



Tomorrow starts today

Results **Announcement**

August 2022

John Somerville
Chief Executive Officer

Kate MaloneChief Financial Officer

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Business highlights



Positive NPAT despite first half being impacted by lockdowns

- + Delivered year on year PIL fee revenue increase of 6% despite impact of prolonged lockdowns on enquiries & matter progression
- + PIL enquires were 11% higher in the 2nd half
- + Leading & growing national market share³
- Maintained highest prompted brand awareness in all our key markets
- + Five new class actions commenced during the year
- + GOCF was negative for the year primarily due to continued investment in growth areas of the business including Class Actions & Abuse practices
- Super Senior Facility maturity extended to 31 October 2024

FY22 performance – Strong recovery in 2nd half



Prolonged lockdowns in 2020 & 2021 impacted PIL market, less activity resulting in lower enquiries

- 10% Net revenue 1

- 40% EBITDA²

- 85% \$2.2m Net Profit after Tax 1

- 139% **Gross Operating** Cashflow

21.0% Net gearing ³

- 12% PIL enquiries

Net PIL matter growth

+ 2 net **Active Class Actions**

+6 NPS 4

Well positioned in an attractive market Iconic brand, focused business model



	Personal ['] Injury Law	Class ² Actions		
Revenue pool	~\$1.8b ³	~ \$240 n		
	~30/ ₃ 3	~10%		



Market structure

Growth

~2,200 firms

Forecast

2022-2027

Leading market share

Historical 2012-2021

Top 3 firm share



- + Well represented in chosen markets
- + Unions & other referral relationships



- + 87+ years of caring for Australians' rights
- + Maintained #1 prompted & unprompted recall 7
- + Net Promoter Score of 29 8
- Highly focused business model
 - + Personal Injury 87% of revenue 9
 - + Class Actions 11% of revenue
 - + Emerging Services ¹⁰ 2% of revenue



- + Online claim assessment tool
- + Outbound digital capability
- + Advanced analytics supporting business decisions

Delivering on our strategy

Aligned to our clients & values



Differen	tiate)
through	our	care



- + Garden Point indigenous abuse survivors receive apology & compensation
- + In a ground breaking case, successfully pursued compensation & recognition as an employee for a gig economy worker
- + 73 colleagues across the firm volunteered to support Afghan refugees with immigration applications

Passionate & skilled. acting as one team



- + National practice groups were established across the firm delivering clear career paths for our people
- + 36 accredited specialist lawyers & 37 lawyers named in *Doyle's* List across our practice groups
- + Recognised by the Bar Association of Victoria as one of only 14 law firms, & one of only 2 plaintiff firms, in the State to have reached the Australian Law Council's Equitable Briefing Policy target of briefing women barristers
- + Signed the Charters on the Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession in Victoria & NSW

Simplify & digitalise our processes



- + Partnered with digital supplier to accelerate matter investigations
- + Implemented a standardised & digitised document storage platform
- + Delivered a new client portal to facilitate class actions settlement & distribution process
- + More clients opting to initially engage with us digitally
- + Invested further into technology to enable hybrid working & support of client
- + Improved our client experience materially through our digitally enabled centralised settlement roll out

Explore & grow into our opportunities



- + Obtained first ever Group Costs Order in a Class Action in Australia
- + Expanded our Abuse practice
- + Continue to expand our referral partners



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Earnings overview



First half impacted by lockdowns, strong matter progression in second half

(\$m)	1H22	2H22	FY22	FY21	Var
Fee Revenue	78.1	77.3	155.4	154.2	0.8%
Change in WIP	6.9	19.7	26.6	48.1	(44.7%)
Bad & Doubtful Debts	(4.8)	(0.3)	(5.1)	(5.0)	1.8%
Net operating revenue before specified items	80.2	96.7	177.0	197.4	(10.3%)
Labour	(56.0)	(52.0)	(108.0)	(106.8)	1.1%
Non-labour costs	(20.2)	(19.4)	(39.6)	(41.9)	(5.5%)
EBITDA before specified items	4.0	25.3	29.3	48.6	(39.7%)
Specified items ¹	(4.2)	(1.3)	(5.5)	(8.7)	(36.2%)
EBITDA	(0.2)	24.0	23.8	39.9	(40.4%)
NPAT including other income from continuing operations	(7.7)	9.6	1.9	14.2	Large
NPAT including other income & discontinued operations	(7.5)	9.7	2.2	14.5	Large

