

# abrdn strategy Stephen Bird

# Agenda

Introduction	Stephen Bird	
Personal and ii	Richard Wilson	
ii Technology	John Tumilty	
ii Financial model	Deborah Byard	
Close	Richard Wilson	
Q&A	All	



Stephen Bird CEO, abrdn plc



Richard Wilson CEO, Personal



**Deborah Byard** CFO, Personal



**John Tumilty** COO, interactive investor



## Our strategy



We enable our clients to be abrdn plc To deliver better investors abrdn plc client-led growth

#### Three vectors addressing different client groups supported by content

#### **Investments**

Institutional • Wholesale • Insurance

£376bn
AUM

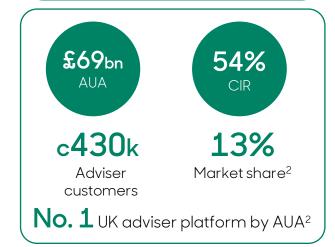
89%
CIR

65%
Investment
performance¹

Global investment solutions

#### Adviser

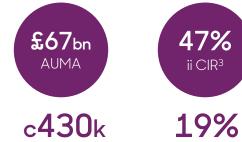
Regional and national financial advisers
• Discretionary fund managers



Personal



Individuals



ii + Personal Customers ii market share<sup>4</sup>

No. 2 UK D2C platform by AUA<sup>5</sup>

c40%

Adj op profit contribution

c60%

Adj op profit contribution

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# Building a leading position in high-growth UK personal wealth market





Acquisition of ii achieved scale in high-growth D2C investing market, accessing new customer segments



interactive



ii is a unique asset as the UK's leading subscription-based direct investing platform



Transforms our Personal vector, significantly growing and diversifying revenue and profitability



Builds an integrated high-tech, high-touch model that meets clients' financial needs



Optimal deployment of capital to drive sustainable growth, returns, scale and shareholder value

# Compelling market dynamics



Large and growing market with strong underlying growth drivers and high barriers to entry



Large total UK market of £4.6tn¹ of which £287bn¹ is on D2C platforms



Attractive underlying demographics: Ageing population with ongoing inter-generational wealth transfers



Enduring savings and advice gap



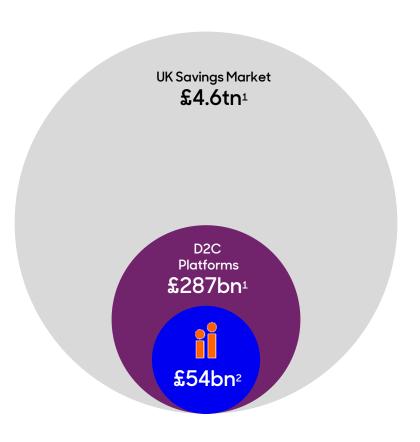
D2C drivers will increase: pension reform, lower cost offerings, improved guidance tools



Greater investment freedom into retirement with end of compulsory annuitisation / rise in drawdown / increase in pension annual allowance



A 'winner takes most' market: D2C investment platforms morphing to D2C financial platforms



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Platforum February 2023. Including D2C, Intermediated, Cash Savings and DC Pensions inc. Personal Pensions with lifecos, DC workplace pensions and specialist pension providers. <sup>2</sup>As at 31 December 2022 interactive investor.

# abrdn Personal Richard Wilson

### Our ambition



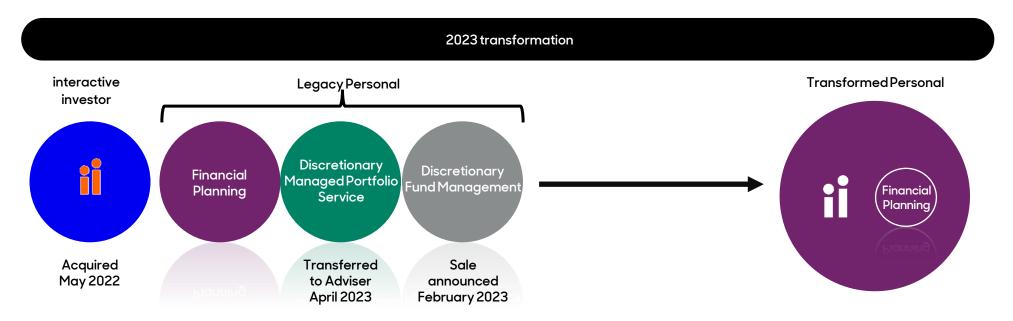


To build a leading position in the UK's personal wealth market

Making investing and financial planning accessible and personal

Approach

To serve customers at all life stages by harnessing our capabilities



### Crowded and competitive UK market.





### Who we are.

The UK's leading subscription-based digitally enabled consumer champion in the direct investing market

