

Propel Funeral Partners Limited

ABN 41 616 909 310

Appendix 4D – Half-year Report For the Half-year ended 31 December 2021

Lodged with Australian Securities Exchange under Listing Rule 4.2A

Results for announcement to the market

This Appendix 4D is to be read in conjunction with the Interim Financial Report of Propel Funeral Partners Limited for the period ended 31 December 2021 and any public announcements made during the interim period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the ASX Listing Rules.

Propel Funeral Partners Limited Appendix 4D Half-year report

1. Company details

Name of entity:	Propel Funeral Partners Limited
ABN:	41 616 909 310
Reporting period:	For the half-year ended 31 December 2021
Previous period:	For the half-year ended 31 December 2020

2. Results for announcement to the market

			\$'000
Revenues from ordinary activities	up	15.2% to	67,970
Operating net profit after tax ('Operating NPAT') (refer below)	down	0.7% to	8,320
Loss from ordinary activities after tax attributable to the shareholders of Propel Funeral Partners Limited ('Company')	down	212.8% to	(9,197)
Loss for the half-year attributable to the shareholders of the Company	down	212.8% to	(9,197)

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Dividends

	Amount per security cents	Franked amount per security %
Final dividend - 2021 financial year	5.75	100%
Final dividend - 2020 financial year	6.00	100%

Comments

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The statutory loss for the Company (and its subsidiaries) ('Group') after providing for income tax, for the six months ended 31 December 2021, amounted to \$9,197,000 (31 December 2020: profit of \$8,156,000).

The financial results for the six months ended 31 December 2021, were impacted by:

- one-off costs associated with the internalisation of the key senior management functions of the Company, including:
 - a termination fee of \$15,000,000 (settled 50% in cash and 50% in Propel shares) which was paid to Propel Investments Pty Limited ('Manager');
 - a share based payment revaluation expense of \$5,407,000 relating to a modification of the voluntary escrow arrangements in connection with 14.7 million escrowed shares;
 - \circ a non cash fair value adjustment expense relating to the termination shares of \$969,000; and
 - transaction costs;
- extended COVID-19 related lock downs in parts of Australia and New Zealand; and
- part period contributions from four acquisitions completed during the reporting period and full period contributions from three acquisitions completed during the prior corresponding period.

Operating NPAT is a financial measure which is not prescribed by the Australian Accounting Standards ('AASBs') and represents the profit under AASBs adjusted for certain non-operating items, such as acquisition and transaction costs. The directors consider Operating NPAT to be one of the core earnings measures of the Group.

The following table summarises key reconciling items between statutory profit after tax attributable to the shareholders of the Company and Operating NPAT:

	Conso	lidated
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	31 Dec 2020 \$'000
Net (loss)/profit after income tax	(9,197)	8,156
Add: Termination fee	15,000	-
Add: Share based payment revaluation expense	5,407	-
Add: Fair value adjustment on termination shares	969	-
Add: Acquisition and transaction costs	1,120	155
Add: Other non-operating expenses	281	119
(Less)/add: Net (gain)/loss on disposal of assets	(59)	45
Less: Net foreign exchange gain	(25)	(37)
Less: Tax effect of certain Operating NPAT adjustments	(5,176)	(58)
Operating NPAT	8,320	8,380

Refer to the Interim Financial Report and the Investor Presentation released to the market concurrently with this Appendix 4D Halfyear Report for detailed explanation and commentary on the results.

3. Net tangible assets

	Conso	lidated
	31 Dec 2021 \$000	31 Dec 2020 \$000
Net assets	249,250	186,625
Less: Deferred tax assets	(8,449)	(3,496)
Add: Deferred tax liabilities Less: Goodwill	8,964 (141,761)	10,094 (133,335)
Net tangible assets	108,004	59,888
	Conso	lidated
	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020
Number of ordinary shares on issue	117,895,750	99,946,016
	Reporting period cents	Previous period cents
Net tangible assets per ordinary security	91.61	59.92

4. Dividends

	Amount per security cents	Franked amount per security %	Total \$'000	Payment date
Half-year ended 31 December 2021 Final dividend - 2021 financial year	5.75	100%	5,880	5 October 2021
Half-year ended 31 December 2020 Final dividend - 2020 financial year	6.00	100%	5,924	1 October 2020
Dividend not recognised at period end Interim dividend - 2022 financial year	6.00	100%	7,074	7 April 2022

5. Dividend reinvestment plans

Not applicable.

6. Acquisition or disposals of controlled entities, businesses or assets

Refer to note 19 of the financial statements for further details.

7. Details of any associates and joint venture entities required to be disclosed

Not applicable.

8. Audit qualification or review

Details of audit/review dispute or qualification (if any):

The financial statements were subject to a review by the auditors and the review report is attached as part of the Interim Financial Report.

9. Attachments

Details of attachments (if any):

The Interim Financial Report of the Company for the Half-year ended 31 December 2021 is attached.

Propel Funeral Partners Limited Appendix 4D Half-year report

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Brian Scullin Chairman

23 February 2022

Albin Kurti Managing Director

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Propel Funeral Partners Limited

ABN 41 616 909 310

Interim Financial Report For the Half-year ended 31 December 2021

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The directors of Propel Funeral Partners Limited (ACN 616 909 310) (referred to hereafter as 'Propel', the 'Company' or 'parent entity') present their report, together with the financial statements, of the consolidated entity (referred to hereafter as the 'Group') consisting of the Company and the entities it controlled at the end of, or during, the half-year ended 31 December 2021.

Due to rounding, numbers presented in this directors' report may not add up precisely to the totals provided and percentages may not precisely reflect the absolute figures.

Background

The Group owns and operates businesses, properties, infrastructure and related assets in the death care industry which stand to benefit from the growing and ageing population. As at the date of this directors' report, the Group comprises of long established providers of funeral services operating from 145 properties (78 owned and 67 leased) across 7 states and territories of Australia and in New Zealand, including 32 cremation facilities and 9 cemeteries.

This directors' report includes certain financial measures, such as Operating EBITDA (operating earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation), Operating EBIT (operating earnings before interest and tax) and Operating NPAT (operating net profit after tax) which are not prescribed by Australian Accounting Standards ('AASBs') and represents the results under AASBs adjusted for certain non-operating items, such as acquisition and transaction costs. The directors consider Operating EBITDA, Operating EBIT and Operating NPAT to reflect the core earnings of the Group. These financial measures, along with other measures, have not been subject to specific audit or review procedures by the Company's auditor, but have been extracted from the accompanying financial statements.

Directors

The following persons were directors of Propel during the whole of the financial half-year and up to the date of this directors' report:

Brian Scullin - Chairman Naomi Edwards Jonathan Trollip Albin Kurti Fraser Henderson

Principal activities

The principal activities of the Group during the financial half-year were the provision of death care related services in Australia and New Zealand.

Dividends

	Amount per security cents	Franked amount per security %	Total \$'000	Payment date
Half-year ended 31 December 2021 Final dividend - 2021 financial year	5.75	100%	5,880	5 October 2021
Half-year ended 31 December 2020 Final dividend - 2020 financial year	6.0	100%	5,924	1 October 2020
Dividend not recognised at period end Interim dividend - 2022 financial year	6.0	100%	7,074	7 April 2022

The interim dividend declared in connection with the half year ended 31 December 2021 of 6.0 cents per share (prior corresponding period ('PCP' or '1H FY21'): 6.0 cents per share) represents approximately 88% of Distributable Earnings (NPAT adjusted for certain non-cash, one-off and non-recurring items). The financial effect of the interim dividend declared after the reporting date is not reflected in the 31 December 2021 financial statements and will be recognised in the subsequent financial period.

All dividends referred to above were, or will be, fully franked at the Company tax rate of 30%.