Revenue impacted by slowing WIP growth

- + PIL WIP ² in the 1st half impacted by slowing enquiries & new matter growth as a result of prolonged lockdowns, partly offset by solid PIL fee revenue growth
- Strong growth in WIP in 2nd half reflects improving PIL market environment & progression of several firm funded class actions
- Class Actions fee revenue lower arising from timing of settlements

Continued focus on cost

- + Higher labour costs arising from increased FTE in growth practice groups offset by benefits from ongoing transformation activities & lower short term bonus accrual
- + \$2.3m decrease in non-labour costs, driven primarily by lower IT & admin costs & continued focus on discretionary spend
- + Specified items are \$3.1m lower due to lower long term incentive plan payments & transformation costs

Earnings movement

EBITDA primarily impacted by WIP movement



Net Fees (\$m)



Expenses (\$m)¹

147.6

FY22

148.7

FY21

- PIL fees up \$7.7m, driven by higher settlements, partially offset by lower average fees per settlement due to case mix.
- Class Actions fees \$(6.5m) lower due to lower settlements

Increase in labour cost driven by investment in targeted practice groups such as **Emerging Practice & Class** Actions

- Partially offset by reduction in bonus accrual
- Incremental reduction in admin expenses

Change in WIP (\$m)



EBITDA (\$m) 1

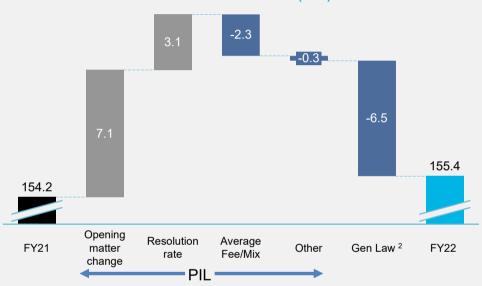


- PIL WIP movement was lower than FY21 due to slowing enquiries & new matter growth primarily in 1st half of year
- Class Actions WIP growth driven by increase in NWNF² / GCO³ matters
- Key driver of EBITDA movement is attributable to change in WIP
- Strong 2nd half, led by 21% improvement in revenue (2H22 v 1H22)

Fees & WIP Waterfalls

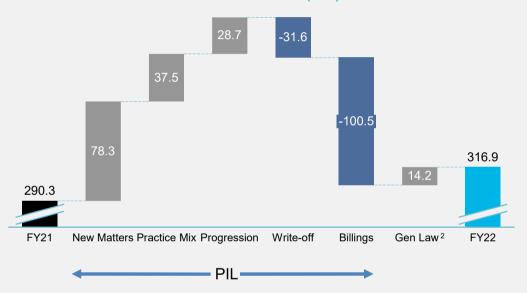
Fees steady & continued growth of WIP

Fees Billed FY22 v FY21 (\$m)



- Successful settlements for the year were 399 higher due to higher opening active matters of 927 and a 2% improvement in resolution rate
- Average Fee/Mix decreased by 4.6%
- + General Law ² down by \$6.5m due to lower settlements

WIP Balance FY22 v FY21 (\$m) 1



- PIL WIP movement of \$12.4m was \$26.2m lower than FY21, primarily due to settlements exceeding new matters
- + 7,140 new matters for FY22
- 8,059 matters settled, with success rates & write-offs remaining stable
- + General Law WIP movement of \$14.2m higher than FY21 driven by strong matter progression & lower settlements
- + Improvement in matter mix resulting in higher average WIP per matter

