

# **FULL YEAR 2022/23 RESULTS**

SEVERN
24 May 2023 TRENT

WONDERFUL ON TAP



## **DISCLAIMERS**

### **Cautionary statement regarding forward-looking statements**

This document contains statements that are, or may be deemed to be, 'forward-looking statements' with respect to Severn Trent's financial condition, results of operations and business and certain of Severn Trent's plans and objectives with respect to these items.

Forward-looking statements are sometimes, but not always, identified by their use of a date in the future or such words as 'anticipates', 'aims', 'due', 'could', 'may', 'will', 'would', 'should', 'expects', 'believes', 'intends', 'plans', 'projects', 'potential', 'reasonably possible', 'targets', 'goal', 'estimates' or words with a similar meaning, and, in each case, their negative or other variations or comparable terminology. Any forward-looking statements in this document are based on Severn Trent's current expectations and, by their very nature, forward-looking statements are inherently unpredictable, speculative and involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that may or may not occur in the future.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and no assurances can be given that the forward-looking statements in this document will be realised. There are a number of factors, many of which are beyond Severn Trent's control, that could cause actual results, performance and developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements.

These factors include but are not limited to: the Principal Risks disclosed in our Annual Report and Accounts (as summarised in our Preliminary Announcement of Annual Results); changes in the economies and markets in which the Group operates; changes in the regulatory and competition frameworks in which the Group operates; the impact of legal or other proceedings against or which affect the Group; and changes in interest and exchange rates.

All written or verbal forward-looking statements, made in this document or made subsequently, which are attributable to Severn Trent or any other member of the Group or persons acting on their behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the factors referred to above. This document speaks as at the date of publication. Save as required by applicable laws and regulations, Severn Trent does not intend to update any forward-looking statements and does not undertake any obligation to do so. Past performance of securities of Severn Trent Plc cannot be relied upon as a guide to the future performance of securities of Severn Trent Plc.

Nothing in this document should be regarded as a profits forecast.

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# LIV GARFIELD Chief Executive



