

INVESTMENTS WITH PURPOSE FOR PROFIT BY PEOPLE FROM TRIPLE POINT

# See Change.

Critical infrastructure for our connected world, with long-term, contracted, inflation-protected income Digital 9 Infrastructure plc

### Annual results presentation

For the twelve-month period ended 31 December 2023



### THE PRESENTER



**Diego Massidda** Head of Digital Infrastructure

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# Fund Highlights



### **KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

Improved financial resilience through balance sheet deleveraging post Verne sale (RCF >85% cancelled)<sup>1</sup> Resilient portfolio performance and valuations (down 3% excl. Verne)

Revised investment policy approved by shareholders

Orderly Managed Wind-Down process already under way Seeking balance between maximising net value and timely capital returns Proceeds allocation to prioritise return of capital to shareholders, subject to full deleveraging





Up to US\$575m equity purchase price

Received US\$415m initial purchase price (March) and US\$25m deferred consideration (April)

Achieved substantial balance sheet deleveraging:

- £53m RCF outstanding drawn amount by the end of this week
- £28m net interest expense saving expected

US\$135m potential earn-out remains payable, subject to run-rate EBITDA achievement for 2026

### **Next steps for Remaining Assets**

### Processes commenced for 100% sale



Sale process for c.48% stake deferred for the time being; exploring various value-accretive options

### Arqiva



# **Financial Review**



79.3 pence	£676 million	£1.1 billion	£257 million
IFRS NAV per share	<b>IFRS Investment Valuation</b> Portfolio fair value on an IFRS basis as at 31 December 2023, a 27% reduction from 31 December 2022 (including the D9 Hold Co Shareholder Loan)	Adjusted Gross Asset Value Total assets of the Company adjusted to include any third-party debt funding drawn or available to any Group Company (excl. Investee Companies)	<b>Market Capitalisation</b> Market capitalisation of £257 million as at 31 December 2023
1.33%	(27.4 pence)	3.0 pence	(6.8%)
<b>Annualised OCR</b> Ongoing Charge Ratio is the ratio of annualised ongoing charges expressed as a percentage of average NAV throughout the period	<b>(LOSS) per share</b> Losses per share for the period to 31 December 2023 were 27.4 pence (calculated on a weighted average number of shares in issue) equivalent to a loss before tax of £237 million	<b>Dividend per share</b> Dividends paid during the period in respect of the period from 1 Oct 2022 to 31 March 2023	Cumulative Total Return from IPO to 31 December 2023 On a NAV performance basis, Cumulative Total Return since IPO was (6.8%), which represents the decrease in the fair value of the Company's Investment Portfolio, expenses and dividends paid per share in the period from IPO to 31 December 2023



£m	12-month period to 31 December 2023	12-month period to 31 December 2022	£252m
Unrealised fair value gain / (loss) on financial assets	(252.0)	97.2	FAIR VALUE LOSS ON INVESTMENTS
Distributions from investments	31.4	4.9	
Total Income	(220.5)	102.1	Value loss mainly driven by the structure of the Verne Global transaction, including the valuation of the Earn-Out (\$34.1 million out of a total
Exceptional expenses	(3.5)	-	contingent consideration of \$135 million).
Operating expenses	(13.3)	(10.1)	
Total expenses	(16.8)	(10.1)	1.33%
Net (loss) / profit before taxation	(237.3)	92.1	ONGOING CHARGES RATIO
Taxation		-	
Net (loss) / profit after taxation	(237.3)	92.0	Annualised operating costs as a % of average
(Loss) / Earnings per share	(27.43p)	11.09p	NAV during the period, calculated under the AIC methodology



£m	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Investments at fair value through profit & loss	676.1	921.0
Trade and other receivables	1.4	1.4
Cash and cash equivalents	14.8	30.0
Total assets	692.3	952.4
Current liabilities	(6.0)	(2.8)
Net asset value	686.3	949.6
IFRS Net asset value per share	79.33	109.76

£676m

Investments held at fair value (inc. SH Loan to D9 Hold Co) (27% fall since December 22)

79.3p

IFRS Net Asset Value A decrease of 28% since Dec 22 as a result of fair value loss on investments, dividends paid & expenses incurred



### IFRS VALUATION BY ASSET: DECEMBER 2022 TO DECEMBER 2023



<sup>1</sup> To enable comparison in line with previous valuations, NAV is presented as equity value (£504 million as of 31 December 2023) less VLN principal (£163 million). A proforma NAV is presented as £329 million, and this is net of £7 million PIK notes issued in June 2023 and £5 million further interest accrued to 31 December 2023.