- UK's no.2 D2C platform¹ and no.1 subscription-based platform
- 24% market share of UK Cash Market Trades & Active Traders<sup>2</sup>
- Growth momentum underpinned by three drivers:
  - Compelling pricing
  - Scale of customer base
  - Strength of the platform
- Fully invested open architecture platform
- Efficient and scalable business model
- Highly experienced management team
- Open culture of collaboration, diversity and inclusion





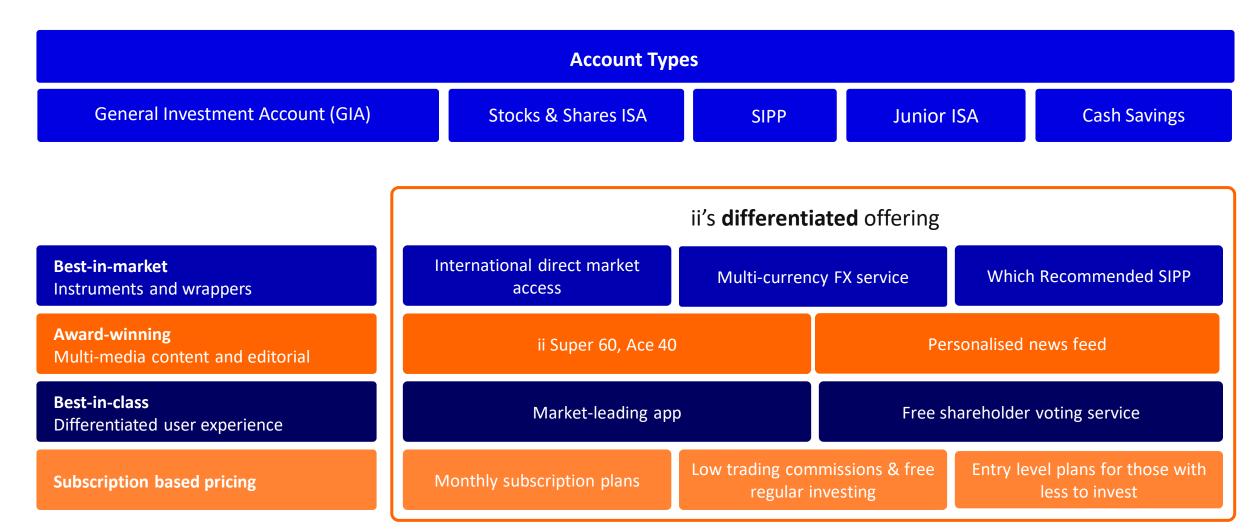






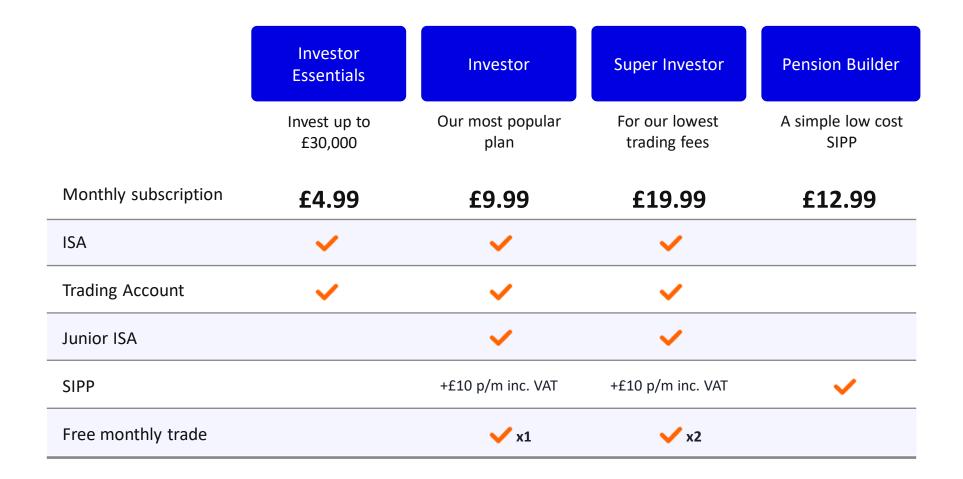


### What we do.





### Subscription fee and 'bundle' pricing model.



# Benefits for the customer

### Easy to understand and offers better value

Lowest price for £30k+ portfolios

New entry level plans are lowest price for £15k+ portfolios

Enables Friends and Family schemes (supports referrals)

#### Benefits for ii

#### Predictable revenue base

Facilitates bundling for cross-sell/up-sell

Supports high quality of earnings and highly resilient financial model

Subscription fee / trading transactions revenue not linked to AUA



### Levers for growth.





### Strategic vision – Why we will win.

We provide a differentiated investment service...