Significant changes in the state of affairs

During the six months ended 31 December 2021 ('1H FY22'), the Group experienced the following significant changes in its state of affairs:

- in July 2021 and with the approval of shareholders, the Company completed the internalisation of key senior management functions of Propel, which involved, among other things:
 - the assignment and termination of the management agreement and the payment of a \$15,000,000 termination fee to Propel Investments Pty Limited ('the Manager'), settled 50% in cash and 50% in Propel shares;
 - three senior executives becoming employees of the Group;
 - the transfer of intellectual property from the Manager, its officers and employees to the Group;
 - changes to the Company's constitution;
 - a modification of the voluntary escrow arrangements relating to 14,732,667 shares ('Escrowed Shares'), so that:
 50% of the Escrowed Shares will be released from voluntary escrow following the release of the Group's audited FY22¹ financial results; and
 - 50% of the Escrowed Shares will be released from voluntary escrow following the release of the Group's audited FY25¹ financial results;
 - the Company no longer paying fees to the Manager, including potential uncapped performance fees, ('Management Internalisation');
- in August 2021, the Group increased and extended its senior debt facilities with Westpac Banking Corporation ('Financier') by \$50,000,000 to \$200,000,000, all of which now matures in October 2024. Refer to note 11 for further details;
- completed a placement of new shares and a follow on share purchase plan raising net proceeds of \$62,314,000 ('Capital Raising'). The net proceeds from the Capital Raising were used to pay down debt to provide financial flexibility to pursue further growth initiatives, including acquisitions;
- completed four acquisitions (refer to note 19 for further details), the consideration for which totalled \$15,685,000 (excluding transaction costs and contingent consideration) as follows:
 - on 15 September 2021, the Group acquired the business and assets of State of Grace Limited ('State of Grace'), which provides funeral directing services from two locations in Auckland, New Zealand;
 - on 1 October 2021, the Group acquired 100% of the issued share capital of Charles Berry & Son Pty. Ltd., associated assets and a freehold property (with multiple titles) (together, 'Berry Funeral Directors'), which provides funeral directing services from one location in Norwood, South Australia;
 - on 1 December 2021, the Group acquired the business and assets of Glenelg Funerals, which provides funeral directing services from one location in Glenelg, South Australia; and
 - on 1 December 2021, the Group acquired the business, assets and a freehold property² of Eagars Funerals, which
 provides funeral directing services from one location in New Plymouth, New Zealand;
- announced that the Group had entered into binding conditional legal documentation to acquire Carol and Terry Crawford Funerals and McKee Funerals, operating in Geelong and Perth respectively; and
- continued to be impacted by COVID-19, with strict limits on funeral attendees generally isolated to COVID-19 hotspot areas that went into temporary lockdown, which impacted Average Revenue Per Funeral³.

There were no other significant changes in the state of affairs of the Group during the six months ended 31 December 2021.

¹ Instead of a release from escrow in November 2027.

² Subject to approval of a boundary adjustment subdivision.

³ Revenue from funeral operations excluding disbursements and delivered prepaid funeral impacts divided by the number of funerals performed in the relevant period.

Financial and operating overview

This financial and operating overview summarises the results for 1H FY22, including COVID-19 and other impacts and results for the PCP, unless otherwise stated.

The Group's core operating focus is on people safety, essential service continuity and financial resilience. During 1H FY22, the Group continued to implement measures to mitigate potential operating and financial impacts from COVID-19, such as:

- ensuring government guidelines and directives were followed by staff and mourners;
- ensuring sufficient supply of personal protective equipment;
- changing seating arrangements, increasing the time and cleaning between services and ceasing certain services (e.g. catering);
- providing client families with the option of streaming services at many of its locations and holding a memorial service at a later date, particularly in COVID-19 hotspot areas that went into temporary lockdown;
- ensuring staff could cross state/territory borders and access 'hotspot' areas;
- working from home, where feasible;
- controlling operating costs; and
- receiving subsidies for eligible businesses in New Zealand.

Further details on the financial impacts of COVID-19 are set out in the relevant sections below.

Financial summary

Given the material impact of the Management Internalisation in 1H FY22 and the material variance in government subsidies recognised in 1H FY22 versus the PCP, the directors have elected to present certain financial information on a pro forma basis, in addition to the statutory results. The pro forma results exclude one-off, non-recurring items relating to the Management Internalisation and government subsidies and include the recurring impacts of the Management Internalisation, as if it had occurred on 1 July 2020 (refer below) ('Pro forma').

In 1H FY22, the Group reported Pro forma:

- Revenue of \$67,970,000, an increase of 15.2% on the PCP;
- Operating EBITDA of \$18,407,000, an increase of 17.8% on the PCP; and
- Operating NPAT of \$7,839,000, an increase of 30.4% on the PCP.

In 1H FY22, the Group reported statutory:

- Operating EBITDA of \$19,077,000, in line with the PCP; and
- Operating NPAT of \$8,320,000, in line with the PCP.

The variance between the Group's statutory and Pro forma results arises from:

- employment of three senior executives, resulting in an increase in employment costs, net of the administration fee paid to the Manager, resulting in a net increase in Pro forma operating costs of \$1,199,000 in the PCP;
 - adding back the one-off, non recurring items incurred in connection with the Management Internalisation, being:
 - the payment of a \$15,000,000 termination fee to the Manager (settled 50% in cash and 50% in Propel shares) and recognition of a non cash, fair value adjustment expense relating to the termination shares of \$969,000⁴;
 - a share based payment revaluation expense of \$5,407,000 relating to a modification of the voluntary escrow arrangements in connection with 14,732,667 shares;
 - transaction costs; and
 - associated tax impacts; and
- COVID-19 related government subsidies received in 1H FY22 of \$568,000, compared to \$2,178,000 in the PCP.

The table below summarises the half year Pro forma and statutory results of the Group:

	31 Dec 21 Pro forma \$'000	31 Dec 20 Pro forma \$'000	31 Dec 21 Statutory \$'000	31 Dec 20 Statutory \$'000
Total revenue	67,970	59,009	67,970	59,009
Gross profit	48,477	42,674	48,477	42,674
margin	71.3%	72.3%	71.3%	72.3%
Total operating costs	(30,070)	(27,042)	(29,400)	(23,666)
Operating EBITDA	18,407	15,632	19,077	19,009
margin	27.1%	26.5%	28.1%	32.2%
Depreciation	(5,028)	(4,760)	(5,028)	(4,760)
Operating EBIT	13,379	10,872	14,049	14,249
margin	19.7%	18.4%	20.7%	24.1%
Termination fee	-	-	(15,000)	-
Share based payment revaluation expense	-	-	(5,407)	-
Fair value adjustment on termination shares	-	-	(969)	-
Acquisition and transaction costs	(739)	(540)	(1,120)	(155)
Net other expenses	(190)	(113)	(190)	(113)
ЕВІТ	12,450	10,219	(8,637)	13,981
Net interest expense	(1,841)	(1,791)	(1,841)	(1,791)
Net financing charge on contract assets and contract liabilities	(294)	(528)	(294)	(528)
Net profit/(loss) before tax	10,314	7,900	(10,773)	11,662
Income tax (expense)/benefit	(3,140)	(2,381)	1,576	(3,506)
Net profit/(loss) after tax	7,175	5,519	(9,197)	8,156
Operating NPAT	7,839	6,013	8,320	8,380
Operating earnings per share (cps) ¹	7.30	5.93	7.77	8.45

1. Operating NPAT divided by the weighted average number of ordinary shares

Further to the commentary above, the table below provides a reconciliation of the Group's statutory and Pro forma operating earnings:

	31 Dec 21 \$'000	31 Dec 20 \$'000	Var %
Statutory Operating EBITDA	19,077	19,009	0.4%
Less: Management Internalisation	(102)	(1,199)	
Less: Government subsidies	(568)	(2,178)	
Pro forma Operating EBITDA	18,407	15,632	17.8%
Statutory Operating NPAT	8,320	8,380	-0.7%
Less: Management Internalisation	(72)	(839)	
Less: Government subsidies	(409)	(1,528)	
Pro forma Operating NPAT	7,839	6,013	30.4%

The major income statement line items for the Group down to Operating EBITDA on a Pro forma and statutory basis are presented below:

	31 Dec 21 Pro forma \$'000	31 Dec 20 Pro forma \$'000	31 Dec 21 Statutory \$'000	31 Dec 20 Statutory \$'000
Funeral operations	59,531	51,330	59,531	51,330
Cemetery, crematoria and memorial gardens	7,260	6,520	7,260	6,520
Other trading revenue	1,179	1,159	1,179	1,159
Total revenue	67,970	59,009	67,970	59,009
Cost of sales	(19,493)	(16,335)	(19,493)	(16,335)
Gross profit	48,477	42,674	48,477	42,674
Employment costs	(22,451)	(20,306)	(21,764)	(16,803)
Occupancy and facility costs	(3,462)	(3,189)	(3,462)	(3,189)
Administration fee	-	-	(17)	(126)
Other operating costs	(4,156)	(3,547)	(4,156)	(3,547)
Total operating costs	(30,070)	(27,042)	(29,400)	(23,666)
Operating EBITDA	18,407	15,632	19,077	19,009