### PORTFOLIO VALUATION BRIDGE AND IFRS VALUATION RECONCILIATION





### 28% DECREASE IN NAV PER SHARE DRIVEN BY VALUATION, FX, FINANCING COSTS AND DIVIDEND PAYMENTS





### Significant deleveraging post the reporting date, with £273.5 million repaid to date and a further c.£47 million to follow on 3 May

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- D9's aggregate level of borrowings is expected to be no more than a maximum of 50% of Adjusted Gross Asset Value. Since the period end the leverage position has dropped to 36%.
- Following the £273.5 million RCF repayment in March 2024 and the cancellation of the £1.2m LoC, Net Debt to EBITDA has dropped to 1.3x.
- Considering the position including leverage at the Arqiva level, Adjusted Net Debt to EBITDA has fallen from 6.7x to 5.5x.
- The Board and the Investment Manager continue to prioritise deleveraging:
  - Deferred proceeds of \$25m (c.£20m) from the Verne transaction were received as expected, and certain indemnification provisions made in connection with the Verne Transaction have ceased to apply (£23.5m).
  - As a result, a further RCF payment of c.£47 million will be made, reducing drawn amount to c.£53 million. The repayment will include funds which can be released from the Interest Reserve as a consequence of the repayment itself resulting in a reduced drawn amount.
  - Net interest expense saving of c.£28 million expected to the end of the term of the RCF as a result of deleveraging.

Net Debt / EBITDA (£m)	31 Dec 2023	Adjustments	Pro-forma as at 31 March 2024 <sup>1</sup>
Drawn RCF inc. LoC	375.0	(274.7)	100.3
VLN	169.8		169.8
Group Cash & Equivalents <sup>2</sup>	(49.4)	16.5	(32.9)
Net Debt	495.4	(258.2)	237.2
2023 Portfolio EBITDA	197.7	(17.2)	180.5
Net Debt / EBITDA	2.5x	(1.2x)	1.3x
Arqiva debt <sup>3</sup>	744.4		744.4
Verne Global debt	78.6	(78.6)	
Adjusted Net Debt	1,318.4	(336.8)	981.6
Adjusted Net Debt / EBITDA	6.7x	(1.2x)	5.5x

Leverage (£m)	31 Dec 2023	Adjustments	Pro-forma as at 31 March 2024
RCF	375.0	(274.7)	100.3
VLN <sup>4</sup>	169.8		169.8
Total Group Leverage	544.8	(274.7)	270.1
Leverage / Adjusted GAV	51.0%		36.0%



### As at 31 March 2024, the Group had unrestricted cash on hand of £27.1m

### **Group Cash Position**

- As at the period end, the Group held total cash of £49.4 million. Of this, unrestricted cash available for use was £17.6 million. Restricted cash consisted of an escrow account in relation to the EMIC-1 project, which in 2024 is being unwound as project milestones are hit.
- As at the end of March:
  - Restricted cash of £38.9 million includes a restricted Interest Reserve Account in relation to the RCF of £9.9 million, a restricted escrow account in relation to the construction of EMIC-1 of £5.5 million, and the £23.5 million the Company has set aside as an indemnification provision in relation to the Verne Global Sale.
  - Unrestricted cash of £27.1 million includes £22.1 million held at the Company level, with the balance being held in unconsolidated subsidiaries.
- £9.9m in the RCF's interest reserve account can be used for interest payments, which enables the Company to pay interest for the residual RCF period without using any unrestricted cash until the RCF's legal maturity in March 2025.

Total Group Cash (£m)	31 March 2024	31 December 2023
D9 PLC Unrestricted Cash Balance	22.1	14.8
Subsidiary Cash Balance	44.0	34.6
Total Group Cash	66.0	49.4

Total Unrestricted Cash (£m)	31 March 2024	31 December 2023
Total Group Cash	66.0	49.4
RCF Interest Reserve	(9.9)	(24.4)
EMIC-1 Escrow	(5.5)	(7.4)
Indemnification provision (held back by the company)	(23.5)	
Total Unrestricted Cash	27.1	17.6



# **Q&A SESSION**



## Portfolio Review



### PORTFOLIO OPERATING PERFORMANCE: VERNE GLOBAL GROUP (EXITED)

VERNE GLOBAL

ICELAND | FINLAND | LONDON

**£372m** Valuation

### Shifting energy-intensive, latency-insensitive data sets to geographies with low-cost green power

### Business Update

- Revenue increased by 22% to £50.7 million due mainly to accelerated customer demand from new and existing customers
- Operational profits increased at a faster pace with EBITDA growing by 88% to £17.2 million as the businesses were integrated and the platform scaled, thereby delivering improved margins
- Verne Global Iceland drew a \$100 million (c.£80 million) green term-loan debt facility in June 2023 to fund additional capex, refinance its existing bridge loan and repay its £40m shareholder loan<sup>1</sup>

### **Financial Highlights**

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Financial Period	2023	2022
Revenue	£50.7m	£41.6m
% growth YoY	22%	15%
EBITDA	£17.1m	£9.2m
% growth YoY	86%	2%
% margin	34%	22%