A market leading DIY investment service



Comprehensive family/network services



World class customer experience



Integrated financial planning

...that will win due to the following strategic enablers

#### **Pricing**

- Simple, transparent subscription model
- Reaching broader range of customers through targeted pricing models
- 'Bundles' create natural upgrade path and margin optimisation

#### **Customer base**

- Large D2C customer base allows large-scale trialling of propositions
- Age and profile of base is suitable for pensions and other generational products

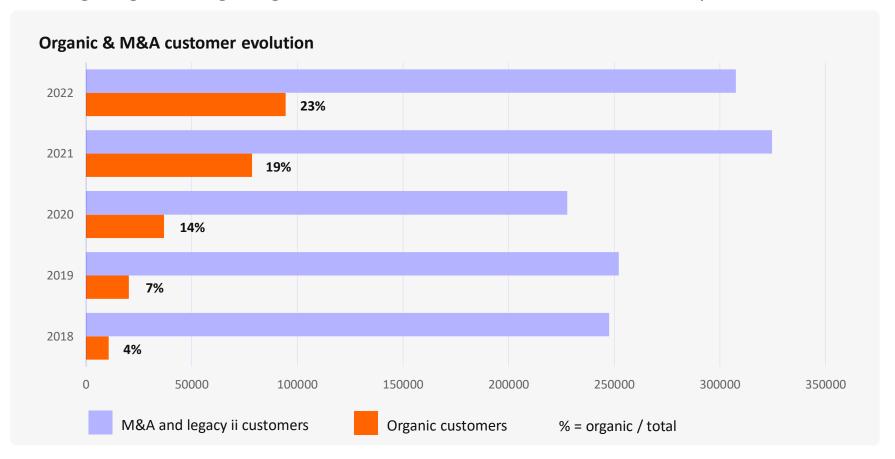
#### **Platform**

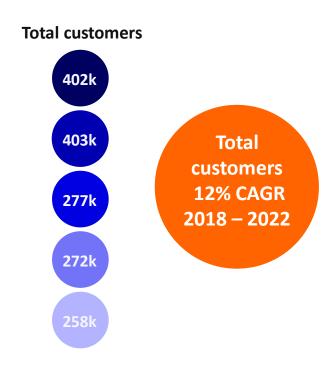
- Scalable and reliable platform supports substantial increase in customers and margin expansion
- Platform allows **new services** to be added at low incremental cost
- Data architecture allows for personalised experience and content



### Customer growth is organic plus M&A.

- 2018 2022 CAGR in total customers = 12%
- Subdued outlook in 2023 due to market conditions
- Targeting mid-single digit CAGR in total customer base over next 5 years







