## **Aspen Group**

Bell Potter Foundations Property Conference / 1Q FY25 Results



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Business and Portfolio Overview

## Aspen Group

#### Owner

Proprietary approach focused on maximising sustainable returns for Aspen securityholders – no JV or Fund interests and conflicts to consider

#### Operator

Maximising profitability through intensive management of properties and offering a variety of lease terms and additional services – not a passive rent collector

#### Developer

Cost effective creation of quality accommodation that is suited to our customer base through brownfield and greenfield development

#### Capital Manager

Disciplined acquisitions, shared-equity schemes and recycling capital to optimise portfolio, maximise profits and equity value, and reduce risk

## Provider of Quality Rentals on Competitive Terms



Dwellings and Land Sites



Target Market

The c.40% of Australian Households with Income <\$90k per annum

#### Aspen's Diversity Increases Opportunities and Reduces Risk

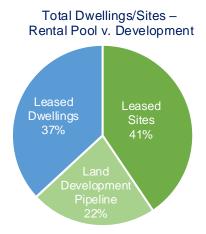
**National footprint** 

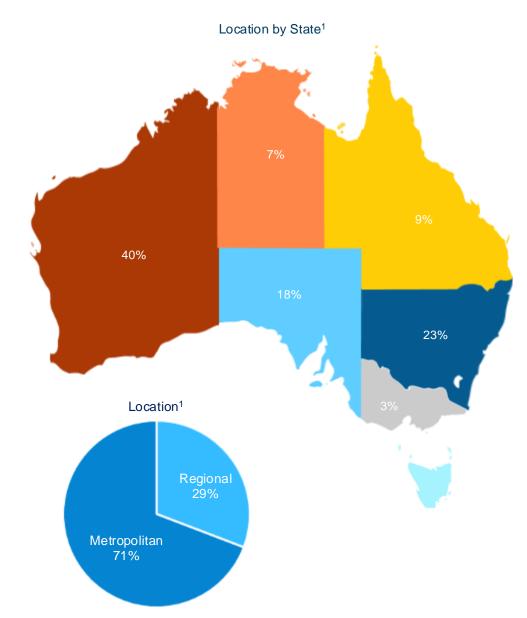
Rental pool c.4,000 dwellings & land sites

**Development pipeline** c.1,100 sites - 10 active projects

Attractive locations with population growth – metropolitan / regional within 1-2 hours of a major city

Variety of lease structures and regulatory regimes





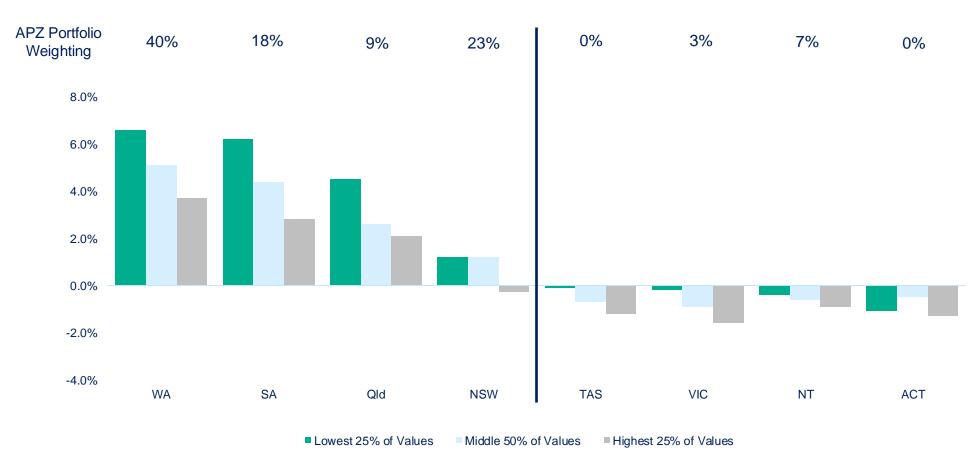
1. At 30 June 2024 – weighted by book value

#### Aspen's Portfolio is Very Well Positioned – Opportunities Increasing

90% of portfolio in highest growth States and Rent/Price points – increasing opportunities to recycle capital into developing new properties cheaper

Minimal exposure to weak markets – increasing opportunities to acquire affordable accommodation below replacement cost