Change in NAV since Dec 2022





AQUACOMMS Emic-1

£258m

Valuation<sup>2</sup>

### **Providing the backbone to the internet in the Northern Hemisphere and Asia**

### **Business Update**

- Revenue increased by 4% in 2023 mainly driven by increased sales in Aqua Comms' lease business
- EBITDA was impacted by headcount additions, operations and expansion into new geographies, along with additional and temporary overlapping costs to internalise the previously outsourced Network Operations Centre
- Launch of AEC-3<sup>1</sup> in August 2023 temporarily reduced profitability as all costs were incurred upfront while revenue ramp-up is expected to occur in future years
- Aqua Comms is managing the EMIC-1 system with its development continuing through 2023 before earliest expected launch in 2025. EMIC-1 has the potential to be delayed based on the geopolitical situation in the Red Sea and Middle East, which is impacting the ability of all new cable systems to be deployed in the region. Despite the geopolitical situation and potential for delay, the Aqua Comms team achieved a large pre-sale on EMIC-1 in Q4 of this year

Financial Highlights		
Financial Period	2023	2022
Revenue	£28.1m	£27.1m
% growth YoY	4%	5%
EBITDA	£8.5m	£12.6m
% growth YoY	(33%)	
% margin	30%	47%
Change in NAV since Dec 2022	0	% <sup>2</sup>

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Data centre asset and subsea fibre landing station, located in Newcastle on the UK's largest purpose-built data centre campus.

**£14m** Valuation

### **Business Update**

- Revenue and EBITDA growth driven by positive revenue indexation and reduced expenses
- The asset is leased on fully repairing and insuring terms to the tenant and operator, Stellium Data Centres Limited, via a 25-year occupational lease with over 21 years remaining. Stellium continues to meet its payment obligations under the lease, delivering on the Company's target yield at acquisition

### **Financial Highlights**



Financial Period	2023	2022
Revenue	£1.0m	£0.9m
% growth YoY	11%	n.a.
EBITDA	£1.0m	£0.9m
% growth YoY	13%	n.a.
% margin	94%	93%

Change in NAV since Dec 2022

(22%)



**Business Update** 

**Providing reliable internet to Dublin's underserved high-end business broadband market** 



£55m Valuation

	Financial Highlights	nancial Highlights	
;	Financial Period	2023	
	Revenue	£8.2m	
	% growth YoY	6%	

**EBITDA** 

% margin

% growth YoY

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nts	

£4.2m

2%

51%



2022

£7.7m

£4.1m

(14%)

53%

- Revenue growth driven by shifting focus to higher quality and capacity enterprise connections
- Decrease in EBITDA margin driven by investment in marketing to support growth through the business' re-brand
- Launch of service in Cork in early 2023 expected to sustain growth going forward
- A diverse client base with customer connections of c.2,700 achieved in Dec 2023

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### arqiva

The UK's pre-eminent national provider of TV and radio broadcast infrastructure A leading provider of end-to-end connectivity solutions in the media and utilities industries **£341m** Valuation<sup>1</sup>

iness Update	Financial Highlights <sup>2</sup>		Ś
rong revenue increase reflecting inflation-linked revenue, smart water metering growth and	Financial Period	2023	2022
assthrough power costs. Limited offset driven by some TV channel customers entering Iministration	Revenue	£358.6m	£328.2m
line with management expectations, increased utilities mix, higher power costs and TV annel revenue reductions have put pressure on EBITDA margins	% growth YoY	9%	0%
ositive signals from government around long-term protection of the UK's broadcast sector	EBITDA	£166.9m	£175.7m
ommercial momentum in media and smart utilities, including extensions of major DAB Intracts to 2035, the addition of 300,000 smart water meters to Anglian Water's network Ind the signing of a multi-year satellite contract with a public service broadcaster	% growth YoY	(5%)	1%
flation collar implemented to limit future downside exposure on Arqiva's inflation-linked vaps, applying an effective RPI cap of 6.0% and floor of 2.5%	% margin	47%	54%
45m of senior debt raised, repaying £262m of existing debt approaching maturity and llowing £45m of debt amortisation in the 12 months prior to the refinancing			
ecision taken to PIK interest on the vendor loan note at D9 HoldCo level, bringing the alance to £170m as of 30 June 2023	Change in NAV since Dec 2022 (4%)		

<sup>1</sup> To enable comparison in line with previous valuations, NAV is presented as equity value (£504 million as of 31 December 2023) less VLN principal (£163 million). A proforma NAV is presented as £329 million, and this is net of £7 million PIK notes issued in June 2023 and £5 million further interest accrued to 31 December 2023. <sup>2</sup>Pro-rated based on D9's 51.76% economic interest in Arqiva.



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