### AUA & net flows.



### **KPIs & market shares.**



#### Average AUA per customer

Highest in the market. 2.5x average<sup>2</sup>

2x

#### **Higher trading activity per customer**

Compared with leading listed peers

13%

#### **SIPP** penetration

Targeting market rates of c25-30% SIPP penetration

95% Total 98% SIPP

#### **Customer retention**

Market aligned for total & much higher for SIPPs



Total AUA = 19% **0.3ppts YoY increase** 



Total UK cash market trades = 24%

**1.4ppts YoY increase** 



Mobile trading = 27%

**8.2ppts YoY increase** 



Total new accounts = 16%

**1.5ppts YoY increase** 



New SIPP accounts = 20%

**6.1ppts YoY increase** 

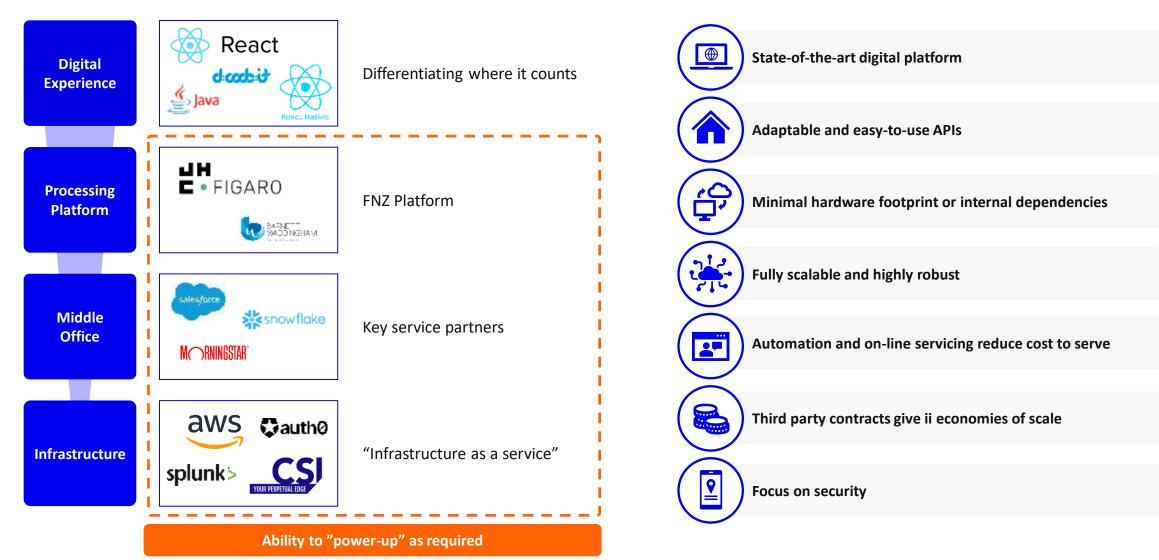


# Our technology and data capabilities.

John Tumilty

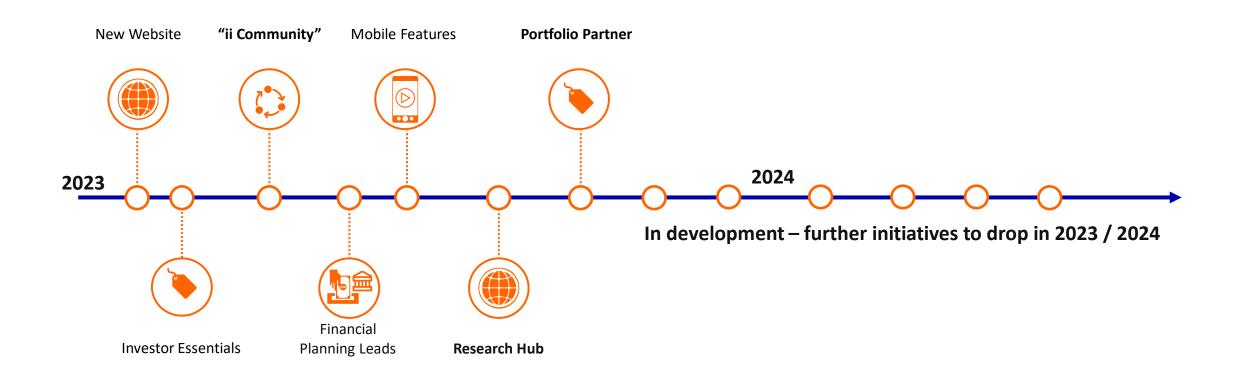


### Fully invested and scalable digital operating platform.





## Clear pipeline for new services.



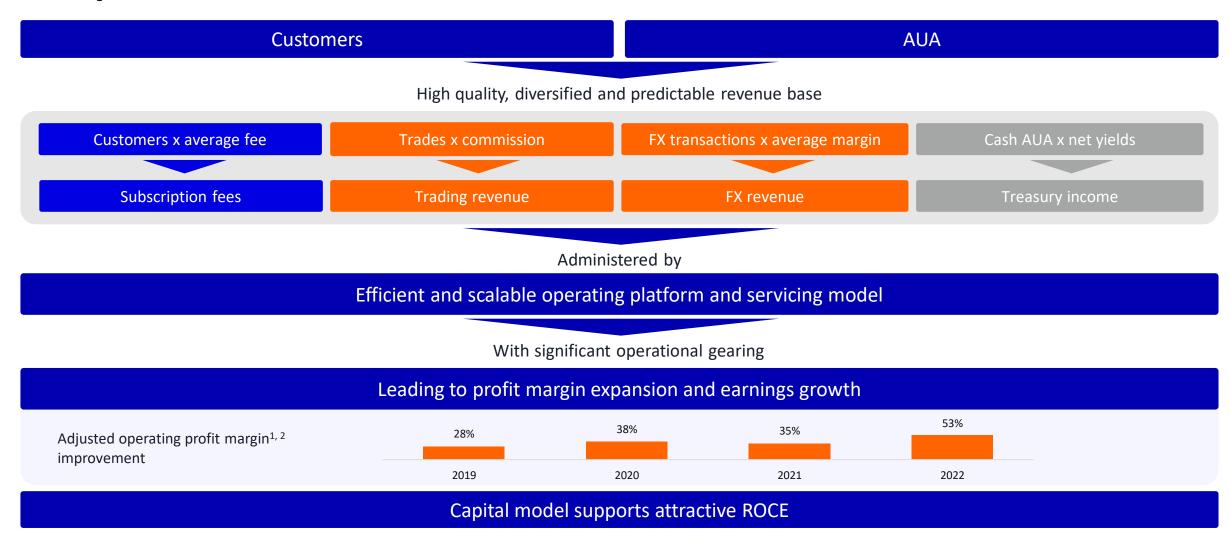


# Our scalable, efficient financial model.

Deborah Byard



### Simple, resilient and scalable financial model.

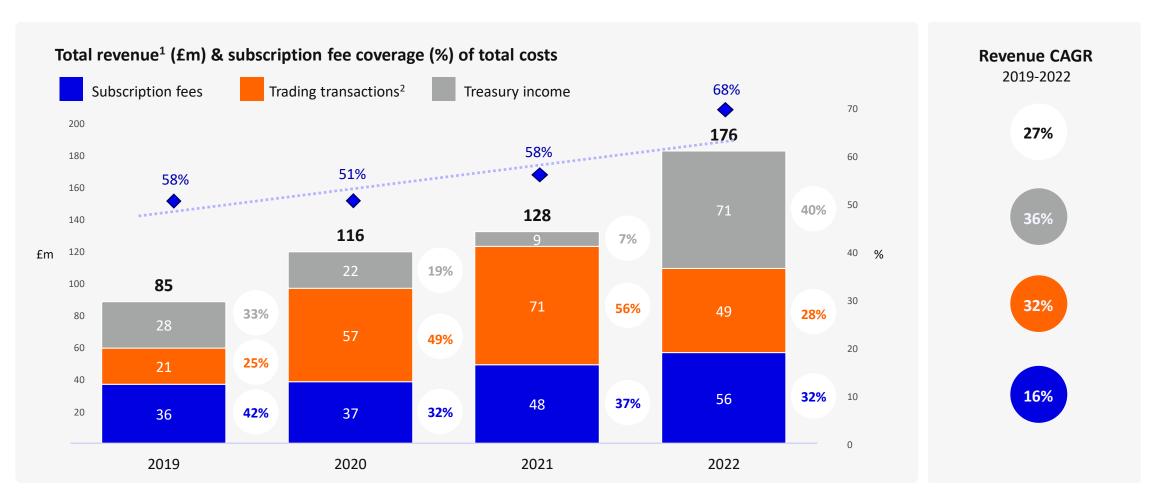




ii

### Diversified revenue model.

High quality, diversified and predictable revenue base. Increasing coverage of costs by subscription fees.