The table below provides a reconciliation of Pro forma and statutory net profit after tax to Operating NPAT:

	31 Dec 21 Pro forma \$'000	31 Dec 20 Pro forma \$'000	31 Dec 21 Statutory \$'000	31 Dec 20 Statutory \$'000
Net profit/(loss) after income tax	7,175	5,519	(9,197)	8,156
Add: Termination fee	-	-	15,000	-
Add: Share based payment revaluation expense	-	-	5,407	-
Add: Fair value adjustment on termination shares	-	-	969	-
Add: Acquisition and transaction costs	739	540	1,120	155
Add: Other non-operating expenses	197	127	197	127
Less: Tax effect of certain Operating NPAT adjustments	(271)	(173)	(5,176)	(58)
Operating NPAT	7,839	6,013	8,320	8,380

Revenue

Revenue increased by 15.2% from \$59,009,000 in 1H FY21 to \$67,970,000 in 1H FY22, driven by:

- a 16.0% increase in revenue from funeral operations; and
- a 11.3% increase in revenue from cemetery, crematoria and memorial gardens.

The number of funerals increased by 14.9% from 6,897 in 1H FY21 to 7,928 in 1H FY22, largely due to an increase in death volumes (refer below) and the Group completing the acquisitions of four funeral businesses during the period as well as the full period impact of two funeral businesses acquired during FY21.

In most markets in which the Company operates, death volumes increased in 1H FY22, with Propel's comparable funeral volumes increasing by 7.8% on the PCP.

Average Revenue Per Funeral increased by 0.5% from \$5,874 in the PCP to \$5,902 in 1H FY22 and was impacted by the full period impact of two funeral businesses acquired during FY21, the part period impact of four funeral businesses acquired in 1H FY22, funeral mix and pricing. In 1H FY22, Average Revenue Per Funeral increased by 2.5% on the pre-COVID-19 period (i.e. Q1 to Q3 FY20).

Extended lock downs and strict funeral attendee limits in parts of Australia and New Zealand contributed to a higher mix of lower value funerals during 1H FY22 compared to the PCP, which impacted Average Revenue Per Funeral. For example, attendance at funerals in greater Auckland was either prohibited or limited to 10 attendees for approximately three months during 1H FY22, with similar restrictions applying in New South Wales, Victoria and other parts of Australia.

As illustrated on the chart to the right, the Group's experience since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic is that Average Revenue Per Funeral impacts from lock downs and strict funeral attendee limits have been temporary, with Average Revenue Per Funeral rebounding quickly, as restrictions have eased.

This not only reinforces the value that society places on physical attendance at a funeral service as a vital part of the grieving process, it also highlights the defensive nature and the social infrastructure characteristics of Propel's network of funeral homes, cremation facilities and cemeteries.



In 1H FY22, the Company generated 41% of its revenue from metropolitan areas, an increase from 1H FY21 (38%).

Gross profit margin

The gross profit margin decreased from 72.3% in the PCP to 71.3% in 1H FY22, primarily due to sales mix and the financial profile of acquisitions completed during FY21 and 1H FY22.

Operating costs and Operating EBITDA

Statutory operating costs increased by \$5,734,000 in 1H FY22, as a result of:

- the full period impact of three businesses acquired during FY21, the part period impact of four funeral businesses acquired in 1H FY22;
- lower government subsidies received (1H FY22: \$568,000 versus 1H FY21: \$2,178,000); and
- the impacts of the Management Internalisation, resulting in additional operating expenditure related to the employment of three senior executives.

Pro forma operating expenditure increased approximately 11.2% on the PCP. Comparable operating expenditure per funeral decreased approximately 3.9% on the PCP, demonstrating operational leverage as a result of materially higher comparable funeral volumes in the period.

Statutory Operating EBITDA in 1H FY22 of \$19,077,000 was in line with the PCP, primarily due to:

- the full period contributions from acquisitions completed in FY21 and the part period contributions from acquisitions completed in 1H FY22;
- a material increase in comparable funeral volumes, up 7.8% on the PCP; offset by
- lower government subsidies and the impacts of the Management Internalisation.

Pro forma Operating EBITDA in 1H FY22 was \$18,407,000, 17.8% higher than the PCP.

Depreciation and other income and expenses

Depreciation increased from \$4,760,000 in 1H FY21 to \$5,028,000 in 1H FY22, which mainly related to business and property acquisitions completed during FY21 and 1H FY22.

In connection with the Management Internalisation, the Group recognised the following one-off expenses:

- a termination fee of \$15,000,000 paid to the Manager (settled 50% in cash and 50% in Propel shares);
- a non cash, fair value adjustment expense relating to the termination shares of \$969,000; and
- a share based payment revaluation expense of \$5,407,000 relating to a modification of the voluntary escrow arrangements in connection with 14,732,667 shares.

The above one-off expenses have been excluded from the Pro forma results.

Acquisitions and transaction costs of \$1,120,000 largely related to the Management Internalisation and acquisitions.

Net other expenses of \$190,000 largely related to the administration of the Group's pre-paid contracts and other non-operating expenses.

Interest expense of \$1,882,000 in 1H FY22 was in line with the PCP (1H FY21: \$1,859,000).

Pre-paid contracts

Funds held in connection with pre-paid contracts are largely held with third party friendly societies who invest the funds in cash and fixed interest products (more than 90% of funds held) and other asset classes (less than 10% of funds held). In 1H FY22, pre-paid contracts that turned at need in Australia accounted for less than 10% of the Group's Australian funeral volumes, consistent with the PCP. It should be noted that there are no pre-paid funeral contracts in the New Zealand business.

In accordance with AASB 15, 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers', Propel recognises investment returns generated on funds held for pre-paid contracts net of a non-cash financing charge. The net financing charge is disclosed below Operating EBITDA.

Impairment

Following a review of the carrying value of assets, no impairment was deemed necessary (1H FY21: Nil).

Income tax expense

Income tax benefit was \$1,576,000 (1H FY21: expense of \$3,506,000), impacted by the Management Internalisation. The Pro forma adjusted effective tax rate was 29.7% (1H FY21: 29.7%).

Cash flow highlights

The statutory cash flows for the Group are presented below:

The statutory cash hows for the Group are presented below.	31 Dec 21	31 Dec 20
	Statutory	Statutory
	\$'000	\$'000
Receipts from customers (inc GST)	74,280	64,145
Payments to suppliers and employees (inc GST)	(55,527)	(45,589)
	18,752	18,556
Termination fee	(7,500)	-
Transaction costs	(462)	-
Income taxes paid	(2,109)	(3,138)
Interest paid	(2,388)	(1,767)
Interest received	36	56
Net cash provided by operating activities	6,329	13,707
Payment for purchase of business, net of cash acquired	(16,329)	(22,538)
Net payments for property, plant and equipment	(3,860)	(8,203)
Other investing cash flows	(32)	(5)
Net cash used by investing activities	(20,221)	(30,746)
Proceeds from issue of shares, net of transaction costs	62,314	-
Net repayment from borrowings	(40,515)	(22,633)
Dividends paid	(5,880)	(5,923)
Other financing cash flows	(1,647)	(1,575)
Net cash provided/(used) by financing activities	14,272	(30,131)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash during the year	380	(47,170)
Cash at the beginning of the year	7,496	53,904
Exchange rate effects	13	42
Cash at the end of the year	7,889	6,775

 Cash flow conversion %
 98.4%
 97.6%

1H FY22 statutory operating cash flows⁵ were in line with the PCP, with contributions from acquisitions and solid trading being offset by employment costs paid in connection with the Management Internalisation and lower government wage subsidies received compared to the PCP.

