

# FY-2022 Results and Q1-2023 Trading Update

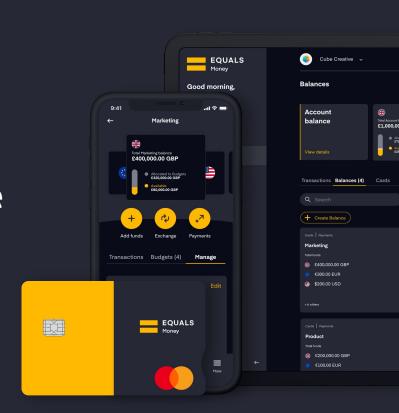
March 2023

Ian Strafford-Taylor

CEO, Equals Group

**Richard Cooper** 

CFO, Equals Group



### Agenda

01

Macro positioning

02

FY-2022 Highlights

03

**CFO Review** 

04

Q1-2023 Highlights

05

Looking forward

06

Summary

#### **Products**

#### **Accounts**

Own-name multi-currency IBANs

#### Cards

Debit & Prepaid



#### Connectivity

Direct integration into payment networks

#### **Payments**

FX or same currency



#### Compliance

Strategic focus

#### **Human interaction**

FinTech capabilities augmented by personal service

#### **Differentiators**

#### Platform

Payments & Cards



#### **Platform**

- Unified platform, combining account-to-account transfers & card payments underpinned by own-name multi-currency
   IBAN
- Unlimited accounts / sub-accounts
- Highly configurable approvals and permissions
- Rapid onboarding and enhanced due diligence
- **Equals Money** SMEs
- Equals Solutions larger corporates

3

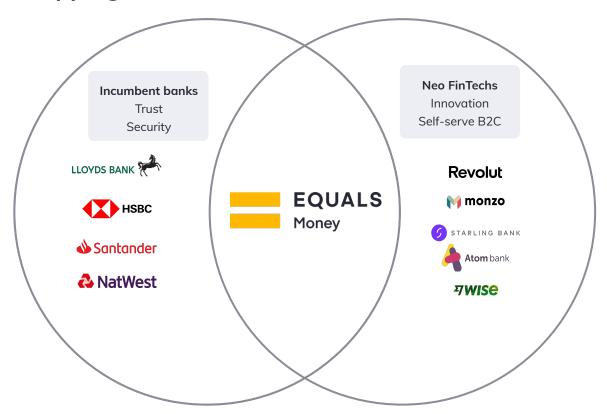
Equals' customers can access cards and wire payments on a single platform through our front end, white label or API

This allows us to provide highly customised payments, expense management and account solutions platform

Equals will handle the licensing and payment complexity to 'make money movement simple'

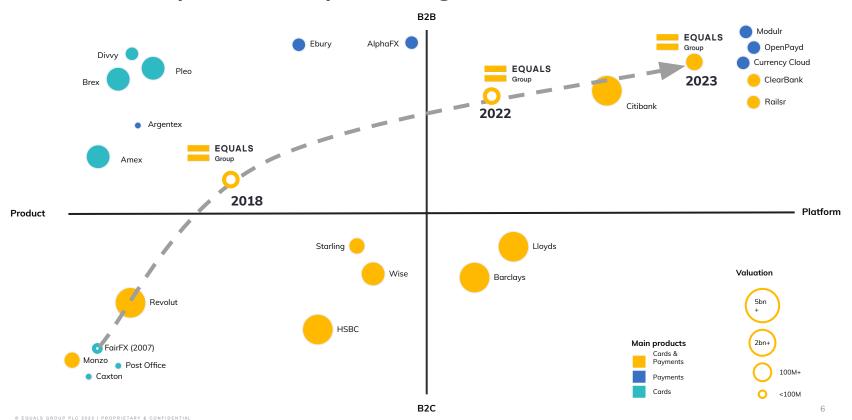
4

### **Strategic mapping**



Э

### **Evolution of Equals market positioning**



# **FY-2022 Highlights**

#### **Strong Growth**

Transactions +41% at £9.2bn Revenue +58% to £69.7m EBITDA\* +81% to £12.1m

#### **Platform**

New web & mobile app, multiple accounts on single login, increased flexibility of customer self-serve platform configuration

#### **Equals Solutions**

API integrations live with multiple accounts in first wave. Upgraded reporting capabilities. Increased flexibility of account / sub-account structures.

