









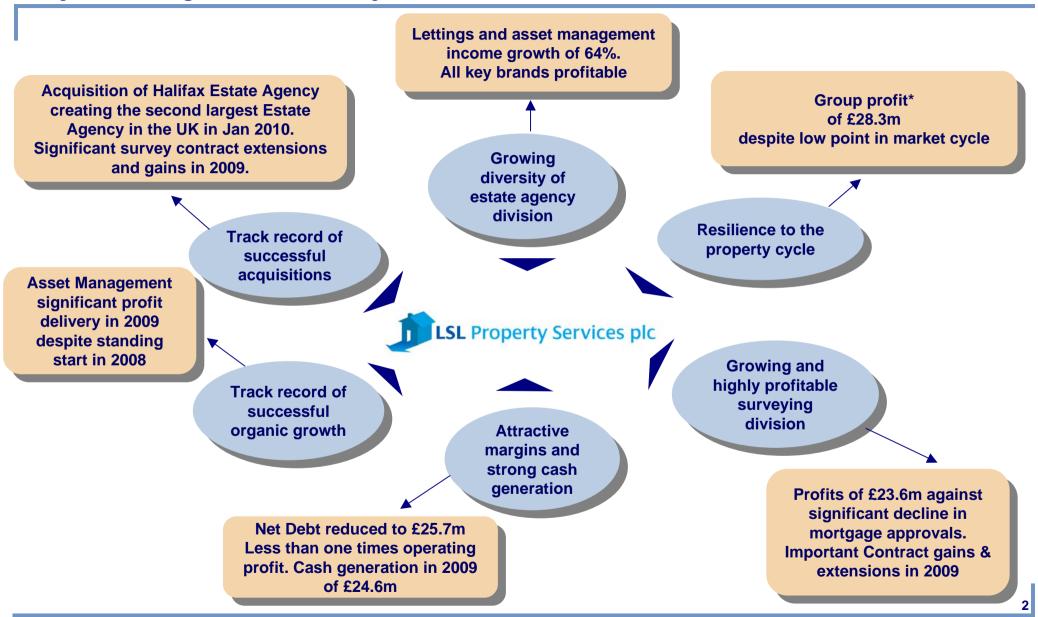


# **Preliminary Results Presentation**

Year Ended 31 December 2009

Simon Embley, Group Chief Executive Officer Dean Fielding, Group Finance Director

# Key messages & delivery 2009





### Highlights

#### Group

- Underlying Group Operating Profit up 55% to £28.3m (2008: £18.2m)
- Adjusted Basic earnings per share up 93% to 18.1p (2008: 9.4p per share\*).
- Return to dividend list: Interim dividend declared of 5.4p per share (2008: nil)
- Significant cash generation during the year

#### **Surveying Performance**

- Significantly outperformed the market: turnover down 12% against 34% decline in total mortgage approvals
- Underlying Operating profit of £23.5m (2008: £28.6m)

#### **Estate Agency Performance**

Delivered a significant turnaround in Profitability. Operating Profit of £6.7m (2008: Loss of £8.4m\*)

- All our high street Estate Agency brands were profitable in 2009
- Excellent growth in asset management business market share of 17% in Q4,2009\*\*

#### **Acquisition of Halifax Estate Agencies Limited**

- Establishes LSL as second largest Estate Agency business in UK
- Integration completed on schedule and targeted run-rate cost savings achieved