#### CoreLogic Change in Dwelling Value Index - 3 Months to September 2024<sup>1</sup>

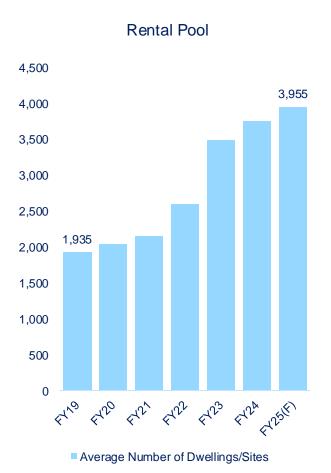


#### Aspen's Competitive Rents and Expanding Margin Driving Growth

Rental Pool Size up 2x >1,000 dwellings and all common facilities **X** improved

Avg. Gross Rent up 19% (around CPI only) Avg. Net Rent up 48% - Margin Expansion

**■ Total Net Rental Income up 3x** 



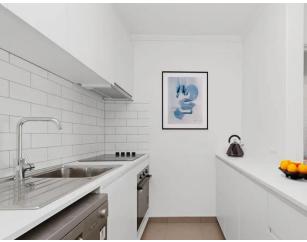




### Aspen's Quality Residential Accommodation - Example

Aspen's CoVE Maylands - Fully Refurbished 1 Bedroom Apartments Leased at \$405pw on average







Cheapest Available Competition in Maylands - Unrefurbished at \$430pw<sup>1</sup>







## Aspen's Quality Lifestyle Accommodation - Example

Alexandrina Cove Lifestyle Village – Coorong Quays, Hindmarsh Island SA









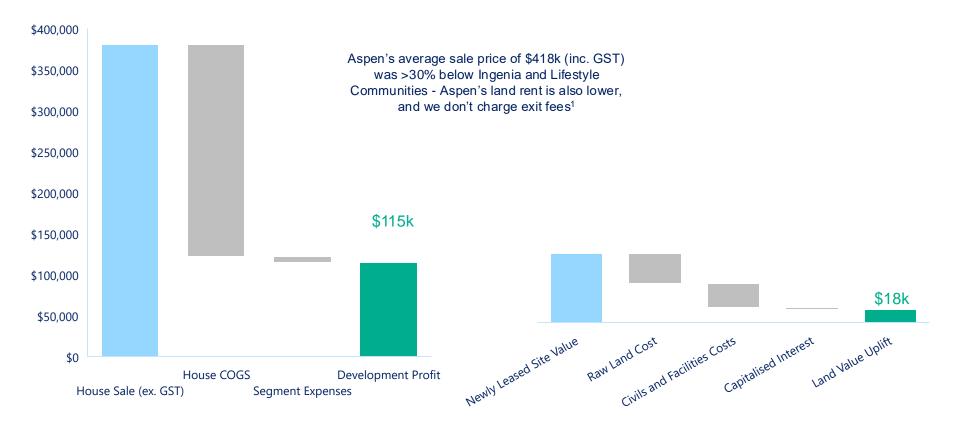


### Aspen Produces Low-Cost Lifestyle Housing on a Profitable Basis



Development Profit Per New House Sold in FY24

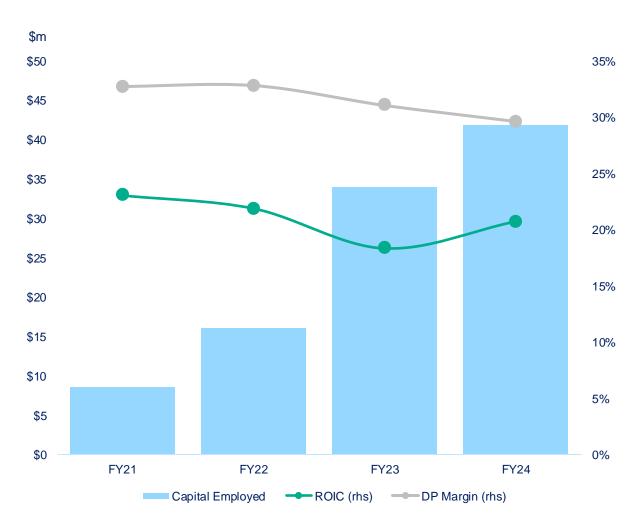
NAV Increase Per New Site Leased in FY24



Source: Management accounts – not audited. 1. Aspen has 104 legacy Retirement Village leases across some Lifestyle properties where the resident is liable for exit fees – Aspen has commenced a program of terminating the leases at no cost to the resident and converting to land leases