Cash flow conversion was 98.4% in 1H FY22, compared to 97.6% achieved in the PCP as shown in the table below:

	31 Dec 21 Statutory	31 Dec 20 Statutory \$'000
	\$'000	
Operating EBITDA	19,077	19,009
Net cash provided by operating activities	6,329	13,707
Add: interest paid	2,388	1,767
Add: income tax paid	2,109	3,138
Add: termination fee	7,500	-
Add: transaction costs	462	-
Less: interest received	(36)	(56)
Ungeared, tax free, operating cash flow	18,752	18,556
Cash flow conversion	98.4%	97.6%

Cash flows used in investing activities included capital expenditure related to:

	31 Dec 21 Statutory \$'000	31 Dec 20 Statutory \$'000
Property refurbishments and plant and equipment	3,396	3,319
Motor vehicles	838	423
Other assets	34	44
Total capital expenditure	4,267	3,785

During 1H FY22, the Group incurred capital expenditure of \$4,267,000 which included:

- \$3,012,000 relating to a number of property refurbishments and new leasehold sites;

- purchasing motor vehicles totalling \$838,000;

- payments relating to a new cremators totalling \$384,000; and

- upgrades to sound systems, IT equipment, mortuary equipment and other plant and equipment.

In 1H FY22, maintenance capital expenditure amounted to 3.7% of revenue (1H FY21: 3.9%).

Capital management

As at 31 December 2021, the Group had drawn down \$46,123,000 of its \$200,000,000 senior debt facilities, compared to \$86,523,000 as at 30 June 2021. The decrease in drawn debt largely related to the net proceeds received in connection with the Capital Raising which were used to repay debt, net of funding 1H FY22 acquisitions and the cash component of the termination fee and transaction costs associated with the Management Internalisation. As at 31 December 2021, the Group reported cash and cash equivalents of \$7,889,000 and net debt⁶ of \$38,234,000 (30 June 2021: \$79,027,000).

As at 31 December 2021, the Group's gearing ratio was $13.3\%^7$. Financial covenant ratios on the senior debt facilities comprise a net leverage ratio which must be no greater than $3.5x^8$ and a fixed charge cover ratio which must be greater than 1.75x. Both ratios were comfortably satisfied as at 31 December 2021, being 0.8x (30 June 2021: 2.2x) and 5.4x (30 June 2020: 5.4x) respectively.

As at 31 December 2021, the Group had approximately \$149,300,000⁹ of available funding capacity.

6 Drawn senior debt less cash and cash equivalents.

8 Including the annualised impact of acquisitions and other adjustments. A ratio of 3.5x, unless the Group elects to surge to 3.75x which endures for three consecutive testing dates, following which the covenant will reduce to 3.5x. The Group's working capital facility is excluded from the net leverage ratio calculation.

⁷ Net debt of \$38.2 million divided by net debt plus total equity of \$287.5 million.

Events after the reporting period

On 11 February 2022, the Group completed the acquisition of the business, assets and a freehold property of Carol & Terry Crawford Funerals Pty Ltd ('Crawford Funerals') in Geelong, Victoria, for \$2,625,000. Crawford Funerals generates approximately \$1,000,000 of revenue, per annum.

On 23 February 2022, the directors declared a fully franked interim dividend of 6.0 cents per ordinary share. The dividend will be paid on 7 April 2022 to shareholders on the register as at 7 March 2022. This equates to an estimated total distribution of \$7,074,000, based on the number of ordinary shares expected to be on issue as at 4 March 2022. The financial effect of the dividend declared after the reporting date is not reflected in the 31 December 2021 financial statements and will be recognised in the period to 30 June 2022.

Apart from the events disclosed above, no other matter or circumstance has arisen since 31 December 2021 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the Group's operations, the results of those operations, or the Group's state of affairs in future financial years.

Outlook

In terms of the outlook for the remainder of FY22 ('2H FY22'), Propel expects to benefit from:

- favourable demographics in Australia and New Zealand;
- acquisitions completed and announced to date and other potential future acquisitions in what remains a highly fragmented industry (although timing is uncertain); and
- a strong funding position.

In that regard, Propel has started 2H FY22 with positive trading momentum. In the month of January 2022:

- total and comparable funeral volumes were materially higher than the PCP; and
- a higher mix of full service funerals contributed to material growth in Average Revenue Per Funeral over the PCP.

However, it should be noted that:

- death volumes fluctuate over short time horizons; and
- ongoing COVID-19 impacts remain uncertain.

Rounding of amounts

The Company is of a kind referred to in Corporations Instrument 2016/191, issued by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, relating to 'round-off'. Amounts in this report have been rounded off in accordance with that Corporations Instrument to the nearest thousand dollars, or in certain cases, the nearest dollar.

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out immediately after this directors' report.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of directors, pursuant to section 306(3)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001.

On behalf of the directors

Brian Scullin Chairman

23 February 2022

Albin Kurti Managing Director



Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd Level 16, 1 Market Street Sydney NSW 2000 PO Box H195 Australia Square NSW 1215 p +61 2 9251 4600 f +61 2 9251 7138 e info@nexiasydney.com.au w nexia.com.au

To the Board of Directors of Propel Funeral Partners Limited

Auditor's Independence Declaration under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

As lead audit director for the review of the financial statements of Propel Funeral Partners Limited for the half-year ended 31 December 2021, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- (a) the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the review; and
- (b) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

Yours sincerely,

Vexia

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd

Lester Wills Director

Date: 23 February 2022

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd (ABN 77 606 785 399) is a firm of Chartered Accountants. It is affiliated with, but independent from Nexia Australia Pty Ltd. Nexia Australia Pty Ltd is a member of Nexia International, a leading, global network of independent accounting and consulting firms. For more information please see www.nexia.com.au/legal. Neither Nexia International nor Nexia Australia Pty Ltd provide services to clients.

Propel Funeral Partners Limited Consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income For the half-year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Consol 31 Dec 2021 \$'000	lidated 31 Dec 2020 \$'000
Revenue	4	67,970	59,009
Expenses Cost of sales and goods Employee costs Occupancy and facility expenses Advertising expenses Motor vehicle expenses Other expenses	5	(19,493) (21,948) (3,478) (1,644) (995) (1,616)	(16,335) (16,846) (3,204) (1,358) (799) (1,577)
		18,796	18,890
Termination fee Share based payment revaluation expense Fair value adjustment on termination shares Acquisition and transaction costs Net gain/(loss) on disposal of assets Other income	5 5 5 5	(15,000) (5,407) (969) (1,120) 59 6 (5,022)	(155) (45) 14 (4 760)
Depreciation expense Interest income	5	(5,028) 41	(4,760) 68
Interest expense Net financing charge on contract assets and contract liabilities Net foreign exchange gain	5 6	(1,882) (294) 25	(1,859) (528) 37
(Loss)/profit before income tax benefit/(expense)		(10,773)	11,662
Income tax benefit/(expense)		1,576	(3,506)
(Loss)/profit after income tax benefit/(expense) for the half-year attributable to the shareholders of Propel Funeral Partners Limited		(9,197)	8,156
Other comprehensive income			
<i>Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss</i> Foreign currency translation Changes in the fair value of cash flow hedges, net of tax		513 81	(80)
Other comprehensive income for the half-year, net of tax		594	(63)
Total comprehensive income for the half-year attributable to the shareholders of Propel Funeral Partners Limited		(8,603)	8,093
		cents	cents
Basic earnings per share Diluted earnings per share	20 20	(8.59) (8.59)	8.23 8.23

Propel Funeral Partners Limited Consolidated statement of financial position As at 31 December 2021

	Consolidate		lidated
	Note	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	30 Jun 2021 \$'000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		7,889	7,496
Customer deposits		664	572
Contract assets	6	52,368	46,100
Trade and other receivables		6,022	4,946
Inventories Prepayments		4,449 1,707	4,389 960
Total current assets		73,099	64,463
		73,000	01,400_
Non-current assets	-	400.000	450 700
Property, plant and equipment	7	162,282	152,762
Right-of-use assets Goodwill	8 9	37,403 141,761	34,777 131,687
Deferred tax	5	8,449	3,470
Other assets		198	181
Total non-current assets		350,093	322,877
Total assets		423,192	387,340
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	10	8,494	7,714
Borrowings	11	14,974	10,068
Derivative financial instruments	15	144	-
Income tax		935	391
Lease liabilities	40	9,027	8,674
Provisions Contract liabilities	12 6	7,917 58,354	5,808
Total current liabilities	0	99,845	<u>51,924</u> 84,579
			010
Non-current liabilities	44	20.000	70 700
Borrowings Derivative financial instruments	11 15	30,982	76,739 260
Lease liabilities	15	30,437	27,994
Deferred tax liabilities		8,964	8,716
Provisions	12	3,533	1,949
Other liabilities		181	191
Total non-current liabilities		74,097	115,849
Total liabilities		173,942	200,428
Net assets		249,250	186,912
Equity			
Issued capital	13	280,239	203,418
Reserves	10	496	(98)
Accumulated losses		(31,485)	(16,408)
Total equity		249,250	186,912