# **2022/23 HIGHLIGHTS**



# **SECTOR ISSUES UNDER SCRUTINY**

### Delivering on key issues through increased focus and investment

# Sector Issues Leakage Hit our

Hosepipe bans

Pollutions

River quality

Cost of living

### Our Performance

Hit our leakage target for eleven of the last twelve years



No bans in our region for nearly three decades



Reduced total pollutions by 22% so far this AMP



Improved our performance on river quality by a third over the last year



Financially supporting 237,000 customers; on track to support 315,000 by 2025



### Going above and beyond our regulatory commitments



Get River
Positive Pledges

Community Fund



Societal Strategy

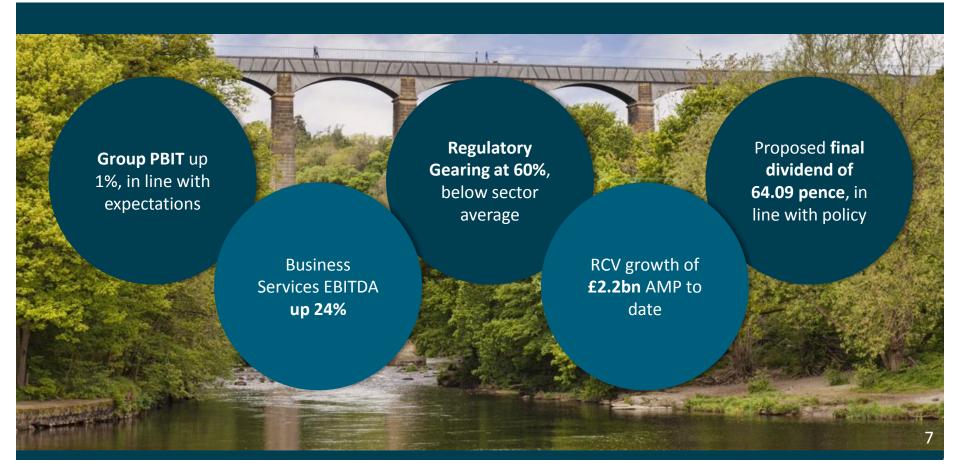


# JAMES BOWLING

Chief Financial Officer

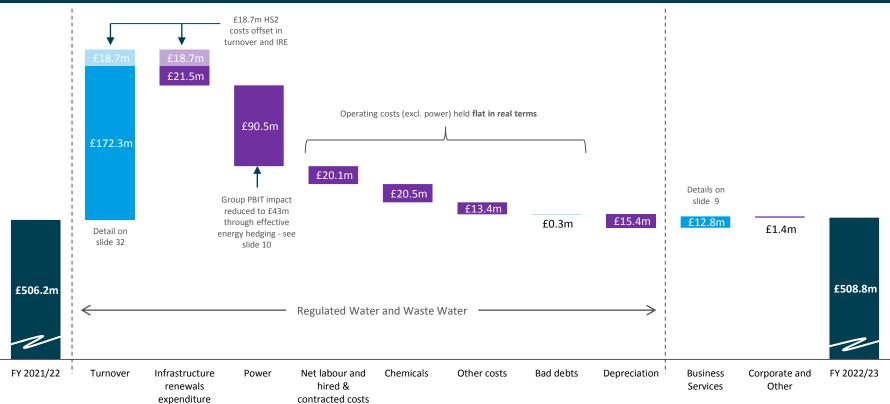


# 2022/23 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS



# **GROUP PBIT**

### Group PBIT up: increased turnover; strong cost control; Business Services growth



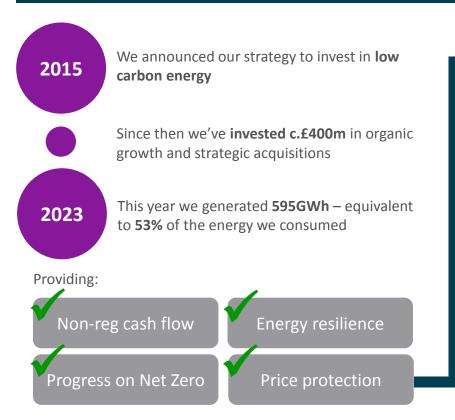
# **BUSINESS SERVICES**

### Strong earnings growth driven by operational excellence and higher energy prices



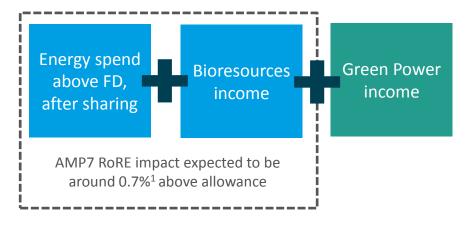
# **EFFECTIVE ENERGY STRATEGY**

### Benefitting from strategic renewable investments helping us navigate a volatile market



### **Return on Equity protection**

Investment in energy generation means a broadly neutral impact<sup>1</sup> on Group RoE across AMP7 from recent wholesale energy price volatility



Group PBIT impact in 2022/23 limited to a £43m increase

Prices locked in for 2023/24, increasing opex, but substantial reduction forecasted in 2024/25

# FINANCING STRATEGY

### Continuing to raise debt at competitive rates, supporting future growth

Experienced Treasury team

Strong ESG credentials

Access to diverse global markets

Strong liquidity: f1.3bn facilities

Stable credit ratings
Baa1/BBB+/BBB+

### Strong track record

- Over £3.5bn new debt and facilities raised during AMP7
- Includes £1.5bn sustainable bonds and £1.35bn sustainable bank facilities
- Efficient financing at competitive rates

### Well-positioned for future

- £350m of debt at average cost of 6.25% left to refinance in AMP7
- Actively managed debt profile with well-spread maturities
- Key enablers in place to continue strong performance



Case Study: £400m GBP bond (November 2022)

In November 2022, as debt markets reopened, we issued the year's "most successful sterling company bond" (Bloomberg)

- £400m raised with twelve year tenure at fixed rates
- 8 x oversubscribed, achieving a rate of 4.625%
- Issued under our Sustainable Finance Framework

# 2022/23 FINANCING PERFORMANCE

Strategic debt mix boosts financing performance and protects earnings in high inflation

**7.7%** up 470 bps

RoRE financing outperformance

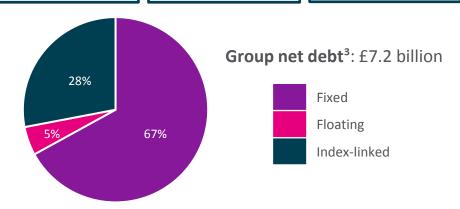
3.0%

flat year-on-year

Effective cash cost of interest<sup>1</sup>

**6.2%** up 150bps

Effective cost of interest<sup>2</sup>



### **Strong in-year performance**

**Cash interest cost flat** despite rising rates

**Low levels of index-linked debt**, 28% versus sector average of 54%<sup>4</sup>

Outperformance of 470bps boosted by inflation

Interest charge up due to **non-cash** roll up on indexlinked debt, expected to **reduce 15-20%** in 2023/24

**Well positioned ahead of AMP8**, with embedded debt allowance based on sector average

Excludes inflation accretion on index-linked debt and net pension finance costs.

