

## Pureprofile Ltd

### Minor changes to FY25f, valuation remains at \$0.09/share

Pureprofile Ltd (ASX:PPL) is a data analytics and consumer insights company underpinned by proprietary technology, servicing business decision makers in brands and media companies as well as market researchers. Pureprofile has confirmed in its <u>audited FY24</u> accounts that it delivered a maiden reported NPAT of \$0.1m for FY24. On an adjusted basis, NPAT was \$1.26m, up 25% on the previous corresponding period (pcp) and ahead of our forecast for \$1.17m. Adjusted EBITDA for FY24 was \$4.4m, down 4% on the pcp, but up 8% excluding the impact of cash short-term-incentive (STI) payments to executives. We note EBITDA was slightly ahead of our forecast for \$4.3m and within the company's guidance range of \$4.1m to \$4.5m. Revenue for the year was \$48.1m, again within the company's guidance range of \$48m to \$49.1m (<u>1 May company release</u>), although a little below our forecast for \$49.0m. We have incorporated the results into our model which has had the effect of a small (2%) reduction in our FY25 revenue forecast but a 1% increase on our FY25 EBITDA forecast. Our base-case valuation remains unchanged at \$0.09/share fully diluted.

#### **Business model**

Pureprofile operates a global research panel. It generates revenue from providing data analytics and consumer insights derived from its actively-managed panels of digital members accessed through its proprietary technology platform. In a world where privacy is increasingly valued, consumer insights and profiles generated through online panels allow businesses to gain the ability to segment, target and engage with their audiences without consumer privacy issues. In exchange, consumers are directly financially rewarded for their information and responses, and indirectly through more relevant and personalised content.

#### Minor adjustments to our FY25 forecasts

We have made minor adjustments to our FY25 forecasts after incorporating the FY24 result into our model. We have trimmed our forecast for ANZ revenue by 5% but increased RoW by 1%. Overall, our EBITDA-adjusted forecast has increased by 1% and NPAT adjusted by 2%. The company has highlighted that maintaining its NPAT profitability while driving measured investment in growth opportunities is a key priority for the business in FY25. The recent acquisition of i-Link (27 June) has yet to be fully evidenced in Pureprofile's accounts. Our forecasts for FY25 encompass top-line growth of 14% in the ANZ business, which will include i-Link for the full year. Our revenue forecast for RoW for FY25 incorporates a year-on-year growth estimate of 26%. We expect to see RoW revenue surpass 50% for the first time in FY25, with a forecast for 51.7% of total revenue for the year.

#### Base-case DCF valuation of \$0.09/share, fully diluted

We use the discounted cash-flow methodology to value PPL and arrive at a fully diluted DCF of 0.09/share, based on a WACC of 13.3% (beta 1.4, terminal growth rate 2.2%). Our terminal value is 0.044/share within our 0.09/share valuation. On the current share count of 1,159.4m, our base-case valuation is 0.11/share. A +/- 10% sensitivity analysis derives a valuation range of 0.06-0.12/share, fully diluted. In our view, continued demonstration of strong revenue growth, a sustained return to profitability and further evidence of EBITDA margin expansion should underpin PPL's share price in the near term.

Earnin	Earnings history and RaaS' estimates (in A\$m unless otherwise stated)										
Year end	Revenue	Gross profit	EBITDA adj.*	NPAT adj.*	EPS adj.*	EV/Sales (x)	EV/EBITDA (x)	PER (x)			
06/23a	43.7	23.0	4.6	0.9	0.08	0.6	5.8	30.2			
06/24a	48.1	26.0	4.4	1.3	0.11	0.6	6.0	22.5			
06/25f	57.8	30.8	5.4	2.2	0.19	0.4	4.8	13.2			
06/26f	65.2	35.4	7.4	2.8	0.25	0.4	3.1	10.2			
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Source: RaaS estimates for FY25f and FY26f; Company data for historical earnings; \*Adju time, discontinued operations and non-cash items

#### **FY24 Results Analysis**

#### **Data Analytics**

#### 3 September 2024

Share Details						
ASX code	PPL					
Share price (2-Sept)	\$0.025					
Market capitalisation	\$29.0M					
Shares on issue	1,159M					
Net cash est. 30-Jun	\$2.2M					
Free float	~79.2%					
Share Performance (12 months)						
\$0.04						

#### Upside Case

- Growing share of revenue generated outside Australia in substantially larger markets
- Senior management team is highly experienced in building data insights businesses
- ~90% of revenue from repeat business

#### **Downside Case**

- Market research industry growth rates underperform forecast expectations
- Competing with multinationals for business