Balance Sheet



Net Assets increasing primarily due to WIP growth

As reported (\$m)	30 Jun-22	30 Jun-21	FY22 v FY21
Assets			
Cash	15.6	20.7	(5.1)
Receivables	88.7	80.2	8.5
Net WIP	313.7	286.1	27.6
PPE	2.1	2.7	(0.6)
Right of use asset	13.7	15.6	(1.9)
Other	10.0	13.3	(3.3)
Total	443.8	418.6	25.2
Liabilities			
Payables	76.4	74.1	2.3
Borrowings	108.7	89.2	19.5
Leases	21.1	23.1	(2.0)
Deferred tax	24.0	22.4	1.6
Provisions	29.6	29.3	0.3
Total	259.8	238.1	21.7
Net assets	184.0	180.5	3.5

Assets increased by 6% due to WIP & receivables

- + \$5.1m decrease in cash primarily due to continued growth in WIP and higher disbursements in Class Actions; offset by higher financing activities of \$8.2m relating to Term Loan increase
- + \$27.6m WIP increase from matter mix & matter progression across PIL & Class Actions
- + \$1.9m decrease in Right of Use asset offset by lease liabilities

Liabilities increased due to restructured term borrowings

- + \$2.3m higher payables due to \$9.6m increase in 3rd Party funding for disbursements; offset by a reduction in Legal Creditors, trade payables & accruals
- + \$19.5m increase in borrowings due to \$15.0m increase in Term Loan & accrued interest on Super Senior Facility

Working capital

Trends remain broadly stable

WIP turnover (months) 1



- PIL WIP increasing due to matter duration offset by settlements outweighing new matters
- GL WIP increasing due to a higher portion of GCO cases and longer duration matters
- Court delays impacted settlements particularly in GL⁵

Debtor Turns (days) ²



- + PIL Continued improvement around centralised settlements & collections
- GL impacted by lower billings in FY22

Average 90+ day debtors ratio (%) 3



- 90+ day debtors reduced by 11% in FY22
- Continued focus on debtor collections

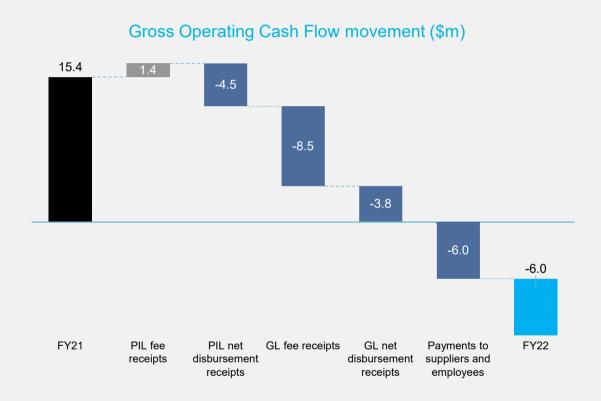
Third Party Funded Disbursements (\$m) 4



Continued improvement on uptake of third party funded disbursements

Gross Operating Cashflow

Impacted by investment in growth areas & prolonged lockdowns



Fee Receipts higher in PIL, offset by Class Actions

- + PIL fee receipts were higher driven by a mix of higher number of settlements and higher average fees due to small shift in portfolio mix
- GL receipts were lower due to lower Fees Billed primarily within Class Actions with minimal fee billings as cases progress to be settled in coming periods

Disbursements reflect investment in growth practices

- + Higher direct funding of disbursements where transition to third party funding is slower (Abuse practice)
- + Lower net disbursement receipts from other practices as a result of more clients who have settled cases in the year, funding disbursements with a third party
- + Lower GL net disbursements driven by continued build of class actions portfolio and focus on GCO cases

Operating Payments

- + Payments to employees higher due to an increased headcount in investment areas, offset by lower bonus payments
- Payments to suppliers flat with prior year

Balance sheet structure

Balance sheet measures impacted by operating performance

Net Gearing (%) 1



Net gearing impacted by increased Term Loan facility & by operating performance

Interest Coverage (x) ²



FY22 impacted by operating performance especially in 1st half

Net Debt / EBITDA (x) 3



- Term loan increased during the year
- Lower EBITDA especially in 1st half

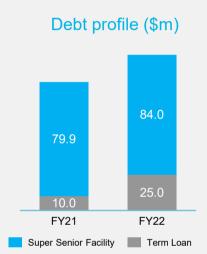
Weighted Average Time to Maturity (Months) 4