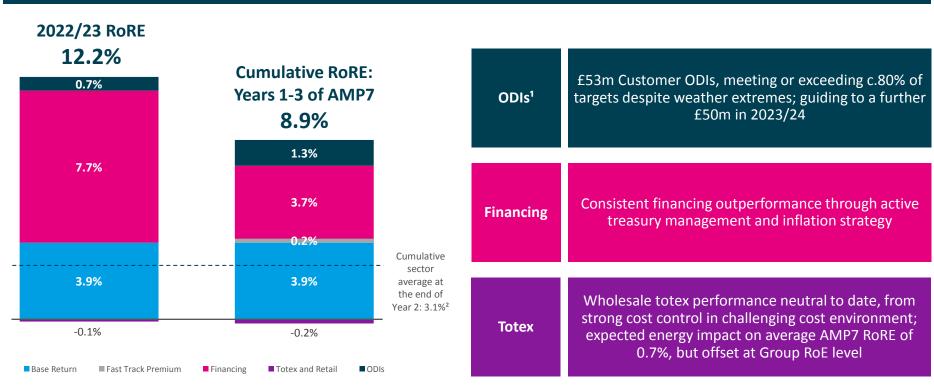
<sup>2.</sup> Includes inflation accretion on index-linked debt, but excludes net pension finance costs.

<sup>3.</sup> Includes cross currency swaps and loan receivable from joint venture.

<sup>4.</sup> Index-linked weighted average for sector taken from Ofwat's Monitoring Financial Resilience report 2021-22.

# RETURN ON REGULATORY EQUITY

Continued strong RoRE: 8.3% above the base return in year, 5.0% cumulative outperformance



# HELEN MILES

Chief Financial Officer Designate



# **OUTLOOK AND GUIDANCE**

### Outlook

Earnings: We anticipate strong earnings per share growth in 2023/24 as a result of a 15-20% reduction in interest charge. We expect a further step up in 2024/25 as lower energy costs and inflation-linked tariff increases flow through to operational earnings.

Returns: We expect to deliver a strong average Return on Regulatory Equity (RoRE) for AMP7, driven by both operational and financial outperformance.

We are confident we can continue to deliver sector-leading operational performance, including end-of-AMP ODIs expected to contribute £40-50 million on top of in-year net rewards for the last year of the AMP.

Over the course of AMP7 we expect higher energy costs to impact average RoRE by around 0.7 percentage points<sup>1</sup>, but this will be offset by higher Green Power income to give a broadly neutral impact on the Group's Return on Equity.

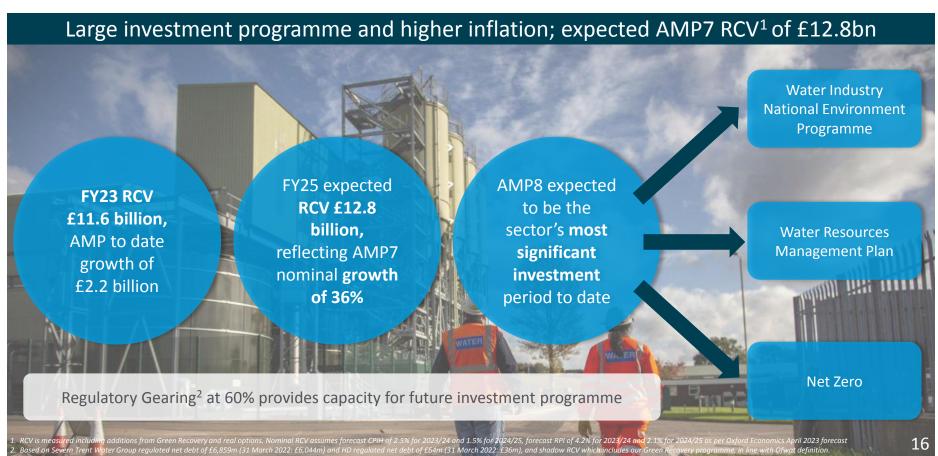
RCV<sup>2</sup>: Group RCV has grown by 23% since the beginning of AMP7 and is expected to grow by 36% over the five-year period, benefitting from our large investment programme, and including recent inflation forecasts.

- 1. Based on performance to date, hedged position for 2023/24 and latest energy forecasts for 2024/25.
- 2. RCV: Regulatory Capital Value. RCV is measured including additions from Green Recovery and real options. Nominal RCV assumes forecast CPIH of 2.5% for 2023/24 and 1.5% for 2024/25, forecast RPI of 4.2% for 2023/24 and 2.1% for 2024/25 as per Oxford Economics April 2023 forecast.