Investors likely to be leary of dilutive acquisitions Catalysts

- Expanding operating profitability to EPS growth
- Continued EBITDA margin expansion

**Company Interview** 

Pureprofile (ASX:PPL) RaaS Webinar 28 June 2024

#### **Board and Management**

Michael Anderson	Non-Executive Ind. Chair
Adrian Gonzalez	Non-Executive Ind. Directo
Liz Smith	Non-Executive Director
Mark Heeley	Non-Executive Director
Martin Filz	Managing Director/CEO
Melinda Sheppard	COO/CFO
<b>Company Cor</b>	ntacts
Martin Filz (CEO)/ Melinda Sheppard (COO/CFO)	+61 2 9333 9700
info@pureprofile.co	om
<b>RaaS Contact</b>	
Finola Burke*	+61 414 354 712 finola.burke@raasgroup.com

\*The analyst owns shares



#### **FY24** Result Analysis

Pureprofile has delivered a FY24 EBITDA and EBITDA margin result ahead of our forecasts. We had forecast FY24 EBITDA of \$4.3m and a margin of 9.06% on revenue of \$49.0m versus the company's reported numbers of \$4.4m in adjusted EBITDA and \$48.1m in revenue. FY24 revenue was an increase of 10% on the pcp and in line with the company's guidance for revenue from \$48m to \$49m (<u>company release 1 May 2024</u>). RoW has been the key driver of the growth, lifting revenue 23%, while ANZ grew 2%. Platform revenue across both divisions has been robust, growing 88% to \$9.0m for the period. FY24 EBITDA was \$4.4m, down 4% on the pcp after including cash short-term-incentive (STI) payments. Excluding the impact of the cash STIs, the company says FY24 EBITDA would have been up 8% on the pcp.

The company ended the year with a cash balance of \$5.2m, up from \$4.2m at H1 FY24. Net cash at the end of the year was \$2.32m, a 34% increase on the pcp and ahead of our forecast for \$1.64m. Balance sheet liquidity also improved markedly in FY24, with net current assets of \$2.52m at year end, a \$3.9m turnaround from the previous financial year and again ahead of our forecast.

#### Exhibit 1: Key figures from FY24 financial statements (in A\$m unless otherwise stated)

	FY23a	FY24a	% chg on pcp	RaaS FY24 fct
Revenue	43.6	48.1	10	49.0
Gross margin (%)	52.6	54.2	3	56.2
EBITDA pre non-cash/one-time items (adjusted)	4.58	4.42	(4)	4.36
EBITDA reported	1.50	3.26	118	3.30
Operating cash flow	2.57	3.49	36	2.61
Free cash flow (after capex and capitalised development)	0.03	1.19	3,484	0.03
NPAT adjusted for non-cash items	0.93	1.26	36	1.17
Reported net profit/(loss) after tax	(2.16)	0.09	(104)	0.07
Cash/net cash	1.73	2.32	34	1.64
Net current assets (current assets less current liabilities)	(1.41)	2.52	(278)	0.54
Sources DDL EV24 oppual report Doc forecosts	(1.71)	2.02	(210)	0.

Source: PPL FY24 annual report, RaaS forecasts

	FY23a	FY24a	% chq on pcp	vs. RaaS FY24f
	26.9	-	2	
ANZ revenue		27.5	-	28.9
RoW revenue	17.3	20.6	19	20.1
Total sales revenue	43.7	48.1	10	49.0
Cost of sales	(20.7)	(22.0)	7	(21.5)
Gross profit	23.0	26.0	13	26.7
Gross margin (%)	52.6	54.2	3	56.2
Operating costs				
- Employment costs	(14.96)	(17.29)	16	(17.26)
- Other expenses	(3.43)	(4.41)	28	(5.03)
- Share-based payment expenses (non-cash)	(2.20)	(0.95)	(57)	(0.95)
Total operating costs	(20.59)	(22.65)	10	(23.23)
EBITDA exc. non-cash items (adjusted)	4.58	4.42	(4)	4.36
EBITDA adjusted margin (%)	10.50	9.19	(12)	8.89
EBITDA reported	1.50	3.26	118	3.30
EBITDA reported margin (%)	3.43	6.79	98	6.72
Total D&A	(2.96)	(2.69)	(9)	(2.69)
EBIT exc. non-cash items	1.62	1.73	6	1.67
Net interest	(0.53)	(0.44)	(17)	(0.46)
Net profit/(loss) before tax	1.10	1.29	17	1.21
Income tax expense	(0.09)	(0.02)	(73)	(0.05)
Net profit/(loss) after tax	1.01	1.26	25	1.17
NPAT reported	(2.16)	0.09	(104)	0.07