#### Cards

Self-issued cards holding 20 currencies live, both prepaid and debit, physical and virtual, and Apple / Google /Samsung Pay

#### Connectivity

Direct integration to SEPA. Unified processor for cards Accountancy integrations

#### Sales & marketing

Key hires in Sales and marketing Build-out of partnerships team Increased use of data / KPI's Sales Operations - QA, Hubspot

#### Compliance

Upgrading personnel
Specialist teams
Compliance "culture" & training
Al Transaction monitoring system

#### People

Bench strength Strong retention in key roles SIP & LTIP awards variable Back-to-office hybrid

\* Adjusted EBITDA



## **CFO Review**

#### **Richard Cooper**

CFO, Equals Group

**Explanatory Notes:** 

Adjusted EBITDA is defined as operating profit before: depreciation, amortisation, impairment charges and share option charges and share option charges and items of an exceptional nature.

Operational cashflows are before earn-outs and R&D credits.

Percentages are calculated based on underlying rather than rounded figures.

20uals group plc 2023 | proprietary & confidential

### The size and shape of our business

	FY-2022	FY-2021
Underlying transaction values	£9.2bn	£6.5bn
% of FX book represented by Spot	80%	79%
Average FX transaction size	£30k	£30k
Total Number of Loads	1.2m	0.7m
Total number of card transactions	8.0m	4.2m
Total Number of Equals-owned bank accounts	600	515
Our productivity, revenue per employee	£260k	£173k

© EQUALS GROUP PLC 2023 | PROPRIETARY & CONFIDENTIAL

# **Key messages**

- Fast growing
- Strong cost control
- Profitable
- Investing
- Cash-generative
  - Surge in EPS

#### Revenue

58% growth to £69.7m

#### **EBITDA\***

81% growth to £12.1m

#### **EBITDA\*** margin

17.4% - up on 15.1% due to strong cost control

#### **Investments**

Internal £4.2m; acquisitions £3.4m

#### Cash

After investment and CBILS, cash increased 15% to 8.3p per share

#### EPS (adj, diluted)

3.03p – up from 0.02p

© EQUALS GROUP PLC 2023 | PROPRIETARY & CONFIDENTIAL

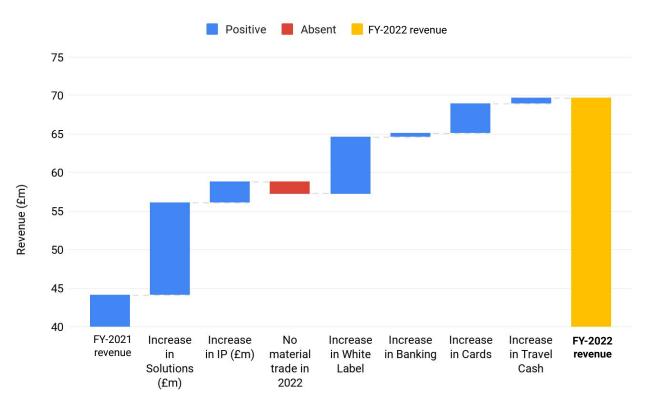
<sup>\*</sup> Adjusted EBITDA

# How we make money

	Cards	Banking	Int Payments	White label	Solutions	Travel cash
FX spreads			•			•
Loads	•	•				
POS	•	•				
ATM	•	•				
A/C fees	•	•			•	
Other fees	•	•	•		•	
Partner rebates	•					
Interest	•	•				