2023/24 Technical Guidance					
Regulated Water and Waste Water		2022/23	Year-on-year		
Turnover	£2.15 billion to £2.20 billion.	£2.00bn	<b>A</b>		
Operating costs	Higher year-on-year, reflecting an increase in power costs, pay inflation and a step up in Green Recovery expenditure.	£889m	<b>A</b>		
Infrastructure renewals expenditure ('IRE')	Marginally higher year-on-year due to HS2 activity, which is broadly offset in turnover.	£238m	<b>A</b>		
ODIs <sup>1</sup>	Continued outperformance on increasingly stretching targets, delivering a net reward of at least £50 million.	£53m	$\leftrightarrow$		
Business Services					
EBITDA (excl. Property)	Lower year-on-year due to the impact of the lower energy prices on revenue in Green Power.	£64m	▼		
Property profit	£5 million to £10 million.	£2m	<b>A</b>		
Group					
Interest charge	15-20% lower year-on-year based on latest inflation <sup>2</sup> and interest rate forecasts.	£363m	▼		
Adjusted effective current tax rate <sup>3</sup>	Nil due to accelerated capital allowances on our capital investment programme.	0.0%	$\leftrightarrow$		
Capital investment	Continued step up in our investment programme delivering capital investment between £850 million and £1 billion.	£737m	<b>A</b>		
Dividend <sup>4</sup>	2023/24 dividend of 116.84 pence, in line with our policy of annual growth by CPIH.	106.82p	<b>A</b>		

- 1. Customer Outcome Delivery Incentives are quoted pre-tax in 2017/18 prices. We assume a 25% rate of corporation tax to be in place when ODIs are taken into revenue.
- 2. Based on Oxford Economics April inflation forecast. Index-linked debt comprising around a quarter of our total debt.
- 3. Total effective tax rate is expected to be c.25%. This includes both current and deferred tax charges.
- 4. 2023/24 dividend growth rate based on November 2022 CPIH of 9.38%.

# **SUBSTANTIAL RCV GROWTH**



# AN EXCITING FUTURE

### Building on solid financial foundations...

### Totex

Well-controlled totex with sharp focus on costs and innovative approach to capital

### Energy

Investment in self-generation provides protection and strong returns

### **Balance Sheet**

Strong balance sheet management provides resilience and capacity for future growth

### ...primed to push our performance further

### **PR24**

Preparing our most ambitious plan yet, delivering for all stakeholders

### Investment

Ramping up delivery capabilities ahead of a period of substantial investment

### RoRE

Expect to continue RoRE leadership, delivering operational and financial outperformance

# LIV GARFIELD Chief Executive



# **INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE**

### Delivering our programme on time for best value, setting up for future success

**£737 million** of investment delivered this year, helping drive nominal **RCV growth of 36%** 



In-house capability enables value engineering, demonstrated in our Green Recovery water resources project



**Delivering our AMP7** programme enables our **capability for future investment** 

Critical components

Building new direct relationships with manufacturers of critical components

Manufacturing mindset

Advanced procurement strategy optimising goods supply in line with leading practices

Supply chain capacity

Secured £1 billion of new supply chain capacity for AMP8, strengthening deliverability

Mature expertise

Embedded an effective operating model with wellestablished in-house technical experts

# TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE WORLD'S FIRST NET ZERO WASTE WATER TREATMENT HUB CLICK HERE

1

On track to deliver the world's first Net Zero waste water treatment hub in 2024 2

Working with international partners and backed by Ofwat's Innovation Fund

3

Integrating new technologies and innovations at scale

ļ.

Providing a blueprint for water companies globally





# **WORKING SMARTER IN WASTE**

### Taking a multi-pronged approach to improving waste operations

Installing tens of thousands of sewer sensors and utilising new Al technology to model and control flow

Assets

**Enhanced asset maintenance:** increased sewer cleansing and installed over 1,000 pollution reporting signs

**Customers** 

**Quadrupled our Network Protection team**, who educate households on sewer usage

### **Supporting all EPA measures**

Serious pollutions

Category 1-3 waste pollutions

Self-reported pollutions

Discharge permit compliance

WINEP<sup>1</sup> delivery

Supply demand balance index



Expect to remain Upper Quartile on external sewer floodings despite a disappointing year

Our AMP7 target is more stretching than the sector's best performance to date, reflecting our historical UQ position Performance this year is impacted by concentrated rainfall and disappointing performance in key service delivery drivers

Steps taken to improve performance, such as insourcing critical teams, give us confidence we can get back to our best ever

#### Upper-quartile performance expected to continue for AMP7 and into AMP8

Year	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23
Rank	3	2	3	3	1	2	ТВС
UQ	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	ТВС

# **INCREASING WATER RESILIENCE**

### Keeping customers' water flowing despite extreme weather events

Investment

**Benefitting from multi-year capital** spend, from large-scale schemes to smaller targeted interventions

**People** 

**Insourced key teams** to maintain customer supply, such as our 'blue light' Network Response team

Data

**Using innovative solutions**, such as genetic sequencing and flow cytometry analysis to improve network insight

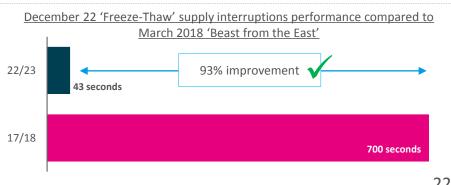


Performance dramatically improved during extreme cold-weather events

We experienced the **same level of burst mains** in December 2022 'Freeze-Thaw' event compared to March 2018 'Beast from the East' due to ground movement...