Operationally, the company has delivered consistent top-line growth over the past four years, with the threeyear CAGR for revenue from FY21 to FY24 at 23%. RoW, which is predominantly the UK and India, has grown



at a faster rate of 38% while the platform business, which is embedded in both ANZ and RoW, has grown at a three-year CAGR of 88%. FY24 platform revenue jumped 102% on FY23 to \$9.0m. We expect to see platform revenue, which is higher margin due to its self-service nature, continue to become a greater share of total revenue and, as a result, help drive EBITDA margin improvement longer term.

Exhibit 3: Sales revenu	e by divisi	ion, EBITE	DA and ma	rgin (in A\$	im unless	otherwise	stated)
Year ending June 30	FY21a	FY22a	FY23a	FY24a	% chg (FY24 over FY23)	Three-year CAGR (%)	RaaS FY24 fct
ANZ	17.7	23.1	26.9	27.5	2	16	28.9
RoW	7.9	12.4	16.8	20.6	23	38	20.1
Total sales revenue	25.6	35.5	43.7	48.1	10	23	49.0
Platform revenue included in both ANZ/ROW	1.1	3.5	4.8	9.0	88	102	9.3
EBITDA (excluding significant items)	2.7	3.2	4.6	4.4	(4)	18	4.3
EBITDA margin (%)	11	9	10	9	(13)	(12)	9

Source: Company data, RaaS forecasts

#### **Peer Performance**

Pureprofile competes against a number of international peers in the UK, European, US and Asian markets. We thought it would be worth examining how these companies have performed operationally and have looked at their most recent earnings reports on a half-year and quarterly basis. Apart from YouGov, which last reported its interim result (August 2023-January 2024) in March, all the other players have reported on January 2024 to June 2024. All these players, Bilendi, CINT, GMO Research and Kantar, have demonstrated substantially lower revenue growth (or declines) than Pureprofile on both a half-year and quarterly basis. Pureprofile has underperformed the peers on an EBITDA basis, largely due to the change in short term incentives to cash basis rather than shares.

Period Jan-Jun 2024	Revenue % chg Q4 FY24 vs Q4 FY23	Revenue % chg H2 FY24 vs H2 FY23	EBITDA % chg H2 FY24 vs H2 FY23
Pureprofile	18	11	(13)
Bilendi	3	3	n.a
CINT	(38)	(39)	14
GMO Research	(4)	(4)	(50)
Kantar	(4)	2	ý.
YouGov*	n.a.	9	23
Median	(4)	2	11

#### **Earnings Adjustment**

Our earnings forecasts for FY25f have been adjusted after taking into account the FY24a results. We have moderated our revenue and cost forecasts off the new (FY24a base) and this has resulted in modest increases in revenue, although a change in the mix, and underlying EBITDA and NPAT. We have essentially maintained the same growth forecasts but from the actual bases set by the FY24a accounts. As we highlighted earlier in this report, ANZ revenue came in 4.8% below our FY24 forecast while RoW was 2.5% above. Our revised forecasts are set out below.



Exhibit 5: Earnings adjustments (in A\$m	unless otherwise stated)	
Year ending 30 June	FY25f old	FY25f new
ANZ	29.1	27.8
ROW	29.7	29.9
Total revenue	58.8	57.8
Gross profit	31.3	30.8
Gross margin	53.3	53.4
EBITDA underlying	5.3	5.4
EBITDA underlying margin	9.1	9.3
EBIT underlying	2.8	2.8
NPAT underlying	2.2	2.2
NPAT reported	1.2	1.2
EPS underlying	0.19	0.19
EPS reported	0.10	0.10
Source: RaaS estimates		

#### Exhibit 5: Earnings adjustments (in A\$m unless otherwise stated

### **Base-Case DCF Valuation Is \$0.09/Share Fully Diluted, Unchanged**

We believe the discounted cash-flow methodology is the most appropriate method to value PPL, given the relatively early stage of the company's lifecycle. We apply a discount rate of 13.3% (beta 1.43, terminal growth rate of 2.2%). This derives a base-case valuation of \$0.09/share, fully diluted for all options and performance rights, regardless of whether they are in-the-money. On the current share count of 1,159.4m, the valuation is \$0.11/share. A +10%/-10% sensitivity analysis gives us a valuation range of \$0.06-\$0.12/share, fully diluted.