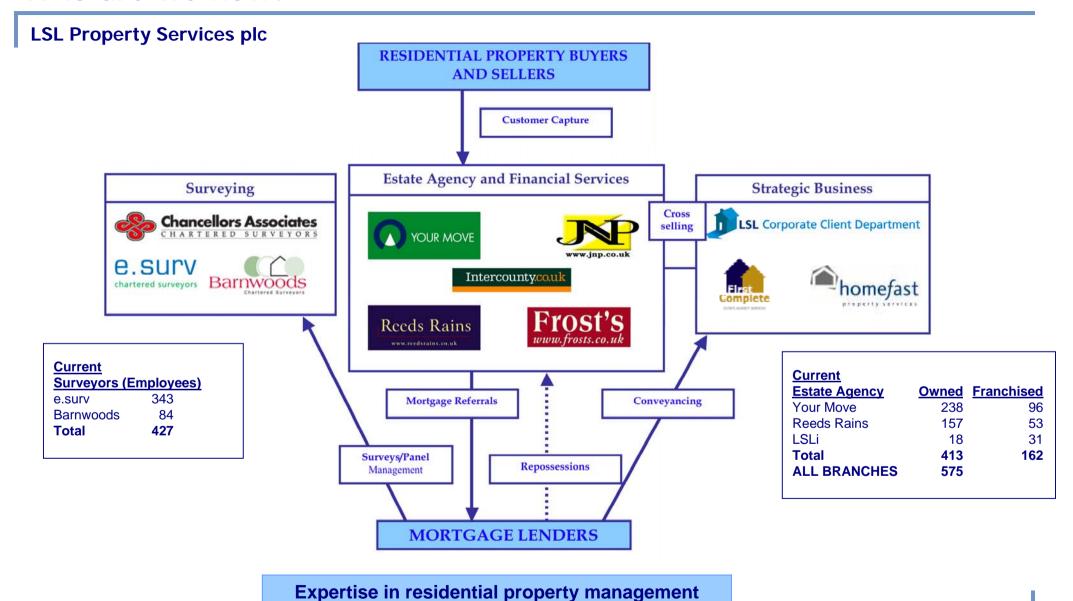


<sup>\*</sup> Please note that the Income Statement for 2008 was restated due to the adoption of the amendment to IFRS 2 Share-based payments, details of the restatement at given at note 2 of the financial statement. All relevant figures in this report reflect the restatement

Bank of England Total Mortgage Approval for 2009

<sup>\*\*</sup> Council of Mortgage Lenders data on repossession 2009

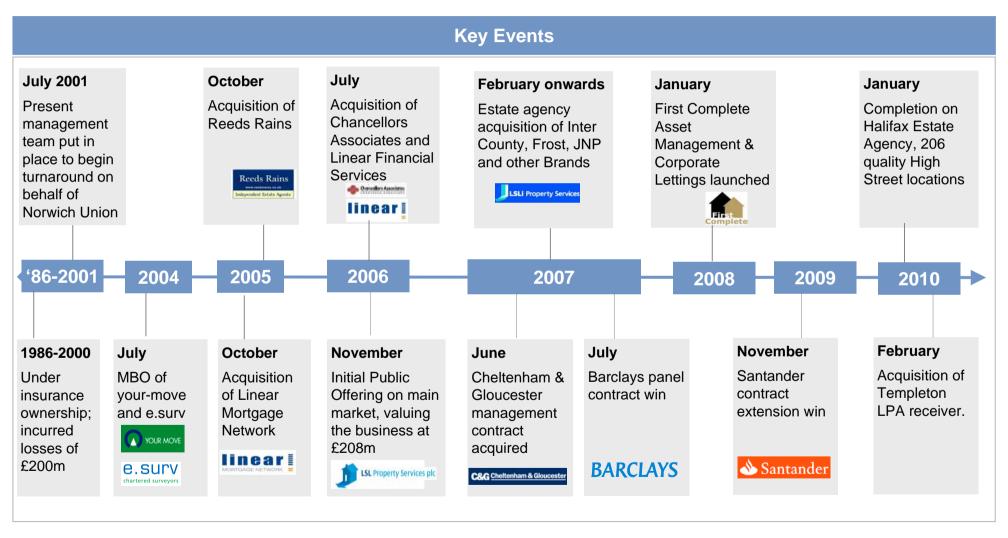
### Who are we now?





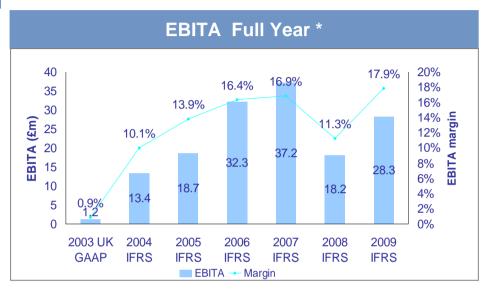
# LSL's genesis

#### LSLs business transformation from a loss making insurance distribution arm:-



### Financials at a glance

#### A strong result in a difficult market





- Mortgage approvals for house purchase remain at low point in the cycle
  - average 1994 to 2007 was 1.2m
  - 2009 at 0.6m, half of the historic norm
- Mortgage approvals are still significantly impacted by very low remortgage activity
  - overall 34% down on 2008
- Underlying Operating profit increased by 55% from £18.2m to £28.3m
- Margins increased from 11.3% to 17.9% underpinned by
  - strength of surveying margin of 34%
  - ▶ reduced cost base down 10%
  - strong growth in counter-cyclical income up 64%