o equals group plc 2023 | proprietary & confidential

### **Revenue growth**



© EQUALS GROUP PLC 2023 | PROPRIETARY & CONFIDENTIAL

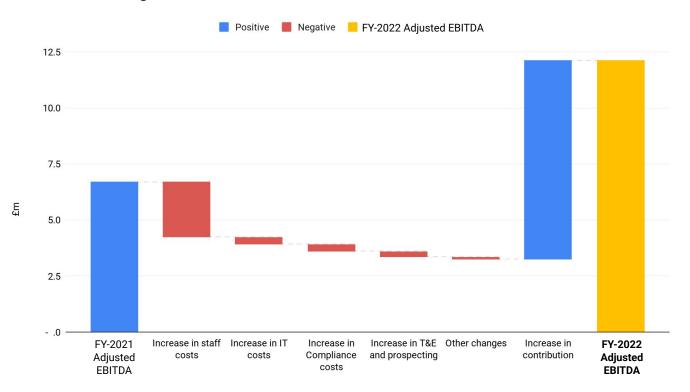
#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

### P&L

	FY-2022	FY-2021
Revenue	69.7	44.1
Gross Profits	33.7	24.2
Less: Marketing	(1.9)	(1.3)
Contribution	31.8	22.9
Staff Costs	(14.4)	(11.9)
Other Costs	(5.2)	(4.3)
ADJUSTED EBITDA	12.1	6.7
Less: Share option expense	(0.9)	(0.3)
Less Acquisition Costs and (Exceptional Items)	(0.2)	(0.7)
EBITDA	11.0	5.7
Depreciation and Amoritsation	(6.9)	(7.2)
Impairment of the Bureau Operations	-	(1.6)
Finance Costs and FX Differences	(0.7)	(0.7)
PROFIT/(LOSS) BEFORE TAX	3.4	(3.8)
ADJUSTED EBITDA %	17.4%	15.1%

e equals group PLC 2023 | proprietary & confidential

### **Increased Adjusted EBITDA**



o equals group plc 2023 | proprietary & confidential

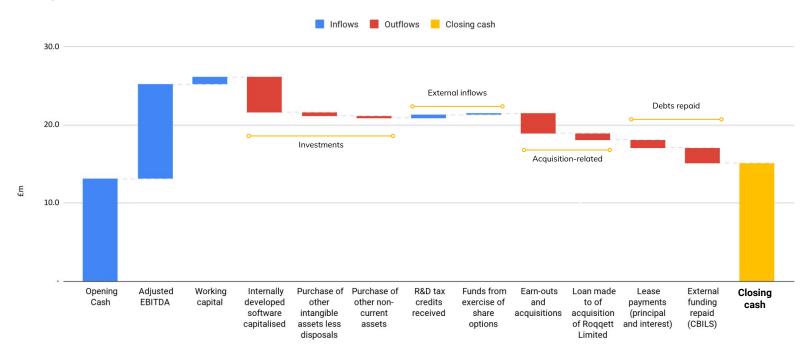
### **Investing for growth**

£ millions	<u>FY-2019</u>	FY-2020	FY-2021	FY-2022	Sub-total	FY-2023
INVESTING IN PRODUCT						
Through our own labours	8.3	4.0	3.0	4.2	19.5	5.0
Through third parties	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.8	2.9	8.0
	9.1	4.5	3.8	5.0	22.4	5.8

BUSINESS ACQUISITIONS - focus on performance related						
	<u>FY-2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	Sub-total	FY-2023
Eiger, Hermex, Effective	2.0	0.4	0.4	1.1	3.9	0.0
Casco, including white label*	1.4	0.3	8.0	1.5	4.0	0.9
Roqqett	-	-	-	8.0	0.8	1.4
Hamer and Hamer	-	-	-	-	-	1.5
Oonex	-	-	-	-	-	4.0
	3.4	0.7	1.2	3.4	8.7	7.9
TOTAL INVESTED FOR GROWTH	12.5	5.2	5.0	8.4	31.1	13.7