#### Exhibit 6: Base-case DCF valuation

	Parameters
Discount rate (WACC)	13.3%
Terminal growth rate	2.2%
Beta*	1.43
Present value of free cash flows (\$m)	60.0
Present value of terminal value (\$m)	66.0
Plus net cash at 30-June-2024	(2.3)
Equity value (\$m)	128.3
Shares on issue (m) including in-the-money options and performance shares	1,387
Equity value per share fully diluted	\$0.09
Equity value per share on current share count (1,159m)	\$0.11
Source: RaaS estimates; *LSEG observed beta is 1.32	



#### Exhibit 7: Financial Summary

Pureprofile						Share price (2 September 202	,				A\$	0.025
Profit and Loss (A\$m)						Interim (A\$m)	H124A	H224A	H125F	H225F	H126F	H226F
Y/E 30 June	FY22A	FY23A	FY24A	FY25F	FY26F	Revenue	24.0	24.1	27.6	30.2	31.7	33.5
						EBITDA	2.4	2.0	2.4	3.0	3.4	4.0
Sales Revenue	35.5	43.7	48.1	57.8	65.2	EBIT	1.0	0.7	1.2	1.6	2.0	2.5
Gross Profit	18.3	23.0	26.0	30.8	35.4	NPAT (normalised)	0.8	0.5	0.9	1.3	1.2	1.6
EBITDA underlying	4.0	4.6	4.4	5.4	7.4	Minorities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depn	(0.6)	(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.3)	(0.3)	NPAT (reported)	0.0	0.1	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.5
Amort	(2.7)	(2.5)	(2.2)	(2.3)	(2.5)	EPS (normalised)	0.07	0.04	0.08	0.11	0.11	0.14
EBIT underlying	0.8	1.6	1.7	2.8	4.5	EPS (reported)	0.00	0.01	0.07	0.11	0.10	0.13
Interest	(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.4)	Dividend (cps)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tax	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.0)	(0.2)	. ,	Imputation	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0
Minorities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	. ,	Operating cash flow	1.2	2.3	2.0	2.7	2.6	2.9
Equity accounted assoc	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		Free Cash flow	2.3	3.5	3.2	4.0	3.9	4.2
NPAT pre significant items*	0.2	0.9	1.3	2.2		Divisions	H124A	H224A	H125F	H225F	H126F	H226F
Significant items	(2.3)	(3.1)	(1.2)	(0.1)		Australia and NZ	14.0	10.4	13.8	14.0	14.1	14.2
NPAT (reported)	(2.3)	(2.2)	0.1	(0.1) 2.1		Rest of world	10.0	13.7	13.8	14.0	17.6	19.3
,	(2.2)	(2.2)	0.1	2.1	2.0	Sales revenue	24.0	<b>24.1</b>	27.6	30.2	31.7	
Cash flow (A\$m)	EV/00A		EV044	EVOCE	EVOCE							33.5
Y/E 30 June	FY22A	FY23A	FY24A	FY25F	FY26F	Platform revenue inc in abov	4.4	4.5	5.2	6.0	6.7	7.6
EBITDA underlying (Stat)	4.0	4.6	4.4	5.4	7.4	0000	(11.0)		(10.5)	14.1 0	(4.1.5)	/
Interest	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.4)	. ,	COGS	(11.0)	(11.1)	(12.9)	(14.0)	(14.6)	(15.2
Tax	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.2)	. ,	Employment	(8.4)	(8.9)	(10.0)	(10.7)	(11.2)	(11.7
Working capital changes	0.2	(1.7)	(0.4)	(0.1)	. ,	Technology, licence fees	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.3)	(1.4)	(1.4)	(1.5
Operating cash flow	3.9	2.6	3.5	4.7		Other costs	(1.1)	(0.9)	(1.0)	(1.0)	(1.1)	(1.1
Mtce capex	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.4)	(0.5)							
Free cash flow	3.8	2.4	3.4	4.3	5.0	EBITDA (adjusted)	2.4	2.0	2.4	3.0	3.4	4.(
Growth capex	(2.2)	(2.4)	(2.2)	(2.1)	(2.1)							
Acquisitions/Disposals	0.0	(0.1)	(0.0)	(1.3)	0.0	Margins, Leverage, Returns		FY22A	FY23A	FY24A	FY25F	FY26F
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	EBITDA		11.3%	10.5%	9.2%	9.3%	11.3%
Cash flow pre financing	1.6	(0.1)	1.2	0.9	2.9	EBIT		2.1%	3.7%	3.6%	4.9%	6.9%
Equity	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0		NPAT pre significant items		0.5%	2.1%	2.6%	3.8%	4.4%
Debt	0.0	(0.5)	(0.6)	0.0		Net Debt (Cash)		2.3	1.7	2.3	3.2	6.1