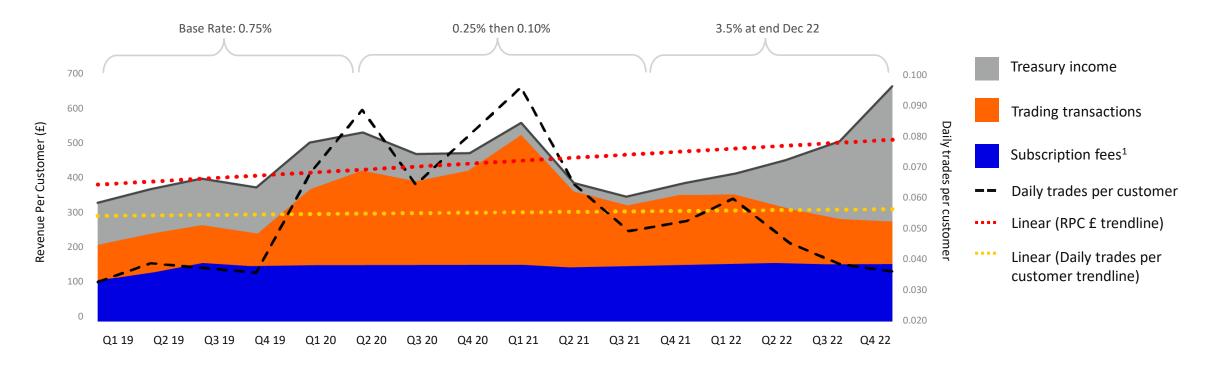


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### Resilient revenue model.

Ebb & flow of trading and treasury revenues often offset in part. Average revenue per customer steadily growing with quality of book.

#### Revenue per customer (RPC) & daily trades per customer

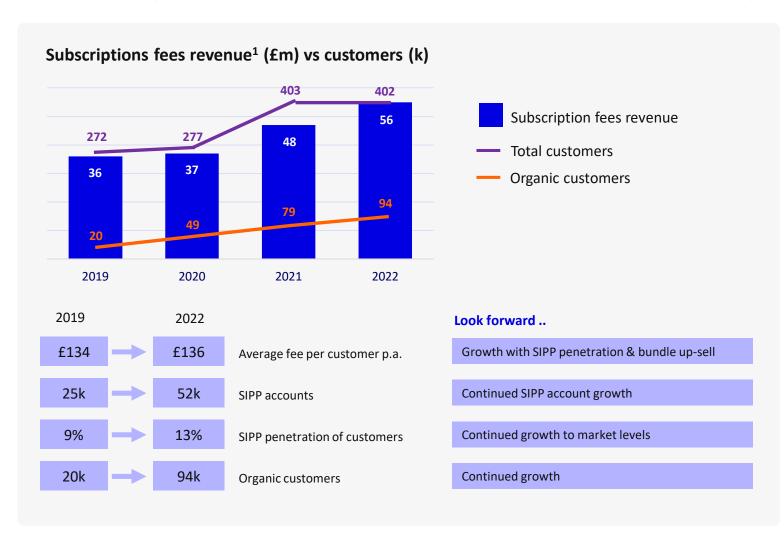




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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Subscription fee revenue includes other income and has been presented net of marketing incentives.