### **Group Income Statement**

C	Group Fina	ncial Ov	erview * (	£m)	
Revenue	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	2008	2009	% Change
Estate Agency	124.0	129.6	81.7	87.7	7%
Surveying	74.0	89.9	80.1	70.0	-13%
Total	198.0	219.5	161.8	157.7	-3%
<b>Underlying Grou</b>	p operating	profit/loss			
Estate Agency	12.6	12.9	-8.4	6.7	
Surveying	21.0	26.4	28.6	23.6	-17%
Central Costs	-1.3	-2.1	-2.0	-2.0	0%
Total	32.3	37.2	18.2	28.3	55%

#### **Segment highlights**

- Estate Agency turnaround £8.4m loss to £6.7m profit
- Surveying profit of £23.6m despite significant decline in mortgage approvals

Group Inco	me Statem	ent	
	2007	2008	2009
Turnover	219.5	161.8	157.7
Net Expenditure	-182.3	-143.6	-129.4
Underlying Group Operating Profit	37.2	18.2	28.3
Share based payments	-0.7	-0.1	-0.5
Amortisation	-9.1	-10.1	-8.6
Exceptionals	-1.4	-7.8	-0.4
Adjusted Group Operating Profit	26.0	0.2	18.8
Dividend income	0.4	0.3	0
Net finance costs	-3.1	-3.8	-2.1
Exceptional finance costs	0.0	-0.4	0
Adjusted PBT	23.3	-3.7	16.6
Deferred tax adjustment to goodwill	-1.0	-1.0	0.0
Taxation	-5.9	1.4	-4.9
PAT	16.4	-3.3	11.7

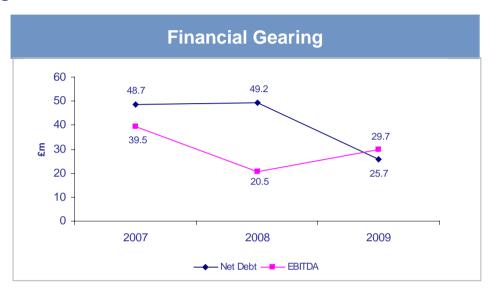
#### **Group Income Statement**

- Group revenue down 2.5%
- Underlying operating profit up 55%
- Underlying operating margin increase from 11.3% to 17.9%
- Adjusted Basic EPS up 93% to 18.1p

## Strong Cash Flow

#### Strong cash generation and significant reduction in gearing

£m	<u>2008</u>	2009
Underlying Group operating profit	18.2	28.3
Depreciation & other	2.3	1.4
Proceeds from sale of equipment	0.1	0.0
Loss on sale of equipment	0.4	0.0
Exceptional costs (excluding impairment)	-6.7	-0.4
Exceptional net finance costs	-0.4	0.0
Dividend income	0.3	0.0
Net interest payable	-3.9	-2.3
Movement in working capital	-1.5	1.1
Tax paid	-5.1	-3.6
Capital expenditure	-1.0	-0.7
Net cash from operating activity after tax & capex	2.7	23.8



- Business significantly different to 2008:
  - ▶ Net debt to EBITDA reduced from 2.4 times to 0.86 times
  - ▶ Significant growth in counter-cyclical income streams (lettings £12.7m in 2007 to £19.6m in 2009) and Asset Management (from a standing start in 2008 to £9.3m). Overall growth in counter-cyclical income of 64%
  - ▶ Surveying strengthened market share through contract wins and extensions
  - ▶ Lower cost base down 10%
- Return to dividend list
  - ▶ Dividend policy pay-out of 30% to 40% of adjusted profit after tax
  - ▶ Adjusted EPS 18.1p per share (2008: 9.4p)
  - ▶ Dividend payable March with respect to 2009 of 5.4p per share (2008: £NIL)

### mortgagestrategy AWARDS

### Operational Performance: Surveying

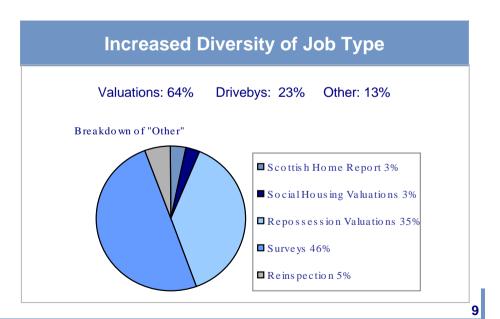
- Winner Best Surveyor/Valuer

#### Continued growth in market share

Surveying Segment					
_	2006	2007	2008	2009	% Change
Turnover (£m)	74.0	89.9	80.1	70.0	-12%
Expenditure (£m)	-53.0	-63.5	-51.5	-46.5	-10%
Profit (£m)	21.0	26.4	28.6	23.5	-18%
Margin	28.4%	29.4%	35.7%	33.6%	-2%