Propel Funeral Partners Limited Consolidated statement of changes in equity For the half-year ended 31 December 2021

Consolidated	lssued capital \$'000	Foreign currency translation reserves \$'000	Hedging reserve \$'000	Accumulated losses \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2020	200,903	251	(283)	(18,930)	181,941
Profit after income tax expense for the half-year	-	-	-	8,156	8,156
Other comprehensive income for the half-year, net of tax		(80)	17		(63)
Total comprehensive income for the half-year	-	(80)	17	8,156	8,093
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Contributions of equity, net of transaction costs	2,515	-	-	-	2,515
Dividends paid (note 14)			-	(5,924)	(5,924)
Balance at 31 December 2020	203,418	171	(266)	(16,698)	186,625

Consolidated	Issued capital \$'000	Foreign currency translation reserves \$'000	Hedging reserve \$'000	Accumulated losses \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2021	203,418	84	(182)	(16,408)	186,912
Loss after income tax benefit for the half-year Other comprehensive income for the half-year,	-	-	-	(9,197)	(9,197)
net of tax		513	81		594
Total comprehensive income for the half-year	-	513	81	(9,197)	(8,603)
<i>Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:</i> Contributions of equity, net of transaction costs					
(note 13)	76,821	-	-	-	76,821
Dividends paid (note 14)	-	-	-	(5,880)	(5,880)
Balance at 31 December 2021	280,239	597	(101)	(31,485)	249,250

Propel Funeral Partners Limited Consolidated statement of cash flows For the half-year ended 31 December 2021

	Consolidate	
Not	e 31 Dec 2021 \$'000	31 Dec 2020 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST) Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)	74,280 (53,965)	64,145 (45,580)
Fayments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)	(55,905)	(45,589)
	20,315	18,556
Termination fee paid (inclusive of GST) 18	(9,000)	-
Transaction costs paid (inclusive of GST) 18	(526)	-
Interest received	36	56
Interest and other finance costs paid - borrowings	(1,866)	(1,214)
Interest paid - leases (AASB 16)	(521)	(553)
Income taxes paid	(2,109)	(3,138)
Net cash from operating activities	6,329	13,707
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payment for purchase of business, net of cash acquired 19	(16,329)	(22,538)
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(4,532)	(8,260)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	672	57
Net cash outflow in contract assets and contract liabilities	(32)	(5)
Net cash used in investing activities	(20,221)	(30,746)
Cash flows from financing activities	00.044	
Proceeds from issue of shares, net of transaction costs	62,314	-
Proceeds from borrowings	30,600	6,102
Repayment of borrowings Repayment of lease liabilities	(71,046) (1,647)	(28,646) (1,574)
Repayment of hire purchases	(1,047) (69)	(1,374) (89)
Dividends paid 14	(5,880)	(5,924)
Net cash from/(used in) financing activities	14,272	(30,131)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	380	(47,170)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial half-year	7,496	53,904
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	13	41
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial half-year	7,889	6,775

Note 1. General information

These general purpose financial statements ('financial statements') relate to Propel Funeral Partners Limited as the consolidated entity (referred to hereafter as the 'Group') consisting of Propel Funeral Partners Limited (referred to hereafter as 'Propel', the 'Company' or 'parent entity') and the entities it controlled at the end of, or during, the half-year ended 31 December 2021. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the Company's functional and presentation currency.

Propel is a listed public company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is:

Level 18.03 135 King Street Sydney NSW 2000

A description of the nature of the Group's operations and its principal activities are included in the directors' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue, in accordance with a resolution of directors, on 23 February 2022. The directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

Note 2. Significant accounting policies

The financial statements for the interim half-year reporting period ended 31 December 2021 have been prepared in accordance with AASB 134 'Interim Financial Reporting' and the Corporations Act 2001, as appropriate for for-profit oriented entities. Compliance with AASB 134 ensures compliance with International Financial Reporting Standard IAS 34 'Interim Financial Reporting'.

The financial statements do not include all the notes of the type normally included in annual financial statements. Accordingly, the financial statements are to be read in conjunction with the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021 and any public announcements made by the Company during the interim reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the Corporations Act 2001.

The principal accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the prior financial year and corresponding interim reporting period, unless otherwise stated.

New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The Group has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

Note 3. Operating segments

Identification of reportable operating segments

The Group is organised into two geographic segments, Australian operations and New Zealand operations, both of which operate in the death care related services industry. The Australian and New Zealand operations include the aggregation of a number of businesses that exhibit similar long-term financial performance and economic characteristics.

Operating segments are presented using the 'management approach', where the information presented is on the same basis as the internal reports provided to the Chief Operating Decision Makers ('CODM'), which includes two reportable segments, being the Australian and New Zealand operations. The CODM are responsible for the allocation of resources to operating segments and assessing their performance. The CODM considers Operating EBITDA to be one of the core earnings measures of the Group.

Intersegment transactions

Intersegment transactions were made at market rates. Intersegment transactions are eliminated on consolidation.

Intersegment receivables, payables and loans

Intersegment loans are initially recognised at the consideration received. Intersegment loans are eliminated on consolidation.

Note 3. Operating segments (continued)

Operating segment information

Consolidated - 31 Dec 2021	Australian operations \$'000	New Zealand operations \$'000	Total \$'000
Revenue			
Sales to external customers	54,559	13,300	67,859
Other revenue (excluding interest)	103	8	111
Total revenue	54,662	13,308	67,970
Operating EBITDA	15,432	3,645	19,077
Termination fee	(15,000)		(15,000)
Share based payment revaluation expense	(5,407)	-	(5,407)
Fair value adjustment on termination shares	(969)	-	(969)
Acquisition and transaction costs	(1,078)	(42)	(1,120)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of assets	67	(8)	59
Net other (expenses)/income	(279)	4	(275)
Depreciation and amortisation	(4,135)	(893)	(5,028)
Interest income *	683	17	700
Finance costs *	(1,812)	(729)	(2,541)
Net financing charge on contract assets and contract liabilities	(294)	-	(294)
Net foreign exchange gain/(losses)	25		25
(Loss)/profit before income tax benefit	(12,767)	1,994	(10,773)
Income tax benefit			1,576
Loss after income tax benefit			(9,197)
Assets			
Segment assets	391,290	71,996	463,286
Intersegment eliminations			(40,094)
Total assets			423,192
Liabilities			
Segment liabilities	161,814	52,222	214,036
Intersegment eliminations			(40,094)
Total liabilities			173,942

* Includes \$659,000 interest charged on inter-company loan from the Australian operations to the New Zealand operations.

Note 3. Operating segments (continued)

Consolidated - 31 Dec 2020	Australian operations \$'000	New Zealand operations \$'000	Total \$'000
Revenue			
Sales to external customers	47,898	10,998	58,896
Other revenue (excluding interest)	107	6	113
Total revenue	48,005	11,004	59,009
Operating EBITDA	16,451	2,558	19,009
Acquisition costs	(144)		(155)
Net loss on disposal of assets	(43)	· · ·	(45)
Net other (expenses)/income	(108)		(105)
Depreciation and amortisation	(4,040)	(720)	(4,760)
Interest income *	355	21	376
Interest expense *	(1,781)	(386)	(2,167)
Net financing charge on contract assets and contract liabilities	(528)	-	(528)
Net foreign exchange gain/(losses)	38	(1)	37
Profit before income tax expense	10,200	1,462	11,662
Income tax expense			(3,506)
Profit after income tax expense			8,156
Consolidated - 30 Jun 2021			
Assets			
Segment assets	358,354	66,226	424,580
			(07.040)

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Intersegment eliminations			(37,240)
Total assets			387,340
Liabilities			
Segment liabilities	191,435	46,233	237,668
Intersegment eliminations			(37,240)
Total liabilities			200,428

* Includes \$308,000 interest charged on inter-company loan from the Australian operations to the New Zealand operations.