### Subscription fees revenue – drivers and dynamics.



#### **Tailwinds**

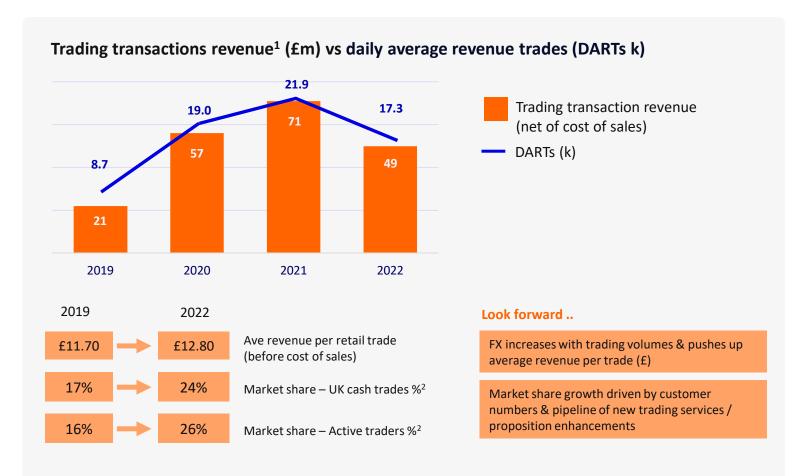
- Acquisitions have built scale now pivot to organic with investment in brand / advertising
- Strong organic customer growth
- 'Essentials' price point introduced to attract 'new to market' customers starting out with lower value portfolios
- Increasing proportion of customers holding SIPPs pushing up average annual fees
- Strong SIPP growth continues both organic and cross-sell to migrated customer books
- SIPP retention 98% p.a.

#### **Headwinds**

Subdued activity in market in late 2022 & 2023



### Trading transactions revenue – drivers and dynamics.



#### **Tailwinds**

- Acquisitions have built scale now pivot to organic with investment in brand
- Strong growth in organic customers who on average trade 50% more than the acquired customer base
- 2022: On average FX transactions are 20-25% of daily trading volumes – up from circa 15% in 2019.
   New in app currency functionality introduced
- 'ii Community' pilot launched to be rolled out later in year
- ii's market share<sup>2</sup> in UK cash market trades
   & active traders has increased to 24% and 26%
   in Q4 2022

#### **Headwinds**

- Subdued activity in market in late 2022 & 2023
- 'Fight to the bottom' on commission charges?



### Treasury income – drivers and dynamics.

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Treasury income (£m)¹	28	22	9	71
Client cash (£bn) (y/e)	3.3	3.8	5.2	6.0
Total AUA (£bn) (y/e)	32.0	38.3	58.6	54.0
Cash % of AUA	10	10	9	11
Average BoE base rate (%)	0.8	0.2	0.1	1.5
Average cash margin (bps)	110	60	20	120



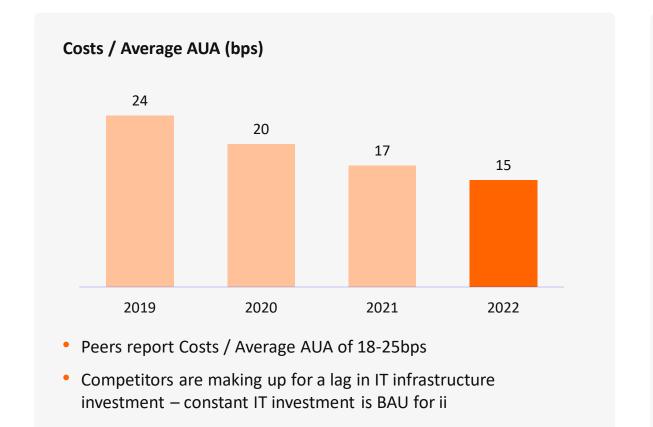
- Recent cash levels have been 9-11% of total AUA. Prudent to expect 9-10% going forward
- Base rates have continued to increase across H1 2023
- Client cash placed on deposit across many counterparties – time lag between base rate changes & yield movements
- Following base rate increase to 5%, rates paid to customers has been increased as from 1 July with a new higher tier introduced across all products paying 350bps above £100,000
- Indicative average cash margin for 2023 now expected to be 180–200bps

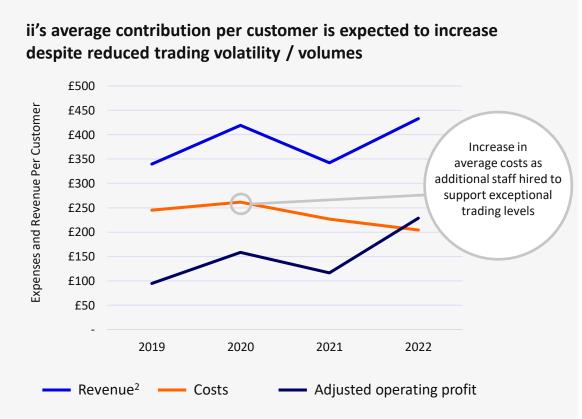


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### Highly efficient operating platform driving margin expansion.