Ма	rket S	hare G	Frowth		
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Jobs performed ('000s)	378	434	533	461	439
Mortgage approvals*	3381	3534	3292	1980	1300
* Source: Bank of England da	ta				

- Strong profits despite market conditions
- Strong market share growth from e.surv
  - mortgage approvals down 34%
  - turnover down 12%
- Demonstrating resilience of operating model margins in excess of 30% maintained
- Barnwoods, turnover declined in line with market, but still a key contract with turnover £15.5m (2008: £21.7m)
- Significant cost reduction yoy down 10%



### Surveying's embedded relationships

Providing a range of services across the UK's lending market

Service provider

a little extra help

LLOYDS

GROUP





Panel manager



Joint panel manager





Clydesdale Bank





















The UK's market leading valuation distributor

Source: Company data

### Surveying: Development

#### Market backdrop

#### Market conditions remain difficult:

- Total mortgage approvals down by 34% yoy
- Claims environment with continuing repossessions has resulted in an increase in claims. Provision increase from £5.6m to £7.5m
- Surveying firms going bust due to market and claims environment
- LSL well placed as lenders look to firms with strong balance sheet and claims record

#### **Clients update**

- Extensions gained to 4 important contracts, including Barclays
- An exclusive 5 year major supply contract with Santander which will have a significant positive impact on turnover and profit in 2010

#### **New products & opportunities**

- Scottish single survey launched and embedded, providing additional income
- Early adopters of RICS Home Buyer Survey
- RICS launch partner for new Assoc. RICS qualification
- Well placed for market improvement

#### Strong client base

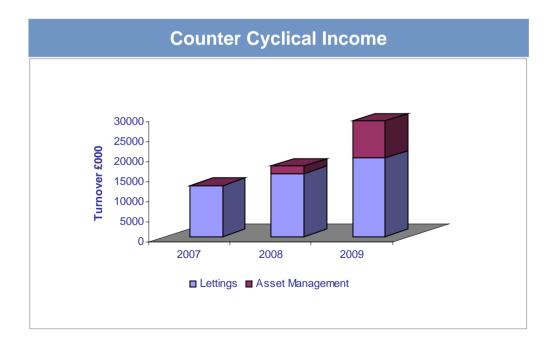
- Excellent service delivery record enabled us to stand out from the crowd. Winners of best Surveyor category at the Mortgage Strategy Awards 2010
- Robust customer relationships with the leading lender institutions
- Diverse client base providing some insulation to changes in client behaviour

### Operational Performance: Estate Agency

Estate Agency Segment					
_	2007	2008	2009		
Revenue (£m)	129.7	81.7	87.7		
Expenditure (£m)	-116.7	-90.1	-81.0		
Operating Profit (£m)	13.0	-8.4	6.7		

ency KPIs		
2008	2009 %	<b>Change</b>
13683	14815	8%
28.6	28.1	-2%
14.7	11.0	-25%
15.8	19.6	24%
1.8	9.3	417%
20.8	19.7	-5%
	13683 28.6 14.7 15.8 1.8	2008 2009 %   13683 14815   28.6 28.1   14.7 11.0   15.8 19.6   1.8 9.3

<sup>\*</sup> these figure reflect Your Move and Reeds Rains only



#### Return to profitability as a result of:-

- Reduced cost base down 10%
- Increased counter-cyclical income up 64%
- All High Street brands traded profitably









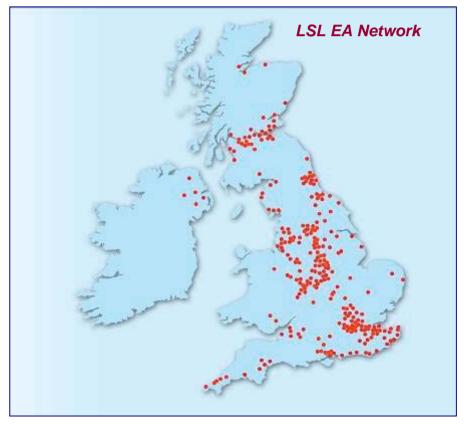
### Estate Agency: HEAL

#### **Acquisition of Halifax Estate Agencies Ltd**

- Transformational deal
- 206 High Street branches (92 franchised)
- All milestones completed
  - offices re-branded
  - implemented LSL Estate Agency systems
  - re-structured Head Office and Management
  - back office services integrated
- Strong locations, quality and professional staff

Branch No	umbers	
Countrywide	1108	
Connells	470	
LSL Property Services	378	
Halifax Estate Agency	244	
Spicerhaart	173	
Savills	113	
Arun	78	

