party cookies.



Existing **1st party data** available through Future customer data platform - Aperture.

In March 2021 **78 new advertisers** through the largest advertising agencies used Future's 1st party data to target audiences.

Adapted to GDPR/CCPA and changes by safari & firefox already. Enhanced offering that compliments 3rd party cookies today and will compliment new solutions going forward

**Integrated with Google ad stack** to utilise their new targeting proposition (95% effective) when enabled. Alternative ID solutions already available to facilitates the technical requirements of our customers.

**Developing new data solutions** with enhanced customer support and services to make strong fundamental offering for advertisers.



# ■ Succeeding in an evolving landscape operating model and customer focus mean we lean into change <sup>1</sup>



# What's changing?

In Sept 2020 FCA published final report on General Insurance Pricing practices<sup>2</sup> aimed at saving consumers money in Home & Car insurance markets.

#### Proposed remedies include:

**Pricing Remedy** (aiming to prevent price walking): Insurers must offer a renewal price no higher than the equivalent new business price for that customer through the same sales channel<sup>§</sup>

Improving competition (making switching easier): Measures to increase transparency, competition, and reduce barriers to switching, notably easier auto-renewal cancellation

Consultation closed in January 2021, with the intention the final rules are due to come into effect Q3/Q4 2021. FCA policy statement expected from FCA in May / Jun 2021



# What's the impact?

While the FCA have not yet published their policy statement, based on their disclosures to date, they believe consumers will save ~ £400m a year over the next 10 years.

We believe that changes to auto renewal and renewal pricing should benefit consumers who have never, or do not regularly, switch

The removal of auto-renewal should make switching easier and more frictionless

Today only around 30% of the car insurance market switch with a PCW, we believe the **market for switching will grow.** 

The impact on insurers is not straightforward and will vary on the current insurer's strategy and structural characteristics

Insurers who rely on customers auto-renewing or who increase prices disproportionately and then compete on price when customers call to cancel may be adversely impacted by the changes



# **Opportunities for Future**

Regulation is a constant part of the GoCompare business - it's entrenched in the brand's culture and a natural part of how it operates - whilst the regulators see PCWs as an integral part of the distribution network

Future is well positioned with our added value incentives on GoCompare (e.g. free £250 excess offer) and our innovative proposition with AutoSave that saves customers time and money

Future's media brands present a unique opportunity to engage with customers at all parts of the funnel and attract an audience earlier in their intent journey

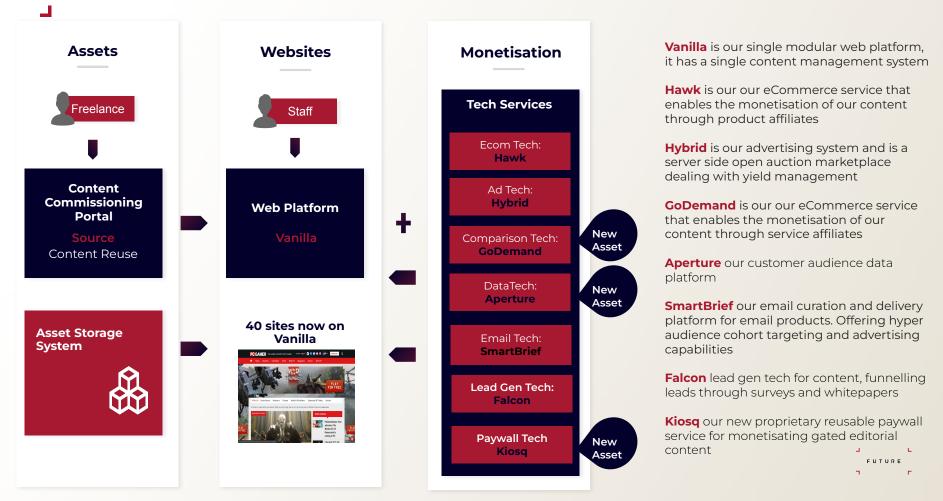
We anticipate increased switching and the combination of Future media brands, providing advice and help, SEO centres of excellence and GoCompare customer focus, put us in a prime position to be beneficiaries



<sup>1</sup> For further information, please watch on replay our investor webinar on price comparison websites and regulation on https://investor.futureplc.com/results-home/2.Final Report and accompanying Consultation Paper.

<sup>3.</sup> Applies to retail home and motor insurance products.

# Growth through platform effect ongoing investment in highly scalable proprietary technology stack



## Key definitions

#### 1st party cookie

Text stored on the user's computer that is created by the website the user is visiting. By default, 1st party cookies are allowed across every browser. 1st party cookies are controlled by the company that sets them on a users device.

## **Private marketplace**

A private marketplace that is agreed between two parties but with added benefits such as fixed CPMs (cost per thousand) or audience overlays

#### **Advertising waterfall**

The way publishers structure deals as part of their ad server to ensure the highest yielding adverts are delivered first before flowing down through the various partners.

#### **CCPA**

The California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) is a state-wide data privacy law that regulates how businesses all over the world are allowed to handle the personal information of California residents.

#### 3rd party cookie

Text stored in the user's computer that is created by a website with a domain name other than the one the user is currently visiting. These are mainly used by a number of ad technology vendors to track users and their exposure to advertising.

## **Open auction**

Realtime media buying based on a number of audience and targeting criteria.

#### **Google's Privacy Sandbox**

Google's alternative proposals for a more privacy compliant ads ecosystem.