Term Loan maturity extended

Funding summary - Ongoing activity to optimise funding structure Super Senior Facility maturity extended to October 2024





Refinanced 3-year Term Loan facility with \$30m limit (\$25m drawn)

- Repaid previous \$10m Term Loan
- + Increase in SSF attributable to capitalised interest

Finance charges excl. lease interest (\$m)



- + Lower interest expense in FY21 due to partial debt paydown
- + FY22 finance charge costs also capture funding facility termination expense
- + Additional interest from the additional loan drawdown on new facility



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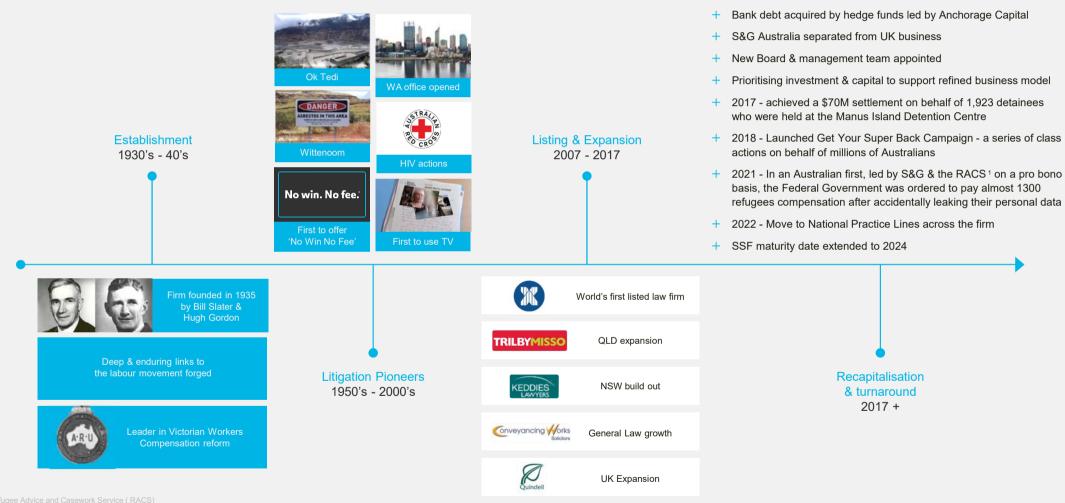
Slater Gordon Lawyers

Clear strategy Aligned to our clients & values

What we do		We access justice for all people. We champion voices struggling to be heard							
How we work	Com	We unite to treat	We unite to treat every client with care & commitment						
Why we do it		We make tomor	We make tomorrow start today for our clients						
How we will win		Differentiate Passionate & skil acting as one team				Explore & Grow into our opportunities			
How we see success	(3)	Client advocacy	Engaged team	Leading reputation	Growing share of target markets	Sustainable, investing in our communities			
Our non- negotiables	<u>*</u>	Client focus in all we do	Live our values – take the lead, do it right, work well with others	Digitally powered	Sound governance & risk management	Strong balance sheet & cashflows			