### Our operations are generating cash





o equals group PLC 2023 | proprietary & confidential 16

### **EPS: Earnings and adjusted earnings**

Earnings and Adjusted Earnings Calculation (£'000s)	FY-2022	FY-2021
PROFIT/(LOSS) BEFORE TAX	3.4	-3.8
Taxation	0.2	1.5
PROFIT/LOSS FOR THE YEAR	3.6	-2.3
Attributable to Minority interest	0.3	0.2
Attributable to Owners of Equals Group Plc = Earnings	3.3	-2.5
Adjustments:		
Share option charges	1.0	0.4
Amortisation of acquired intangibles	1.3	1.3
Exceptional items	0.0	0.7
Acquisition costs	0.2	0.0
Tax impacts thereon	0.1	0.1
Adjusted Earnings	5.7	0.0

o equals group plc 2023 | proprietary & confidential 17

### **EPS** calculation

© EQUALS GROUP PLC 2023 | PROPRIETARY & CONFIDENTIAL

Shares and Diluted Shares Calculation	<u>FY-2022</u>	<u>FY-2021</u>
Shares in issue (millions)	-	
- At 1 January	179.34	178.60
- Issued in year	1.37	0.74
- At 31 December	180.71	179.34
- Weighted average	180.30	178.96
Share price at 31 December (pence)	89.5	65.0
Total Options at 31 December (millions)	15.3	13.1
"in-the-money" measure of # of options - dilutive (millions)	7.3	3.6
Earnings Per Share and Adjusted Earnings Per Share Calculations	<u>FY-2022</u>	<u>FY-2021</u>
Basic Earnings per Share (pence)	1.80	(1.35)
Diluted Earnings per Share (pence)	1.73	(1.35)
Basic Adjusted Earning per Share (pence)	3.15	0.02
Diluted Adjusted Earnings per Share (pence)	3.03	0.02



Q1-2023

Ian Strafford-Taylor

CEO, Equals Group

EQUALS GROUP PLC 2023 | PROPRIETARY & CONFIDENTIAL

### Q1-2023 Trading Update\*

Revenue (£ millions)	FY-2021	FY-2022	Q1-2023 to date*
Solutions	3.6	15.6	6.1
White-Label	7.7	15.0	4.2
Other International Payments	18.2	19.4	5.1
Cards (retail and corporate)	8.5	12.5	2.8
Banking	5.5	6.1	1.9
Bureau	0.4	1.1	0.1
	44.1	69.7	20.2
Revenues per Working day (£k)	174.3	278.7	342.4
vs Comparative period	+52%	+58%	+54%

### Q1-2023 Highlights

#### **Oonex** acquisition

European payments platform National Bank of Belgium approval awaited European licences and local IBANs New Banking partners - ING / KBC

#### Sale of travel cash business

Disbursement of non-core B2C asset Business sold to FexCo / No1 Currency Retain cash service via outsource

#### **Hamer & Hamer acquisition**

B2B International Payments business Subject to FCA change-in-control £1.6 million revenue in FY-2022 2 x revenues, 3 x EBITDA with deferral

#### **Product development**

Transaction monitoring integration API & white label developments US single currency card live Accountancy integration - <u>Xero</u>

#### **Roqqett acquisition**

Open banking platform Completed following FCA permission Checkout now in production for FairFX Expands Equals capabilities

#### Growth

Increased Sales cadence
Digital optimisation
Partnerships model development
Dubai rep office, increase US footprint