- A high quality branch network, register of clients and pipeline of sales on favourable terms
- Includes an established asset management business with a new three year contract with Bank of Scotland
- 130 Mortgage advisors



## **Estate Agency: HEAL Financials**

#### Targeted run-rate cost savings delivered

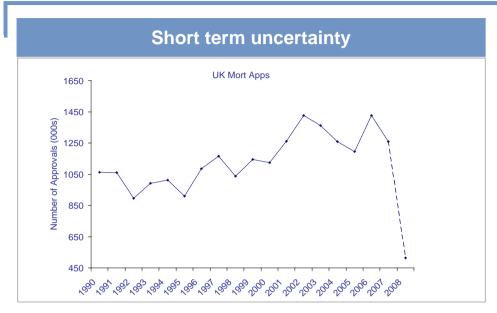
HEAL Operating	Results	
	2007	2008
Revenue (£m)	96.2	54.1
Expenditure (£m)	-120.8	-105.2
Underlying operating loss	-24.6	-51.1

- Above includes
  - ▶ LBG central re-charges: £39.7m
  - ▶ Head Office & Management cost: £19.4m
  - Bank counter income & costs
- Current run rate on expenditure £3m per month
  - post Head Office closure
  - Management integration
  - elimination of LBG re-charge
- HEAL cash received on acquisition of £25.6m to cover re-brand & re-structure and initial losses

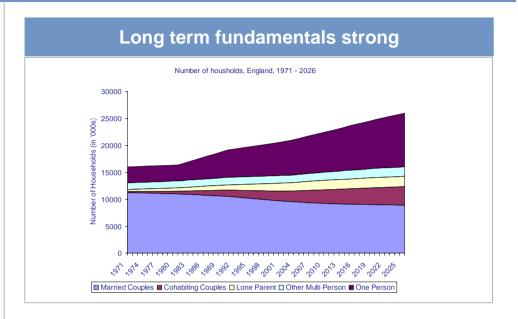
HEAL Turnover analysis 2009					
	YM / RR		HEAL estimated		
	Total	Per Branch	Total	Per Branch	
Exchange Unit	14815		6516		
	£m	£000	£m	£000	
Exchange Fees	28.1	99	13.1	115	
Other income	40.9	143	12.9	113	
Total Income	69.0	242	26.0	228	
	LSL	.CCD	HEA	L AM	
Asset Management	9.3		2.9		
Other Income	9.4				
Total Segment	87.7		28.9		

- Excludes new Asset Management contract
  - estimates at 4000 cases p.a.
  - ▶ 75% of volumes in excess of 6000
- Focus in 2010 will be growing other income
- A Cash surplus estimated in 2010. In addition circa £8m of freehold property

### Market Outlook



- Dramatic fall in house purchase approvals
  - ▶ some indications of a recovery with H2 volumes at 700,000 run rate
  - activity to end of Feb is in line with our expectations & reflects continuation of H2 2009 run rates
- Election, fiscal policy and lending uncertainty
- Any interest rate hikes will lead to potential forced sellers and a change in market dynamics
- Market uncertain in short term but LSL well placed
  - low financial gearing and reduced cost base
  - increased Estate Agency counter cyclical income and robust surveying operation



- Significant shortage of new build
- Increase in demand as a result of changing socio-economic factors
- Volumes half of historic norms
- Market long term fundamentals strong and LSL well placed
  - ▶ to benefit from an improving market
  - and to grow earnings

## Board will be strengthened during 2010

- Executive Director Surveying Paul Latham retiring, remaining as a NED
  - ► Alison Traversoni appointed 31st May 2010
  - currently MD of e.surv
  - ▶ 20 years experience with the Group
  - Shareholding in LSL acquired as part of the MBO
- Executive Director Estate Agency New Board position
  - ▶ David Newnes appointed 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010
  - ▶ Your Move MD since MBO in 2004
  - Shareholding in LSL acquired as part of the MBO
  - ▶ Focus Estate Agency market share growth / strategic marketing HEAL performance
- New independent NED to be appointed during 2010
- New Share plan for Executive Directors / Senior Management
  - ▶ JSOP structure shareholder consultation / AGM approval
  - Maximum award 200% of salary p.a CEO
  - ▶ 3 year vesting
  - EPS performance criteria

### Summary

- Experienced management team
- Highly profitable surveying division
- Second largest estate agency in the UK by number of branches
- Fast growing asset management business
- Dividend reinstated
- Strong cash generation, low financial gearing (less than 1 x EBITDA)
- Significant upside as market recovers
- Well placed for further acquisitions