#### Aspen's Lifestyle Projects Generate Superior Margins and ROIC





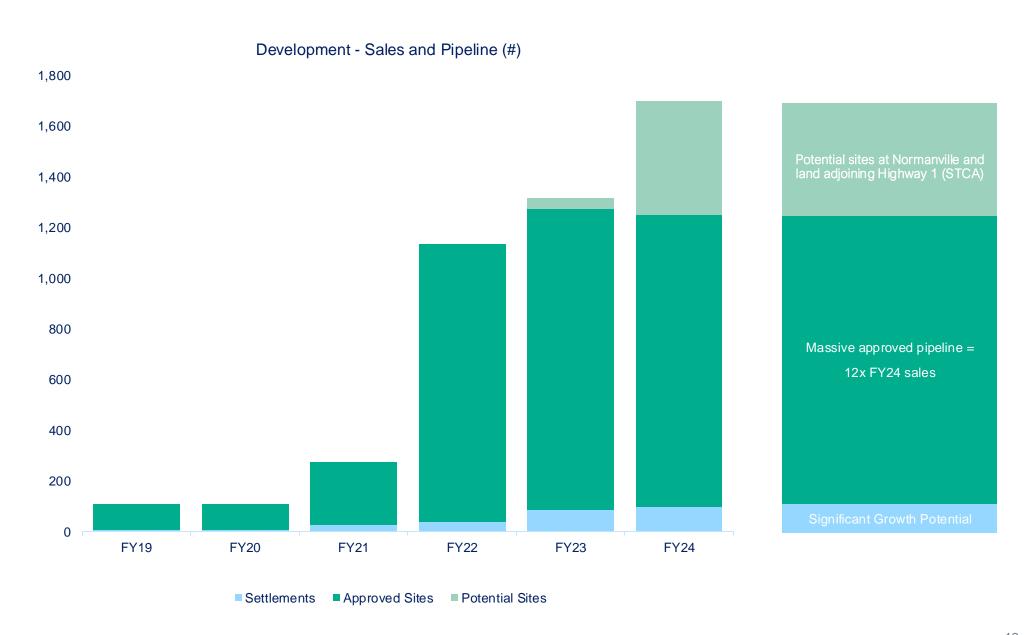
Rapid growth in the development business

While maintaining attractive development profit margin of 30% and ROIC<sup>2</sup> of 20% (plus NAV uplift)

And managing risk – diversified across 10 active projects / capital employed<sup>1</sup> <8% of total assets

<sup>1.</sup> Book value of Aspen's entire development assets including inventory and spare land in Lifestyle and Park properties classified as investment property. 2. ROIC – Return on Invested Capital equals Development Profit divided by average capital employed

## Aspen's Development Opportunity is Significant



#### Aspen's Book Values / Cap Rates are Conservative

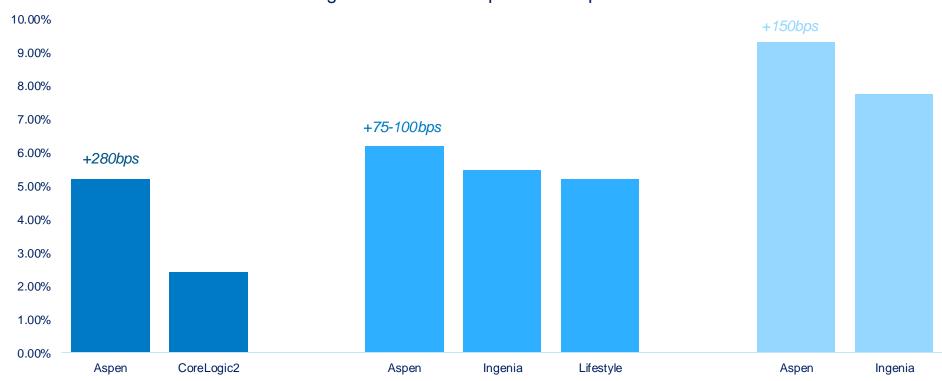
Residential Lifestyle Parks

Aspen has been selling residential houses with relatively high rent at a premium to book value and <3% cap rates

Aspen's Lifestyle portfolio has lower average rents and fit for purpose community facilities with lower maintenance cost and depreciation

Aspen's Park portfolio has relatively low exposure to seasonal tourism

#### Segment Valuation Cap Rate Comparison<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1.</sup> Weighted average cap rates as reported by the entities at 30 June 2024. 2. CoreLogic average National gross rental yield x 65% assumed net rent margin

# 1Q FY25 Results Summary

## Continued Strong Growth in Underlying Operating Earnings<sup>1</sup>

| \$m (unless otherwise stated)  | 1QFY25       | 1QFY24      | Change       |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Rent and ancillary revenue     | \$17.07      | \$15.52     | 10%          |
| Net Rental Income <sup>2</sup> | \$8.68       | \$7.83      | 11%          |
| Margin (%)                     | 50.8%        | 50.4%       | 40bps        |
| Development Revenue            | \$9.80       | \$5.58      | 76%          |
| Development Profit             | \$3.24       | \$1.46      | 122%         |
| Margin (% / \$ per sale)       | 33% / \$135k | 26% / \$77k | 7ppt / \$58k |
| Eureka Stake <sup>3</sup>      | \$0.82       | \$0.28      | 193%         |
| Corporate Overheads            | (\$1.77)     | (\$1.55)    | 14%          |
| Underlying EBITDA              | \$10.97      | \$8.02      | 37%          |
| Net Interest Expense           | (\$2.21)     | (\$1.43)    | 55%          |
| Underlying Operating Earnings  | \$8.76       | \$6.59      | 33%          |
| Ordinary shares (weighted #)   | 199.5        | 179.7       | 11%          |
| Underlying EPS (cents)         | 4.39         | 3.67        | 20%          |