... Five years on our performance on key measures was dramatically improved





# HAND-IN-HAND WITH NATURE

### Our catchment management strategy helps support water and waste performance

### **Biodiversity**



Delivered over 7,700 hectares this AMP

**Doubling our target to improving** 10,000 hectares by 2025

2% of nation's Nature Recovery **Network target** 

### **Tree Planting**



Planted over 694,000 trees this AMP

Completed 355 acres of Commonwealth **Games Legacy Forests** 

On track to plant 1.3 million trees by 2027

### **Farming for Water**



Supported thousands of farmers to deliver environmental solutions

Provided 189 grants through our environmental protection scheme ('STEPS')

Transformed 23 catchments to date 23

# TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR GET RIVER POSITIVE PLEDGES ONE YEAR ON CLICK HERE

1

Reduced our share of our regions RNAGS from 24% to 16%

2

Reduced average annual CSO activations from 25 to 18 3

Making great progress on our nature-based Mansfield project 4

Trialling new technology for our Bathing Rivers project











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# **CARING FOR OUR CUSTOMERS**

Supporting our customers through challenging times

Affordability

**Financially supporting 237,000** customers, including up to **90% off their water bill**; firmly **on track to support 315,000 customers** by the end of the AMP

**Smart Data** 

Using smart meters to spot usage trends, creating targeted customer communications to help save money on bills or spot leaks early

**Customer Complaints** 

Overall **complaints down 16%** by further embedding customer service mindset across every area of the business

# **COMMUNITIES AND COLLEAGUES**

Providing long-term benefits for people in our region

Donated £7.6m of our AMP7 £10m commitment, supporting 682 organisations with enhanced spaces, nature projects and core funding support

**Community Fund** 

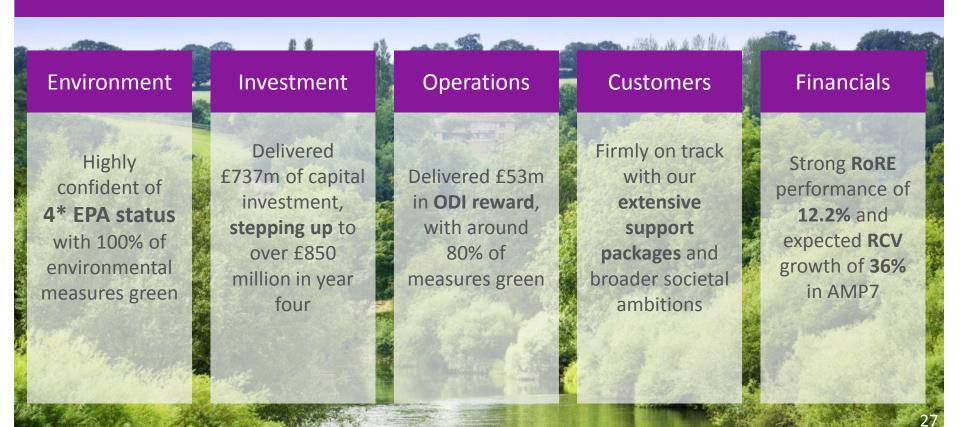
Helping support **100,000 people out of poverty** over the next 10 years, including newly-launched young offender mentoring

**Societal Strategy** 

**Top 5% for engagement** across global utilities, recognised in the 2023 Bloomberg **Gender-Equality** Index, and top 25 for inclusivity in Stonewall **Workplace-Equality** Index

Colleagues

# **DELIVERING ACROSS MULTIPLE PILLARS**



# CAPITAL MARKETS DAY 12 OCTOBER 2023

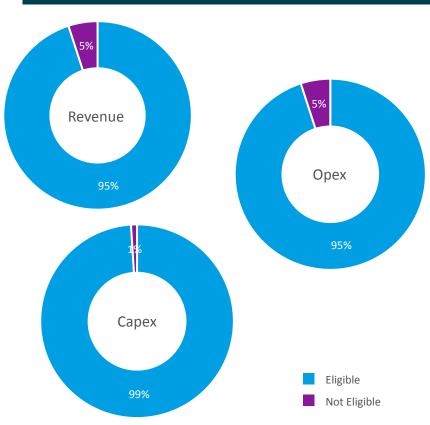
WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US