Geographical information

		Geographical non-current assets	
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	30 Jun 2021 \$'000	
Australia	316,445	295,995	
New Zealand	65,293	60,651	
Intersegment eliminations	(40,094)	(37,240)	
	341,644	319,406	

The geographical non-current assets above are exclusive of, where applicable, financial instruments, deferred tax assets, postemployment benefits assets and rights under insurance contracts.

Note 4. Revenue

	Conso	lidated
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	31 Dec 2020 \$'000
Revenue from contracts with customers	67,859	58,896
<i>Other revenue</i> Rent	111	113
Revenue	67,970	59,009
Disaggregation of revenue		

The disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers is as follows:

	Consolidated	
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	31 Dec 2020 \$'000
Funeral operations	59,531	51,330
Cemetery, crematoria and memorial gardens	7,260	6,520
Other trading revenue	1,068_	1,046
	67,859	58,896

All revenue is recognised at a point in time. Refer to note 3 for information on geographical regions.

Note 5. Expenses

	Conso 31 Dec 2021 \$'000	lidated 31 Dec 2020 \$'000
(Loss)/profit before income tax includes the following specific expenses:		
Depreciation Buildings Improvements Plant and equipment Motor vehicles	1,005 243 1,103 857	901 229 1,083 840
Total depreciation - property, plant and equipment (note 7)	3,208	3,053
Building right-of-use assets Plant and equipment right-of-use assets Motor vehicles right-of-use assets	1,631 180 9	1,507 190 10
Total depreciation - right-of-use assets (note 8)	1,820	1,707
Total depreciation expense	5,028	4,760
Other non-operating expenses Termination fee * Share based payment revaluation expense * Fair value adjustment on termination shares * Acquisition costs Other transaction costs *	15,000 5,407 969 739 381	- - - 155 -
Total non-operating expenses	22,496	155
Interest expense Interest and finance charges paid/payable on borrowings Interest and finance charges paid/payable on lease liabilities (AASB 16)	1,361 521	1,306 553
Total interest expense	1,882	1,859
<i>Employee costs</i> Employee costs excluding government subsidies and superannuation expense Australia government wage subsidies (JobKeeper) New Zealand government subsidies Payroll tax waivers Defined contribution superannuation expense	21,167 - (568) - 1,349	18,191 (2,230) (189) (69) 1,143
Total employee costs	21,948	16,846

* In connection with the internalisation of key senior management functions of the Company ('Management Internalisation'). Refer to note 18 for further disclosure.

Note 6. Contract assets and liabilities

	Conso	Consolidated	
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	30 Jun 2021 \$'000	
Contract assets - pre-paid contracts	52,368	46,100	
Contract liabilities - pre-paid contracts - monument works	56,774 1,580	50,417 1,507	
	58,354	51,924	

Pre-paid contracts

The Group recognises contract assets and contract liabilities in relation to pre-paid funerals, memorials and other products and services where the customer pays for those products and services in advance. Funds held in connection with pre-paid contracts are largely held with third party friendly societies who invest the funds in cash and fixed interest products (more than 90% of funds held) and other asset classes (less than 10% of funds held).

Profit or loss impacts and movements in contract assets and contract liabilities in relation to the pre-paid contracts are set out below:

	Conso 31 Dec 2021 \$'000	lidated 31 Dec 2020 \$'000
Profit or loss impact of undelivered contract assets and contract liabilities - pre-paid contracts Investment income on contract assets	375	124
Finance charge on contract liabilities	(669)	(652)
Net financing charge on contract assets and contract liabilities - pre-paid contracts	(294)	(528)
	Conso 31 Dec 2021 \$'000	lidated 30 Jun 2021 \$'000
Movements in contract assets - pre-paid contracts		
Opening balance	46,100	47,495
Sales of new contract assets Redemption of contract assets following service delivery Increase due to business combinations (note 19) Increase due to investments returns	1,216 (2,433) 7,110 375	2,844 (4,815) 313 263
Closing balance	52,368	46,100
Contract assets expected to be realised within one year Contract assets expected to be realised after one year	5,356 47,012	4,688 41,412
Total contract assets - pre-paid contracts	52,368	46,100

Note 6. Contract assets and liabilities (continued)

	Conso 31 Dec 2021 \$'000	lidated 30 Jun 2021 \$'000
Movements in contract liabilities - pre-paid contracts		
Opening balance	50,417	51,031
Sales of new contract liabilities	1,216	2,844
Decrease following delivery of services	(2,638)	(5,068)
Increase due to business combinations (note 19)	7,110	313
Increase due to finance charge applied in accordance with AASB 15	669_	1,297
Closing balance	56,774	50,417
Contract liabilities expected to be realised within one year	5,888	5,214
Contract liabilities expected to be realised after one year	50,886	45,203
Total contract liabilities - pre-paid contracts	56,774	50,417

All contract assets and contract liabilities have been treated as current because the asset and the liability originate from the same contract. The contract liability is recognised as a current liability as the Group does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. Accordingly, because the liability is classified as current, the associated contract asset balance is also classified as current.

The assets and liabilities have been split between amounts 'expected to be realised within one year' and 'amounts expected to be realised after one year' based on historical trends.

Note 7. Property, plant and equipment

	Conso	lidated
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	30 Jun 2021 \$'000
<i>Non-current assets</i> Land - at cost	55,382	50,275
Buildings - at cost Less: Accumulated depreciation	81,567 (7,477) 74,090	77,960 (6,509) 71,451
Improvements - at cost Less: Accumulated depreciation	9,811 (1,449) 8,362	9,504 (1,208) 8,296
Plant and equipment - at cost Less: Accumulated depreciation	21,418 (8,032) 13,386	19,148 (6,931) 12,217
Motor vehicles - at cost Less: Accumulated depreciation	15,563 (6,731) 8,832	14,270 (6,042) 8,228
Construction in progress - at cost	2,230	2,295
	162,282	152,762

Note 7. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the written down values at the beginning and end of the current financial half-year are set out below:

Consolidated	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Improve- ments \$'000	Plant and equipment \$'000	Motor vehicles \$'000	Construction in progress \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2021	50,275	71,451	8,296	12,217	8,228	2,295	152,762
Additions	-	103	129	568	424	3,410	4,634
Additions through business							
combinations (note 19)	5,150	1,459	40	828	898	5	8,380
Disposals	(218)	(280)	(2)	(6)	(116)	-	(622)
Exchange differences	163	115	14	41	51	(48)	336
Transfers in/(out)	12	2,247	128	841	204	(3,432)	-
Depreciation expense (note 5)		(1,005)	(243)	(1,103)	(857)		(3,208)
Balance at 31 December 2021	55,382	74,090	8,362	13,386	8,832	2,230	162,282

Note 8. Right-of-use assets

	Conso 31 Dec 2021 \$'000	lidated 30 Jun 2021 \$'000
Non-current assets		
Land and buildings - right-of-use	43,938	39,691
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(7,118)	(5,595)
	36,820	34,096
Plant and equipment - right-of-use	1,301	1,268
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(735)	(613)
	566	655
Motor vehicles - right-of-use	60	59
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(43)	(33)
	17	26
	37,403	34,777

Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the written down values at the beginning and end of the current financial half-year are set out below:

Consolidated	Land and buildings \$'000	Plant and equipment \$'000	Motor vehicles \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2021	34,096	655	26	34,777
Additions	84	69	-	153
Additions through business combinations (note 19)	4,191	53	-	4,244
Lease reassessment and rent increases	80	(31)	-	49
Depreciation expense (note 5)	(1,631)	(180)	(9)	(1,820)
Balance at 31 December 2021	36,820	566	17	37,403

Note 9. Goodwill

	Conso	Consolidated	
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	30 Jun 2021 \$'000	
<i>Non-current assets</i> Goodwill - at cost	141,761	131,687	

Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the written down values at the beginning and end of the current financial half-year are set out below:

Consolidated	Goodwill \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2021 Additions through business combinations (note 19) Adjustments for prior year business combinations Exchange differences	131,687 9,889 5 180
Balance at 31 December 2021	141,761