#### **PPID**

The Publisher provided identifier (PPID) allows publishers to send Google Ad Manager an identifier for use in frequency capping, audience segmentation and targeting, sequential ad rotation and other audience-based ad delivery controls across devices

#### **Identity vendor & user ID**

After Google released its plan to remove 3rd party cookies, over 80 vendors appeared offering alternative user targeting solutions primarily using hashed (encrypted) emails as a user ID.

# Direct/Programmatic Guaranteed

Directly transacted deals with clients and agencies delivered either through direct or programmatic channels.

#### **FLoC**

Federated Learning of Cohorts (FLoC) proposes a new way for businesses to reach people with relevant content and ads by clustering groups of people with similar interests.

#### **IDFA**

The Identifier for Advertisers (IDFA) is a random device identifier assigned by Apple to a user's device. Advertisers use this to track data so they can deliver customized advertising.

FUTURE

#### Sources & Definitions

#### Organic growth

 Organic growth defined as the portfolio at constant FX rates (i) excluding acquisitions and disposals made during FY 2020 and FY 2021 and (ii) including the impact of closures and new launches

#### **Financial notes**

- Adjusted results are adjusted for share-based payments (relating to equity settled awards with vesting periods longer than 12 months) and related social security costs, amortisation of acquired intangible assets, fair value movements on contingent consideration (and unwinding of associated discount) and currency option, and exceptional items and any related tax effects
- Adjusted free cash flow is defined as adjusted operating cash inflow less capital expenditure. Adjusted operating cash inflow represents cash generated from operations adjusted to exclude cash flows relating to exceptional items and settlement of employer's taxes on share based payments, and to include lease repayments following adoption of IFRS 16 Leases
- Adjusted free cash flow % represents adjusted free cash flow as a % of adjusted operating profit
- Leverage is defined as debt as a proportion of EBITDA adjusted for the impact of IFRS 16 and including the 12 month trailing impact of acquired businesses (in line with the Group's bank covenants definition)
- Proforma numbers compare at constant exchange rates the performance of acquisitions on a like for like basis.

#### Online users

54

• Online users are taken from Google Analytics. Unless otherwise stated, online users are monthly and the monthly average across the half year period is taken

#### Online reach information

• Demographic reach information on Future's online audience is taken from comScore Media Metrix Demographic Profile, January 2020 (UK), March 2020 (US)- Desktop Age 2+ and Total Mobile 18+

#### Total audience reach

- Audience reach consists of: magazine and bookazine print and digital circulation per issue + monthly online users + event attendees + newsletter subscribers + online subscribers + social media followers (Twitter followers, Facebook fans, YouTube subscribers and Instagram followers).
- Digital advertising display yield is the effective cost per thousand ad impressions (eCPM) yield.

#### Sources & Definitions

#### **Market positions**

- Future Plc ranks #1 in the UK in the comScore Ranked Category 'News/Information Technology News'
- Future Homes ranks #1 in the UK in the comScore Ranked Category Lifestyles Home/Architecture
- Techradar ranks #1 in the UK in the Future Plc Consumer Tech Competitive Set
- Techradar Pro ranks #1 in the UK in the Future Plc B2B Competitive Set
- Creativeblog.com ranks #1 in the UK in the Future Plc Creative & Design Competitive Set
- Digitalcameraworld.com ranks #1 in the UK in the Future Plc Photo Competitive Set
- Marieclaire.co.uk ranks #1 in the UK in the Future Plc Beauty & Fashion Competitive Set
- Cyclingweekly.com ranks #1 in the UK in the Future Plc Cycling Competitive Set
- Livescience.com ranks #1 in the UK in the Future Plc Science competitive set
- Creativebloq.com ranks #1 in the US in the Future Plc Creative & Design Competitive Set
- space.com ranks #1 in the US in the Future Plc Space competitive set
- Livescience.com ranks #1 in the US in the Future Plc Science competitive set
- #1 AV tech print publisher in US: based on share of print advertising (source: MediaRadar)
- #1 games print publisher in UK: based on magazine copy sales in the Games sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data)
- #1 music making print publisher in UK: based on magazine copy sales in music making sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data)
- #1 music making print publisher in the US: based on magazine copy sales in music sector on US Barnes & Noble newsstand (source: Barnes & Noble sales rankings)
- #1 creative and design print publisher in UK: based on magazine copy sales in the Design sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data)
- #1 hi-fi print publisher in UK: based on magazine copy sales in the Hi-Fi sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data)
- #1 home interest print publisher in UK: based on magazine copy sales in Home Interest sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data and 2019 ABC subscriptions data)
- #1 home renovations print publisher in UK: based on magazine copy sales in Home Interest sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data and 2019 ABC subscriptions data).
- #1 Photography print publisher in UK: based on magazine copy sales in the Photography sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data)
- #1 shooting print publisher in the UK: based on magazine copy sales in shooting sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data)
- #1 wine magazine in the UK based on magazine copy sales of wine magazines on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data)
- #1 boating print publisher in the UK: based on magazine copy sales in the boating sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data)
- #1 equestrian print publisher in the UK: based on magazine copy sales in the equestrian sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data)
- #1 yachting print publisher in the UK: based on magazine copy sales in the yachting sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data)
- #1 Countryside & County print publisher in the UK: based on magazine copy sales in the countryside and county sector on UK newsstand (source: 2020 distributor data)
- #1 home building and renovating show in the UK; based on number of attendees to last run shows
- #1 consumer photography exhibition in the UK; based on number of attendees to last run shows