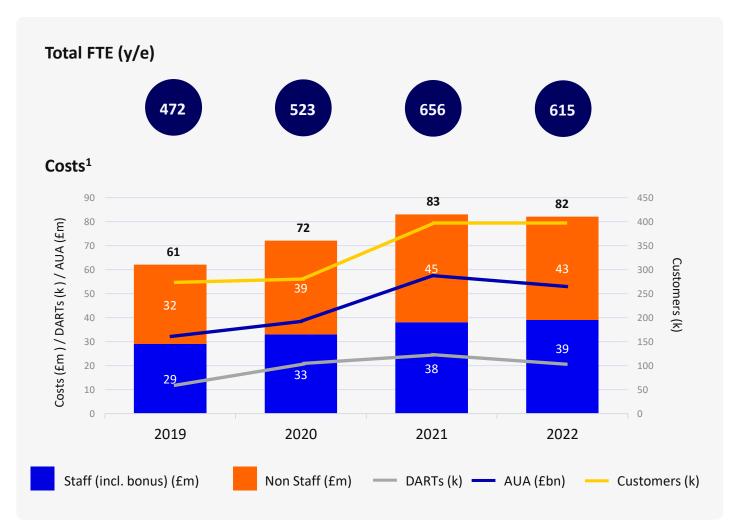
Significant operating leverage given largely fixed cost base and new customers onboarded at very low and decreasing marginal cost







### Structure and evolution of cost base.



High operating leverage from largely fixed cost base.



Scalable platform with continuous investment in new technology – Salesforce, new website – no tech debt



Strong cost discipline – efficient cost control following acquisitions – very low incremental costs retained



Growth in staff numbers and costs in line with the ii customer book

Additional staff taken on to support short term M&A activity and exceptional trading volumes through the covid 19 period



Low risk operating environment – we do not hold our own investments



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## Transformed Personal vector positioned for growth





Transformation of Personal vector



Financial Planning restructure



ii's scalable and efficient financial model



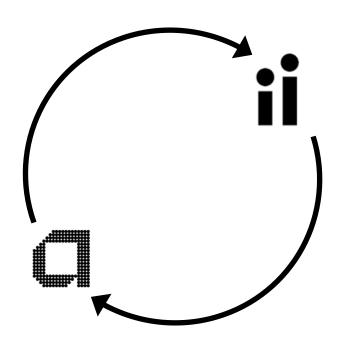
Combined to deliver growth with CIR <60%



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## Accelerating growth by being part of abrdn





Offering abrdn products and services to a wider client base

Leveraging data for product engineering and innovation

Integrating personal wealth capability including Financial Planning

Leveraging full abrdn group scale and capabilities

## Forward-looking statements

This document may contain certain 'forward-looking statements' with respect to the financial condition, performance, results, strategies, targets, objectives, plans, goals and expectations of the Company and its affiliates. These forward-looking statements can be identified by the fact that they do not relate only to historical or current facts.

Forward-looking statements are prospective in nature and are not based on historical or current facts, but rather on current expectations, assumptions and projections of management of the Group about future events, and are therefore subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from the future results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. For example but without limitation, statements containing words such as 'may', 'will', 'should', 'could', 'continues', 'aims', 'estimates', 'projects', 'believes', 'intends', 'expects', 'hopes', 'plans', 'pursues', 'ensure', 'seeks', 'targets' and 'anticipates', and words of similar meaning (including the negative of these terms), may be forward-looking. These statements are based on assumptions and assessments made by the Company in light of its experience and its perception of historical trends, current conditions, future developments and other factors it believes appropriate.

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COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak; climate change and a transition to a low carbon economy (including the risk that the Group may not achieve its targets); exposure to third party risks including as a result of outsourcing; the failure to attract or retain necessary key personnel; the policies and actions of regulatory authorities; and the impact of changes in capital, solvency or accounting standards, and tax and other legislation and regulations (including changes to the regulatory capital requirements that the Group is subject to in the jurisdictions in which the Company and its affiliates operate. As a result, the Group's actual future financial condition, performance and results may differ materially from the plans, goals, objectives and expectations set forth in the forward-looking statements.

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