# APPENDIX

# **EU TAXONOMY**

### Over 95% of our key financial metrics are eligible under EU taxonomy



We are voluntarily disclosing our eligibility under EU taxonomy guidance, recognising the need for robust disclosure around sustainability commitments

These disclosures relate to the two published objectives: climate change adaptation and climate change mitigation

Work is underway to fully assess our alignment against these objectives and we will provide updates as we progress

We expect our alignment to the EU taxonomy to increase in future years with the release of remaining objectives and as we increase environmental investment

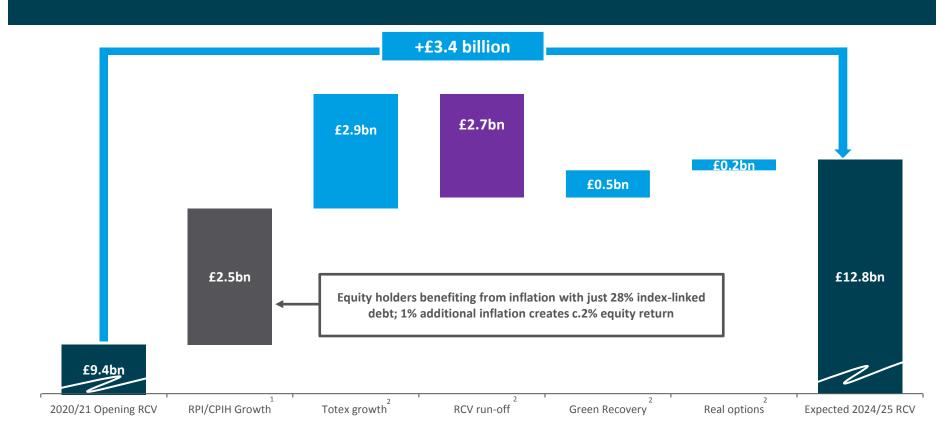
#### Methodology and assumptions:

In preparation of our annual regulatory accounts we are required to allocate costs to price controls – Water Resources, Water Network +, Waste Network +, Bioresources and Household Retail; this allocation is the basis of our EU taxonomy assessment

Based on guidance published to date, we have excluded depreciation and amortisation from operating expenditure in calculating the level of eligible costs, as well as the charge for bad and doubtful debts

Full details can be found in our Annual Report and Accounts, to be published June 2023.

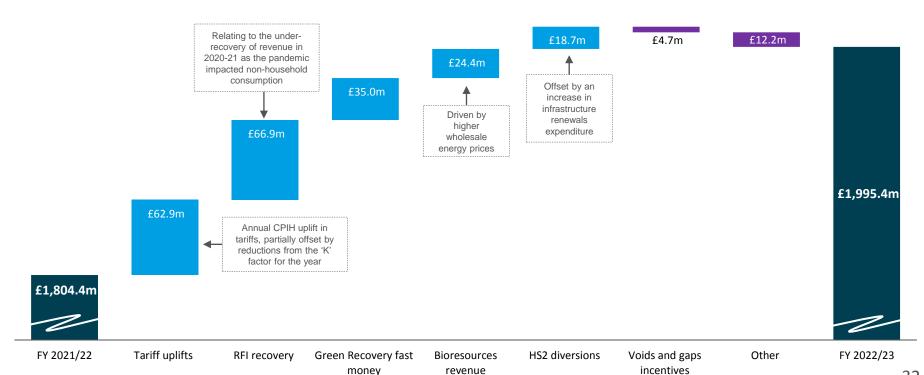
## REGULATORY CAPITAL VALUE



<sup>1.</sup> RCV: Regulatory Capital Value. RCV is measured including additions from Green Recovery and real options. Nominal RCV assumes forecast CPIH of 2.5% for 2023/24 and 1.5% for 2024/25, forecast RPI of 4.2% for 2023/24 and 2.1% for 2024/25 as per Oxford Economics April 2023 forecast

<sup>2.</sup> Quoted in nominal prices

# REGULATED WATER AND WASTE WATER REVENUE



# EBITDA<sup>1</sup>

2022 £m		2023 £m	Variance £m	Variance %
861.3	Regulated Water and Waste Water	868.1	6.8	0.8
53.2	Business Services	65.8	12.6	23.7
(6.7)	Corporate and other	(7.8)	(1.1)	17.9
907.8	Severn Trent Group	926.1	18.3	2.0

1. Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation.