Proud legacy, focused for the future





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Our Services



Personal Injury Law - Diversified national practice lines

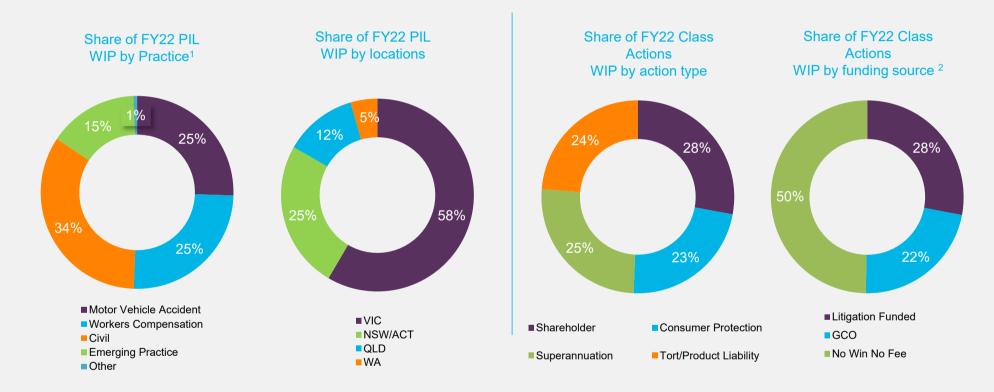
	Road Traffic & WC			Civil			Emerging Practices		
Practice	Motor Vehicle Accident	Work Cover	Comcare	Public Liability	Medical Negligence	Dust Disease	Abuse	Disability Insurance	Military Comp
Overview	+Motor vehicle accident claims +State by State regulation +Counterparty either personal insurance company or State insurance scheme (TAC in Victoria) +Impacted by population growth and overall long-term trend towards improvement in road safety	+Accidents / illness arising from the workplace + State by State regulation, with some states offering a government owned and run system, others are run through licensed insurers + Impacted by population growth and overall long-term trend towards improvement in workplace safety	+Accidents / illness arising from the workplace in Commonwealth workers + Commonwealth's workers' compensation scheme under the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act; and the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (WHS Act)	+ Claims caused by the fault of an individual or organisation that do not fall within the other PIL compensation schemes + Generally low consumer awareness of potential public liability claims within Australia	+Legal claims arising from harm caused in the provision of healthcare +State by state regulation but principles are broadly similar nationwide	+Claims arising from disease and illness due to exposure to asbestos +State by state regulation but principles are broadly similar nationwide +Decline in asbestos and mesothelioma claims offset by emerging areas including silicosis	+ Claims arising from cases of sexual or physical abuse at institutions, schools (and other educational settings), sporting clubs, prisons and other correctional facilities, public places, workplaces, in medical care etc. + State by state regulation but principles are broadly similar nationwide + Increasing claims due to consumer awareness	+ Claims where plaintiffs are entitled to additional compensation through their superannuation policies + Governed by a national legislative framework + Tightening of TPD definitions and removal of multiple claims impacting claims + Targeting noninjury claims and maximising internal referrals represents growth potential	+ Claims arising due to injury or illness while serving in the Australian Defence Force, the individual and relevant dependants will be entitled to a range of benefits and entitlements + Governed by a national legislative framework + Stable market with shifting injury mix towards PTSD claims

Consumer facing business with AAA debtors (insurers, governments etc.)

Our services

Diversified portfolio of matters





Reconciliation of PBT to EBITDA & EBITDA before specified items



First half impacted by lockdowns, strong bounce back in 2nd half

\$'000	1H22	2H22	FY22	FY21	FY22 v FY21
Profit before tax – excluding discontinued operations	(10,706)	14,165	3,459	21,263	(17,804)
Add: Depreciation & amortisation	4,123	3,469	7,592	7,978	(386)
Add: Finance charges	6,618	6,704	13,322	12,149	1,173
Deduct: Other income	(191)	(385)	(576)	(1,460)	884
EBITDA	(156)	23,953	23,797	39,930	(16,133)
Add: Specified items					
Retention bonuses & LTIP	763	865	1,628	3,963	(2,335)
Redundancy costs	306	10	316	769	(453)
Transformation expenditure	1,710	792	2,502	3,951	(1,449)
Other non core expenditure	1,348	(256)	1,092	-	1,092
Total specified items	4,127	1,411	5,538	8,683	(3,145)
Total EBITDA excluding specified items	3,971	25,364	29,335	48,613	(19,278)

Profit before tax (PBT) of \$3.5m for FY22

- + PBT was \$(17.8)m lower than FY21 due to prolonged lockdowns impacting 1st half performance
- EBITDA of \$29.3m was \$(19.3)m lower than prior year
- Strong EBITDA of \$26.4m in second half
- + Finance charges were \$1.2m higher due to higher facility funding costs
- Specified items were \$3.1m lower primarily due to lower long term incentive plan, retention bonuses & transformation expenditure



Media
Kate Van Poelgeest – Head of Media & Communications
kate.vanpoelgeest@slatergordon.com.au
(07) 3331 9720

Investors
Kate Malone – CFO
kate.malone@slatergordon.com.au
(03) 9602 6889