Larger and improved rental pool

Highly occupied

Higher average rental rate

Development volumes, prices and margins improving

Increased stake in Eureka funded with APZ equity (dilutive to EPS)

Overheads under control

**EPS up 20%** 

<sup>1.</sup> Not audited. Underlying Operating Earnings is a non-statutory accounting measure that is determined to present, in the opinion of the directors, the operating activities of Aspen in a way that appropriately reflects Aspen's underlying operating performance – refer to financial reports for full definition 2. Rental income includes some ancillary revenue at some properties. 3. Aspen's 1Q FY25 underlying earnings includes Aspen's estimate of its 36% share of Eureka's average quarterly underlying earnings of 0.75 cents per share. Aspen's 1Q FY24 underlying earnings includes the distribution of 0.70 cents per share that Aspen received on its 13.6% stake in Eureka

## Underlying Operating Earnings<sup>1</sup> - Segments

\$0.12

\$0.54

**\$m** (unless otherwise stated)

Residential

| \$111 (dilless otherwise stated)     | IQF125 | IQF124 | Change | Comments  |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---|
|                                      |        |        |        |   |
| Total Net Rental Income <sup>2</sup> | \$8.68 | \$7.83 | 11%    |   |
| Residential                          | \$3.39 | \$2.37 | 43%    | <ul> <li>Aspen rents generally below market rents which are still increasing</li> <li>Essentially full except CoVE UMG due to uncertain foreign student visa rules <ul> <li>we have started targeting a broader, complimentary tenant base</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |
| Lifestyle                            | \$1.11 | \$0.99 | 12%    | <ul> <li>Rental pool growing &gt;10% per annum through development</li> <li>Site rent increases of 3-4% per annum</li> </ul>  |
| Parks                                | \$4.17 | \$4.47 | (7%)   | <ul> <li>Solid base of long-term leases</li> <li>Mixed corporate demand – AKV continuing to improve, but offset by reduced demand of two large corporate customers at Darwin and HWY1 due to project disruptions</li> <li>Softer tourism demand - Darwin peak season was below pcp (discretionary spend + high airfares), and spring school holiday period was skewed to 2Q this year and flat</li> </ul> |
|                                      |        |        |        |   |
| Total Development Profit             | \$3.24 | \$1.46 | 122%   |   |
| Lifestyle                            | \$3.13 | \$0.92 | 240%   | - 22 sales at average margin of \$142k / 33%  |

- 2 sales at average margin of \$58k / 31%

(78%)

<sup>1.</sup> Not audited. Underlying Operating Earnings is a non-statutory accounting measure that is determined to present, in the opinion of the directors, the operating activities of Aspen in a way that appropriately reflects Aspen's underlying operating performance – refer to financial report for full definition 2. Rental income includes some ancillary revenue at some properties.

## Solid Underlying Earnings Profile





#### FY25 Guidance on Track

- ✓ Operations net rental income tracking budget to date long stay occupancy and rental growth are expected to remain strong, but we remain cautious on discretionary short stay tourism demand in the weaker economic environment
- ✓ **Development** margins and profit ahead of budget to date, settlements and contracts on hand¹ of >70% of FY25 budgeted profit production has been ramped up to provide more sales flexibility / growth optionality
- ✓ Eureka reported underlying earnings of 3.02cps for FY24 we expect flat underlying EPS of 3.00cps in FY25² (Eureka has not provided guidance)
- ✓ Corporate Overheads under control currently below FY24 quarterly rate
- ✓ Net Interest Expense as expected a larger than usual portion of our interest rate exposure is currently hedged
- ✓ Continued recycling of capital out of high rent / low yield properties
- ✓ Growth opportunities increasing particularly developing new accommodation in strong markets and buying existing properties at a discount to replacement cost in weaker markets

#### FY25 Guidance<sup>3</sup>

\$40m - up 24%

Underlying EPS<sup>4</sup> **15.2 cents - up 10%** 

DPS **10.0 cents - up 18%** 

<sup>1.</sup> Contracts includes contracts, EOIs and deposits on 17 October 2024. 2. Aspen currently owns 36% of Eureka. In FY25 Aspen's statutory accounts will either equity or investment account its interest in Eureka depending on the level of influence it has over Eureka as defined by accounting standards. Either way, Aspen's reported Underlying Earnings will include Aspen's estimate of its share of Eureka's underlying earnings. 3. Subject to no material change in Aspen's operating environment. 4. Underlying Earnings is a non-statutory accounting measure that is determined to present, in the opinion of the directors, the operating activities of Aspen in a way that appropriately reflects Aspen's underlying operating performance – refer to financial report for full definition.

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