Note 10. Trade and other payables

	Conso	Consolidated	
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	30 Jun 2021 \$'000	
Current liabilities			
Trade payables	3,163	2,322	
Deposits	788	653	
Accrued expenses	2,027	2,579	
GST payable	983	764	
Other payables	1,533	1,396	
	8,494	7,714	

Note 11. Borrowings

	Conso 31 Dec 2021 \$'000	lidated 30 Jun 2021 \$'000
Current liabilities		
Bank Loans	14,870	9,944
Hire purchases	104	124
	14,974	10,068
Non-current liabilities		
Bank Loans	30,893	76,600
Hire purchases	89	139
	30,982	76,739
	45,956	86,807

Note 11. Borrowings (continued)

	Conso	lidated
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	30 Jun 2021 \$'000
Senior debt	46,123	86,523
Less: loan establishment costs	(549)	(212)
Equipment loans	189	233
Total Bank Loans	45,763	86,544

Bank Loans

As at the reporting date, the Group was party to the following debt facilities with Westpac Banking Corporation ('Financier'):

- \$185,000,000 senior debt facility which matures in October 2024; and
- \$15,000,000 working capital facility which matures in October 2024 and is required to be cleaned down annually,

resulting in total debt facilities of \$200,000,000 (together, 'Senior Debt'), of which \$46,123,000 was drawn as at 31 December 2021 (30 June 2021: \$86,523,000). The net debt position (i.e. drawn Senior Debt less cash and cash equivalents of \$7,889,000) was \$38,234,000 as at 31 December 2021 (30 June 2021: \$79,027,000).

In connection with the Senior Debt, the Company and its subsidiaries have granted a charge in favour of the Financier over all its assets and guaranteed the payment of the secured monies.

In addition, the Group is party to separate equipment loans relating to motor vehicles totalling \$189,000 (30 June 2021: \$233,000) (Senior Debt and equipment loans, together 'Bank Loans').

Hire purchase

The Group is also party to hire purchase agreements in connection with motor vehicles where the lessors have security interest in the leased assets, recognised in the statement of financial position and revert to the lessor in the event of default.

Note 12. Provisions

	Consolidated		
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	30 Jun 2021 \$'000	
Current liabilities			
Employee benefits	6,408	4,930	
Contingent consideration (note 15)	1,432	839	
Lease make good	77	39_	
	7,917	5,808	
Non-current liabilities			
Employee benefits	459	485	
Contingent consideration (note 15)	2,581	961	
Lease make good	253	280	
Perpetual maintenance care provision	240	223_	
	3,533	1,949	
	11,450	7,757	

Note 13. Issued capital

	Consolidated			
	31 Dec 2021 Shares	30 Jun 2021 Shares	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	30 Jun 2021 \$'000
Ordinary shares - fully paid	117,895,750	99,946,016	280,239	203,418

Movements in ordinary share capital

Details	Date	Shares	Issue price	\$'000
Balance Shares issued – termination fee (note 18) Share based payment revaluation (note 18) Shares issued - business combinations (note 19) Shares issued - placement (net of transaction costs and	1 July 2021 26 July 2021 26 July 2021 1 October 2021	99,946,016 2,307,692 - 52,546	\$3.67 - \$3.13	203,418 8,469 5,407 165
tax) Shares issued - share purchase plan (net of transaction	25 October 2021	12,245,122	\$4.10	49,115
costs and tax)	23 November 2021	3,344,374	\$4.10	13,665
Balance	31 December 2021	117,895,750	-	280,239

Ordinary shares

Ordinary shares entitle the holder to participate in dividends declared and any proceeds attributable to shareholders should the Company be wound up, in proportions that consider both the number of shares held and the extent to which those shares are paid up. The fully paid ordinary shares have no par value and the Company does not have a limited amount of authorised capital.

On a show of hands every member present at a meeting in person or by proxy shall have one vote and upon a poll each share shall have one vote.

Share buy-back

There is no current on-market share buy-back.

Note 14. Dividends

Dividends

Dividends paid during the financial half-year were as follows:

	Consolidated	
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	31 Dec 2020 \$'000
Final dividend for the year ended 30 June 2021 of 5.75 cents (30 June 2020: 6.0 cents) per		
ordinary share	5,880	5,924

On 25 August 2021, the directors declared a fully franked final dividend of 5.75 cents per ordinary share which equated to a total distribution of \$5,880,000 in connection with the financial year ended 30 June 2021. The dividend was paid on 5 October 2021 and was recognised during the reporting period.

On 25 August 2020, the directors declared a fully franked final dividend of 6.0 cents per ordinary share which equated to a total distribution of \$5,924,000 in connection with the financial year ended 30 June 2020. The dividend was paid on 1 October 2020 and was recognised during the relevant reporting period.

Interim dividend not recognised at period end

In addition to the above and since the reporting date, the directors declared a fully franked dividend of 6.0 cents per ordinary share on 23 February 2022. The dividend will be paid on 7 April 2022. This equates to an estimated total distribution of \$7,074,000. The financial effect of the dividend declared after the reporting date is not reflected in the 31 December 2021 financial statements and will be recognised in the period to 30 June 2022.

Note 14. Dividends (continued)

Franking credits

	Consolidated	
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	30 Jun 2021 \$'000
Franking credits available for subsequent financial years based on a tax rate of 30%	16,284	15,687

The above amounts represent the balance of the franking account as at the end of the financial half-year, adjusted for franking credits that will arise from the:

- payment of the amount of the provision for income tax at the reporting date;
- payment of dividends recognised as a liability at the reporting date;
- receipt of dividends recognised as receivables at the reporting date; and
- franking credits acquired through business combinations.

Note 15. Fair value measurement

Fair value hierarchy

This section outlines the valuation techniques used to measure fair value of financial instruments which maximises the use of relevant observable inputs and minimises the use of unobservable inputs.

The following tables detail the Group's assets and liabilities, measured or disclosed at fair value, using a three level hierarchy, based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the entire fair value measurement, being:

- Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date
- Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability

Consolidated - 31 Dec 2021	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
<i>Liabilities</i> Current Derivative financial instruments *	-	144	-	144
Contingent consideration	-	-	1,432	1,432
Non-current Contingent consideration			2,581	2,581
Total liabilities		144	4,013	4,157
Consolidated - 30 Jun 2021	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
<i>Liabilities</i> Current Contingent consideration	_	_	839	839
Non-current		260		
Derivative financial instruments * Contingent consideration	-	260	- 961	260 961
Total liabilities		260	1,800	2,060

There were no transfers between levels during the financial half-year.

The carrying amounts of trade and other receivables and trade and other payables are assumed to approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature.

* Relate to interest rate swap contracts of the cash flow hedges.

Note 15. Fair value measurement (continued)

Valuation techniques for fair value measurements categorised within level 2 and level 3 Due to the nature of contingent consideration, it has been categorised as Level 3.

Contingent consideration represents the obligation to pay additional amounts to vendors in respect of businesses acquired by the Group, subject to certain conditions being met. It is measured at the present value of the estimated liability. The fair value of contingent consideration is calculated on the expected future cash outflows. Generally, the contingent consideration is a performance based payment. These are reviewed at the reporting date to provide the expected future cash outflows for each contract. Upon completion of the review the future cash outflows are then discounted to present value using the Group's incremental borrowing rate.

Derivative financial instruments have been valued using quoted market rates. This valuation technique maximises the use of observable market data where it is available and relies as little as possible on entity specific estimates.

Level 3 assets and liabilities

Movements in level 3 assets and liabilities during the current financial half-year are set out below:

Consolidated	Contingent consideration \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2021 Payments made (note 19) Additions through business combinations (note 19) Movement due to changes in discount rate Foreign exchange difference	1,800 (421) 2,592 37 5
Balance at 31 December 2021	4,013

Fair value movements are recognised in the statement of profit or loss as movements in interest expense. Fair value movements for the period in relation to revaluation of contingent consideration amounted to \$37,000 (31 December 2020: \$31,000). A stress test of 50 basis points was conducted and found to have an immaterial impact.

Note 16. Contingent liabilities

The Group had \$1,270,000 bank guarantees as at 31 December 2021 (30 June 2021: \$1,183,000) in relation to premises the Group leases.