# **Looking forward**

Ian Strafford-Taylor

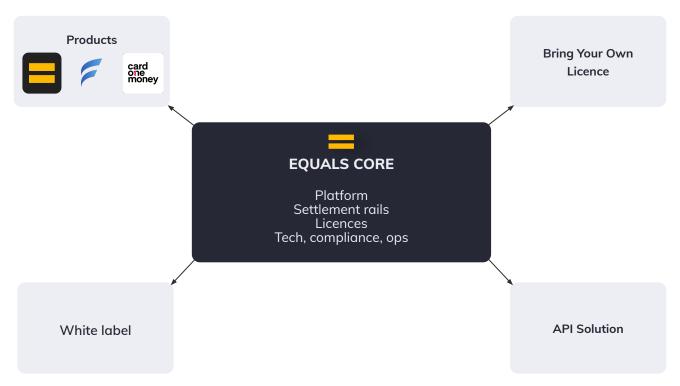
CEO, Equals Group

EQUALS GROUP PLC 2023 | PROPRIETARY & CONFIDENTIAL

### **Distribution**

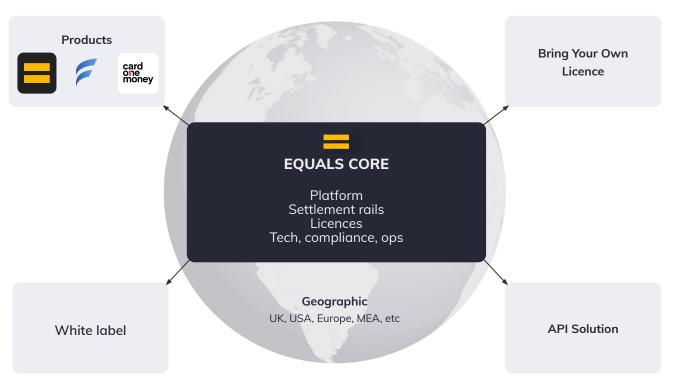


### **Distribution**



24

### Distribution



25

	<u>A</u> LPHA	Currencycloud	Clear.Bank	UK Tier 1 Banks	₹wise	EQUALS Money
Multi-currency IBANs		<b>✓</b> 17	<b>√</b> 30			<b>✓</b> 38
Multi-currency card issuing					V	<b>V</b>
International payments in 100+ currencies	~	V	Fewer than 100	V	Fewer than 100	V
Modern APIs	~	V	V		<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>
White label offering	~	V	~		V	<b>V</b>
SEPA instant	V				V	<b>V</b>
Direct participant of UK Faster Payments			V	V	V	~
Debit and prepaid cards				V	V	<b>V</b>
Virtual cards				Some	V	<b>✓</b>
Speak to a human - account manager	V					~
Enterprise value / Market cap	£772.2m LON-ALPH 20.03.23	£700m value at acquisition 22.07.22	£470m (est) Valuation undisclosed 18.03.22	Billions (various)	£5.57bn LSEWISE 17.03.23	£143.15m LONEOLS 20.03.23

### **Growing fast:** Sales and marketing

#### Scaling sales through tech

HubSpot - real-time access to marketing and sales data Playbooks for compliant, plug-and-play Hiring - quality & experience Enhanced pipeline management

#### Organic growth

Better website capabilities & testing Enhanced SEO capabilities & content Focused and specific sales and partnership multi-channel campaigns

#### **Sales Operations enhanced**

CRM process and automations revamp QA team across all first line roles Top of funnel pipeline improved with multi-channel approach

#### **Automated communications**

Lifecycle and event-driven More touchpoints, more relevance Enhanced personalisation Machine learning customer behavioural analysis

#### Digital marketing levelled up

Digital marketing focus - reduced spend, increased high quality leads
System improvements and optimisation
Impressions, conversions & leads up

#### Hiring excellent talent

Platform sales specialist team
Sales academy
Marketing channel specialist expertise
Partnerships & distribution sales

### **Growing sustainably:** Compliance and operations

#### Investment in technology

Significant automation via Boxes Featurespace now in roll-out TruNarrative/ComplyAdvantage in situ

#### **Compliance and Risk structure**

32 heads in Risk and Compliance ~10% of workforce Dedicated specialist teams Ongoing recruitment of experienced hires

#### **Operations / Settlements**

Further integration to domestic settlement Expansion of "instant" transfer currencies Automation of payments "out" Additional banking partners

#### Regulatory compliance

Increased headcount during 2022 Consumer Duty Operational Resilience ISO27001 accreditation in-flight

#### Scalability

Proven scalable platform Evergreen technology stack Cloud-based via AWS

#### **Horizon scanning**

Increased regulatory focus on payments industry from FCA
APP fraud regulatory change
Senior Managers and Certification Regime
(SM&CR) for payments firms - 2024