# **BUSINESS SERVICES EBITDA<sup>1</sup>**

	Regulated £m	Non Regulated £m	Total £m
Operating Services and Other	-	21.0	21.0
Green Power	0.9	34.8	35.7
Property Development	2.0	_	2.0
Other	3.9	3.2	7.1
EBITDA	6.8	59.0	65.8
Depreciation	(0.2)	(16.4)	(16.6)
PBIT	6.6	42.6	49.2

 $<sup>1. \</sup>quad \textit{Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation}.$ 

# SEGMENTAL PBIT<sup>1</sup>

2022		2023	Variance	Variance
£m		£m	£m	%
476.3	Regulated Water and Waste Water	467.5	(8.8)	(1.8)
36.4	Business Services	49.2	12.8	35.2
(6.9)	Corporate and other	(8.0)	(1.1)	15.9
0.4	Consolidation adjustments	0.1	(0.3)	(75.0)
506.2	Severn Trent Group	508.8	2.6	0.5

# **DEPRECIATION**<sup>1</sup>

2022 £m		<b>2023</b> £m	Variance £m	Variance %
385.0	Regulated Water and Waste Water	400.6	15.6	4.0
16.8	Business Services	16.6	(0.2)	(1.2)
0.2	Corporate and other	0.1	(0.1)	0.0
(0.4)	Eliminations	-	0.4	(100.0)
401.6	Severn Trent Group	417.3	15.7	3.9

# **NET FINANCE COSTS**

		2022				2023
Income statement charge £m	Capitalised interest £m	Gross interest incurred £m		Income statement charge £m	Capitalised interest £m	Gross interest incurred £m
156.2	34.5	190.7	Cash interest (including accruals)	143.3	56.6	199.9
6.7	-	6.7	Net pension finance cost	3.6	-	3.6
106.5	-	106.5	Inflation uplift on index-linked debt	215.7	-	215.7
269.4	34.5	303.9		362.6	56.6	419.2

# **ADJUSTED EARNINGS PER SHARE**

2022 £m		2023 £m	Variance £m	Variance %
506.2	Profit before interest and tax	508.8	2.6	0.5
(269.4)	Net finance costs	(362.6)	(93.2)	34.6
0.2	Reduction in expected credit loss on loan receivable	_	(0.2)	(100.0)
237.0	Profit before tax	146.2	(90.8)	(38.3)
(1.4)	Tax at the adjusted effective rate of 0.6% (2021: 11.4%)	-	1.4	(100.0)
4.8	Current tax in relation to prior years	(0.2)	(5.0)	(104.2)
(2.2)	Share of current year loss of joint venture	_	2.2	(100.0)
238.2	Earnings for the purpose of adjusted basic and diluted earnings per share	146.0	(92.2)	(38.7)
247.9	Weighted average number of ordinary shares for basic earnings per share	250.8	2.9	1.2
96.1	Adjusted basic EPS (pence)	58.2		

# **GROUP BALANCE SHEET**

31 March 2022 £m		31 March 2023 £m	Variance £m	Variance %
10,609.3	Property, plant and equipment, right-of-use assets, intangible assets and goodwill	11,124.8	515.5	4.9
16.5	Investment in joint venture	16.5		0.0
14.8	Working capital	81.6	66.8	451.4
(1,353.4)	Deferred income	(1,482.2)	(128.8)	9.5
(128.0)	Net retirement benefit obligations	(279.4)	(151.4)	118.3
(60.3)	Provisions	(84.5)	(24.2)	40.1
6.2	Current tax	9.9	3.7	59.7
(1,320.6)	Deferred tax	(1,293.5)	27.1	(2.1)
(12.8)	Other derivative financial instruments	37.9	50.7	(396.1)
7,771.7	Capital employed	8,131.1	359.4	4.6
1,263.9	Equity	970.6	(293.3)	(23.2)
6,507.8	Net debt	7,160.5	652.7	10.0
7,771.7		8,131.1		

# CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (NET CASH)<sup>1</sup>

2022	2023	Variance	Variance
£m	£m	£m	%
588.7 Regulated Water and Waste Water	689.7	101.0	17.2
5.6 Business Services	(3.1)	(8.7)	(155.4)
594.3 Severn Trent Group	686.6	92.3	15.5

<sup>1.</sup> Including purchases of property, plant and equipment, intangible assets, proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment and contributions and grants received.