Dividends paid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		Net debt/EBITDA (x)	(x)	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.8
Net cash flow for year	2.2	(0.6)	0.5	0.0		ND/ND+Equity (%)	(%)	(111.4%)	(64.3%)	(71.9%)	(73.8%)	(146.2%)
Balance sheet (A\$m)	2.2	(0.0)	0.5	0.9	2.5	EBIT interest cover (x)		0.7	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1
Y/E 30 June	FY22A	FY23A	FY24A	FY25F	FY26F		(x)	4.1%	7.5%	7.2%	11.2%	16.8%
Cash	5.3	4.7	5.2	6.2	9.1			(53.4%)	(49.2%)	1.9%	31.6%	31.7%
Accounts receivable	7.0	7.5	10.3	7.2	8.2	ROIC		23.6%	127.5%	nm	nm	nr
Inventory	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				(1.0)	(0.1)	(0.5)	
Other current assets	1.8	2.6	2.5	2.5		Working capital		(1.9)	(1.2)	(0.4)	(0.5)	(0.4
Total current assets	14.1	14.8	18.1	15.9		WC/Sales (%)		(5.3%)	(2.6%)	(0.9%)	(0.8% )	(0.6%
PPE	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3		Revenue growth		18.5%	22.9%	10.0%	20.2%	12.9%
Intangibles and Goodwill	5.8	5.6	5.6	6.7	6.2	EBIT growth pa		(225.3%)	114%	6.3%	63%	60%
Investments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		Pricing		FY22A	FY23A	FY24A	FY25F	FY26F
Deferred tax asset	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	No of shares (y/e)	(m)	1,107	1,133	1,159	1,159	1,159
Other non current assets	1.1	2.0	1.6	2.1	2.1	Weighted Av Dil Shares	(m)	1,089	1,119	1,212	1,159	1,159
Total non current assets	7.0	7.7	7.3	9.1	8.8							
Total Assets	21.0	22.5	25.4	24.9	28.5	EPS Reported	cps	(0.20)	(0.18)	0.01	0.17	0.22
Accounts payable	8.9	8.7	10.8	7.7		EPS Normalised/Diluted	cps	0.02	0.08	0.11	0.19	0.25
Short term debt	0.0	3.0	0.2	0.2		EPS growth (norm/dil)	-	(96.4%)	441.3%	34%	71%	29%
Tax payable	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0		DPS	cps	-	-	-	-	-
Other current liabilities	3.6	4.5	4.5	5.1		DPS Growth	46	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total current liabilities	12.5	4.5	15.6	13.0		Dividend yield		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
				2.7								
Long term debt	3.0	0.0	2.7			Dividend imputation		30	30	30	30	30
Other non current liabs	1.1	1.9	1.6	1.6		PE (x)		-	-	243.1	15.1	11.5
Total long term liabilities	4.1	1.9	4.3	4.3		PE market		26.6	26.6	26.6	26.6	26.6
Total Liabilities	16.7	18.1	19.9	17.3		Premium/(discount)		n/a	n/a	n/a	(43.3%)	(56.8%
Net Assets	4.4	4.4	5.5	7.6	10.3	EV/EBITDA		6.3	5.8	6.0	4.8	3.1
						FCF/Share	cps	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
Share capital	60.4	61.8	62.8	62.8	62.8	Price/FCF share		7.0	10.4	8.1	5.7	4.9
Accumulated profits/losses	(59.8)	(60.6)	(60.6)	(58.5)	(55.7)	Free Cash flow Yield		14.3%	9.6%	12.3%	17.6%	20.5%
Reserves	3.7	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2							
Minorities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0							

Source: RaaS estimates; Company data for actuals



# FINANCIAL SERVICES GUIDE

## RaaS Research Group Pty Ltd

#### ABN 99 614 783 363

#### Corporate Authorised Representative, number 1248415, of

#### BR SECURITIES AUSTRALIA PTY LTD; ABN 92 168 734 530; AFSL 456663 Effective Date: 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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E: finola.burke@raasgroup.com

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BR is a member of the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA). AFCA provide fair and independent financial services complaint resolution that is free to consumers.

Website: <u>www.afca.org.au;</u> Email: <u>info@afca.org.au;</u> Telephone: 1800931678 (free call) In writing to: Australian Financial Complaints Authority, GPO Box 3, Melbourne, VIC, 3001.

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