### Four focus areas for FY-2023

#### **Equals Money**



Continuously improve our flagship product

Equals Money also acts as a showcase for our Solutions clients

#### **Efficiency**



Reduce complexity for internal teams

Remove bottlenecks in our payments processes

Retire old systems and minimise technical debt

#### **Expansion**



12-24 month lead-time to enter new markets

Scale the business through entering new markets

Growth of the US cards & payments proposition

#### Embedded Finance

const jind = require(]sonnetosken1;
const prinateKey = fazeadFileSync(prinate key1;
const token = ha stagin( companyid: 1/234; liss: Company Name\*,
iat: 1578649824 ], prinateKey ( algorithm: 185256 )];

Enhance platform via API suite with 24/7 support & monitoring

Drive new use cases of our embedded finance ecosystem

Easy "plug-in" white label functionality

### Summary

#### Strong growth

Turnover, revenues, profits and distributable reserves

#### **Growth with control**

Equals Core built for scale and resilience Product development involves all areas Investment in people and tooling

#### Cash generative

Strong balance sheet
Active in M&A
£18.3 million cash - 10p / share

#### **Compliance culture**

Increased headcount (32) and skills Firm-wide training Independent audits FCA focus on payments

#### **Platform**

Equals Money and Equals Solutions platform incorporating cards and transfers, underpinned by own-name multi-currency IBAN

#### Proven track record

Strong, stable team delivering consistent market-beating performance Trading ahead of expectation





Ian Strafford-Taylor

CEO, Equals Group

**Richard Cooper** 

CFO, Equals Group

EQUALS GROUP PLC 2023 | PROPRIETARY & CONFIDENTIAL



# **Financial appendices**

- 1. Revenue by product
- 2. Cost mix
- 3. Liquidity

ROUP PLC 2023 | PROPRIETARY & CONFIDENTIAL

### **Revenue by product**

		FY-2022	FY-2021	Change on
	2022 MIX	£000's	£000's	2021
International Payments	28%	19.4	16.7	16%
- Material trade	0%	0.0	1.5	
Solutions	22%	15.6	3.6	333%
White Label	22%	15.0	7.7	95%
Banking	9%	6.1	5.5	11%
Cards (Spend and FFX)	18%	12.5	8.7	44%
Travel cash	2%	1.1	0.4	175%
		69.7	44.1	58%
Progression by half-year	H1- 2021	H2-2021	H1-2022	H2-2022
International Payments	7.5	9.2	9.1	10.3
- Material trade		1.5		
Solutions	0.3	3.3	6.2	9.4
White Label	2.4	5.3	7.2	7.8
Banking	2.8	2.7	2.8	3.3
Cards (Spend and FFX)	3.9	4.8	5.6	6.9
	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.6
Travel cash	0.1			
Travel cash	17	27.1	31.4	38.3

o equals group plc 2023 | proprietary & confidential

### **Cost mix**

	FY-2022	FY-2021	Change	% change
Gross staff costs	18.7	15.7	3.0	19%
IT & Communications	2.4	2.0	0.4	20%
Property and office running	1.7	1.8	(0.1)	-6%
Professional fees				
- Audit	0.4	0.3	0.1	33%
- Other	1.0	0.9	0.1	11%
Compliance and onboarding	0.7	0.4	0.3	75%
T&E and sundry	0.4	0.2	0.2	100%
	25.3	21.3	4.0	19%
Less:				
Staff and other cost investment in R&D	(4.6)	(3.3)		
Exceptional items	-	(0.7)		
Acquisition costs	(0.1)	-		
IFRS 16	(0.9)	(1.1)		
Net costs	19.7	16.2	3.5	22%

© EQUALS GROUP PLC 2023 | PROPRIETARY & CONFIDENTIAL

### Liquidity

q		
£000s	<u>FY-2022</u>	<u>FY-2021</u>
Cash at Bank	15,044	13,104
Balances with liquidity providers	1,950	1,675
Pre-funded balances with card provider	1,491	1,615
Gross liquid resources	18,485	16,394
Customer balances not subject to safeguarding	(4,165)	(3,655)
CBILS Loan	-	(2,000)
	(4,165)	(5,655)
Net position	14,320	10,739

© EQUALS GROUP PLC 2023 | PROPRIETARY & CONFIDENTIAL 35