# **NET DEBT**

31 March 2022 £m		31 March 2023 £m	Variance £m	Variance %
(782.5)	Bank loans	(713.0)	(69.5)	(8.9)
(5,823.5)	Other loans	(6,474.2)	650.7	11.2
(117.4)	Lease liabilities	(110.9)	(6.5)	(5.5)
107.7	Net cash and cash equivalents	28.7	(79.0)	(73.4)
28.3	Cross currency swaps	33.6	5.3	18.7
79.6	Loans receivable from joint ventures	75.3	(4.3)	(5.4)
(6,507.8)	Net debt	(7,160.5)		

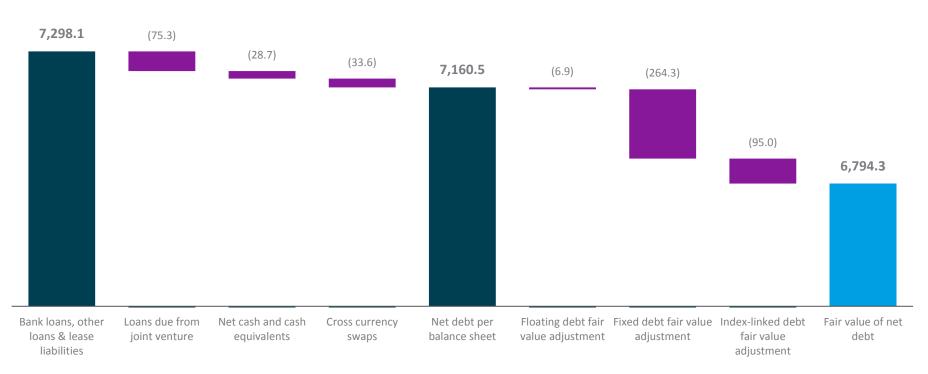
# FAIR VALUE OF DEBT <sup>1</sup>

31 March 2022 £m		31 March 2023 £m	Variance £m	Variance %
(814.0)	Floating rate debt <sup>2</sup>	(708.9)	(105.1)	(12.9)
(4,379.6)	Fixed rate debt	(4,287.9)	(91.7)	(2.1)
(2,605.6)	Index-linked debt	(1,935.1)	(670.5)	(25.7)
(7,799.2)		(6,931.9)	(867.3)	(11.1)
107.7	Net cash and cash equivalents	28.7	(79.0)	(73.4)
79.6	Loans due from joint venture	75.3	(4.3)	(5.4)
28.3	Cross currency swaps	33.6	5.3	18.7
(7,583.6)	Fair value of net debt	(6,794.3)		
(6,507.8)	Net debt (previous slide)	(7,160.5)		
(1,075.8)	Difference	366.2		

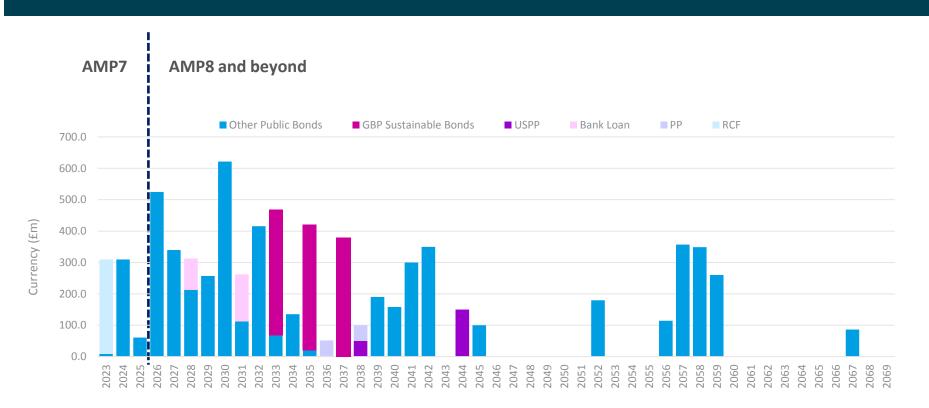
<sup>1.</sup> The floating, fixed and index-linked debt classification above is shown before the impact of interest rate swaps or cross currency swaps

The floating rate debt excludes the overdraft amount as this is included within net cash and cash equivalents

### **ANALYSIS OF BORROWINGS & NET DEBT**



## **DEBT MATURITY**



## **GEARING AND CREDIT RATINGS**

31 March 2023			Net debt/RCV	rcn 2022	2 31 Ma	30 September 202
62.1%		ıp²	Severn Trent Plc G	63.3%	%	61.29
60.0%			Regulatory Gearin	59.2%	%	58.09
31 March 2023					31 March 2022	
Outlook	Severn Trent Plc	vern Trent Water			Severn Trent Plc	Severn Trent Water
Stable	Baa2	Baa1		Moody's	Baa2	Baa1
Stable	BBB	BBB+	and Poor's	Standard a	BBB	BBB+
Stable	ВВВ	BBB+		Fitch	-	-

Not dobt /DCV1

20 Contambor 2022

21 March 2022

21 March 2022

Shadow RCV, which includes expenditure on our Green Recovery programme

Based on statutory net debt of £7,156m (31 March 2022: £6,508m)

<sup>3.</sup> Based on Severn Trent Water Group regulated net debt of £6,859m (31 March 2022: £6,044m) and HD regulated net debt of £64m (31 M arch 2022: £36m)