The directors are not aware of any other contingent liabilities that existed as at the reporting date or on the date of approval of the financial statements (30 June 2021: Nil).

Note 17. Commitments

	Conso	Consolidated	
	31 Dec 2021 \$'000	30 Jun 2021 \$'000	
<i>Capital commitments</i> Committed at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, payable:			
Property, plant and equipment	3,995	2,088	
	3,995	2,088	

Note 18. Related party transactions

On 26 July 2021, the Company completed the Management Internalisation, which involved, among other things:

- the assignment and termination of the management agreement with Propel Investments Pty Limited (ACN 117 536 357) ('the Manager') and the payment of a \$15,000,000 termination fee to the Manager, settled 50% in cash and 50% in Propel shares and a one-off fair value adjustment expense relating to the termination shares of \$969,000 *;
- three senior executives becoming employees of the Group;
- the transfer of intellectual property from the Manager, its officers and employees to the Group;
- a modification of the voluntary escrow arrangements relating to 14,732,667 shares ('Escrowed Shares'), so that:
 - 50% of the Escrowed Shares will be released from voluntary escrow following the release of the Group's audited financial results for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 **; and
 - 50% of the Escrowed Shares will be released from voluntary escrow following the release of the Group's audited financial results for the financial year ended 30 June 2025 **,

these amendments resulted in a one-off share based payment revaluation expense of \$5,407,000 (refer to note 13).

- * Related to the fair value uplift of the termination shares measured at the share price of \$3.67 on completion date of the Management Internalisation, compared with the issue price of \$3.25 (representing the 30 day volume weighted average price to 28 May 2021).
- ** Instead of a release from escrow in November 2027.

Note 19. Business combinations

State of Grace

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On 15 September 2021, the Group acquired the business and assets relating to State of Grace Limited ('State of Grace'), which provides funeral directing services from two locations in Auckland, New Zealand.

Berry Funeral Directors

On 1 October 2021, the Group acquired 100% of the issued share capital of Charles Berry & Son Pty. Ltd. and associated assets and a freehold property (with multiple titles) (together, 'Berry Funeral Directors'), which provides funeral directing services from one location in Norwood, South Australia. Consideration of \$14,034,000 was paid on settlement, which consisted of \$13,869,000 in cash and 52,546 ordinary shares in Propel (recognised at a fair value of \$165,000 given the escrow arrangements) and a further amount of \$1,718,000 (present value) will be paid if certain financial thresholds are achieved, representing total consideration of up to \$15,752,000.

Glenelg Funerals

On 1 December 2021, the Group acquired the business and assets relating to Glenelg Funerals ('Glenelg'), which provides funeral directing services from one location in Glenelg, South Australia.

Eagars Funerals

On 1 December 2021, the Group acquired the business, assets and a freehold property (subject to approval of a boundary adjustment subdivision) relating to Eagars Funerals ('Eagars'), which provides funeral directing services from one location in New Plymouth, New Zealand.

Details of the purchase consideration, the net assets acquired and goodwill for the acquisitions of State of Grace, Glenelg Funerals and Eagars Funerals ('Other Acquisitions') are disclosed, in aggregate, below.

Note 19. Business combinations (continued)

The assets and liabilities recognised as a result of the acquisitions are as follows:

	Berry Funeral Directors Fair value \$'000	Other Acquisitions Fair value \$'000	Total \$'000
Assets: Cash and cash equivalents Contract assets	351 3,920	- 3,190	351 7,110
Trade and other receivables * Other current assets Property, plant and equipment	320 126 7,862	6 196 518	326 322 8,380
Right-of-use assets Deferred tax assets	683 95	3,561 9	4,244 104
Liabilities: Contract liabilities Trade and other payables Provisions Lease liabilities Deferred tax liabilities Other liabilities	(3,920) (575) (322) (668) (92) (18)	(3,190) (23) (77) (3,561) (3)	(7,110) (598) (399) (4,229) (95) (18)
Net assets acquired Goodwill	7,762 7,990	626 1,899	8,388 9,889
Acquisition-date fair value of the total consideration transferred	15,752	2,525	18,277
Representing: Cash paid or payable to vendor Propel Funeral Partners Limited shares issued to	13,869	1,651	15,520
vendor Contingent consideration (discounted)	165 1,718	- 874	165 2,592
	15,752	2,525	18,277
Cash used to acquire business, net of cash acquired per cash flow statement: Cash paid to vendors Less: cash and cash equivalents	13,869 (351)	1,651	15,520 (351)
Net cash used	13,518	1,651	15,169

* The fair value of acquired trade receivables was \$326,000. The gross contractual amount for trade receivables due was \$332,000, with a loss allowance of \$6,000.

Goodwill recognised is attributable to the locations and the profitability of the acquired businesses and will not be deductible for tax purposes. Total acquisition costs (including stamp duty) paid and expensed to profit and loss was \$739,000. The acquisition accounting was provisional as at 31 December 2021.

Note 19. Business combinations (continued)

	Consolidated 31 Dec 2021 \$'000
Payment for purchase of business, net of cash acquired per cash flow statement: Net cash used for the Berry Funeral Directors acquisition Net cash used for the Other Acquisitions Contingent consideration payments (note 15) Acquisition costs	13,518 1,651 421 739
Net cash used	16,329

Details of revenues and profit are as follows:

Details of revenues and profit are as follows.	Berry Funeral Directors \$'000	Other Acquisitions \$'000	Total \$'000
Revenue generated from acquisition date to 31 December 2021	1,935	570	2,505
Net profit after tax from acquisition date to 31 December 2021	355	14	369

If the four acquisitions had occurred on 1 July 2021, it is estimated that the Group's revenue and net loss after tax for the entire half-year period would have been approximately \$71,230,000 and approximately (\$8,991,000) respectively.

Note 20. Earnings per share

	Consol 31 Dec 2021 \$'000	idated 31 Dec 2020 \$'000
(Loss)/profit after income tax attributable to the shareholders of Propel Funeral Partners Limited	(9,197)	8,156
	Number	Number
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating basic earnings per share	107,103,116	99,123,605
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating diluted earnings per share	107,103,116	99,123,605
	cents	cents
Basic earnings per share Diluted earnings per share	(8.59) (8.59)	8.23 8.23

Note 21. Events after the reporting period

On 11 February 2022, the Group completed the acquisition of the business, assets and a freehold property of Carol & Terry Crawford Funerals Pty Ltd ('Crawford Funerals') in Geelong, Victoria, for \$2,625,000. Crawford Funerals generates approximately \$1,000,000 of revenue, per annum.

On 23 February 2022, the directors declared a fully franked dividend of 6.0 cents per ordinary share. The dividend will be paid on 7 April 2022. This equates to an estimated total distribution of \$7,074,000. The financial effect of the dividend declared after the reporting date is not reflected in the 31 December 2021 financial statements and will be recognised in the period to 30 June 2022.

Apart from the events disclosed above, no other matter or circumstance has arisen since 31 December 2021 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the Group's operations, the results of those operations, or the Group's state of affairs in future financial years.

In the directors' opinion:

- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Corporations Act 2001, Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 'Interim Financial Reporting', the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 31 December 2021 and of its performance for the financial half-year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of directors made pursuant to section 303(5)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001.

On behalf of the directors

Brian Scullin Chairman

23 February 2022

Albin Kurti Managing Director



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT

To the members of Propel Funeral Partners Limited

Report on the Half-Year Financial Report

Conclusion

We have reviewed the half-year financial report of Propel Funeral Partners Limited (the Company and its subsidiaries ("the Group")), which comprises the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2021, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and consolidated statement of cash flows for the half-year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the accompanying half-year financial report of the Group does not comply with the Corporations Act 2001 including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 31 December 2021 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Basis for Conclusion

We conducted our review in accordance with ASRE 2410 *Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity.* Our responsibilities are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Review of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the annual financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001* which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's review report.

Responsibility of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the half-year financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the half-year financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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Auditor's Responsibility for the Review of the Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the half-year financial report based on our review. ASRE 2410 requires us to conclude whether we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the half-year financial report is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 31 December 2021 and its performance for the half-year ended on that date, and complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

A review of a half-year financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Vecia,

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Limited

Lester Wills Director

Sydney, 23 February 2022