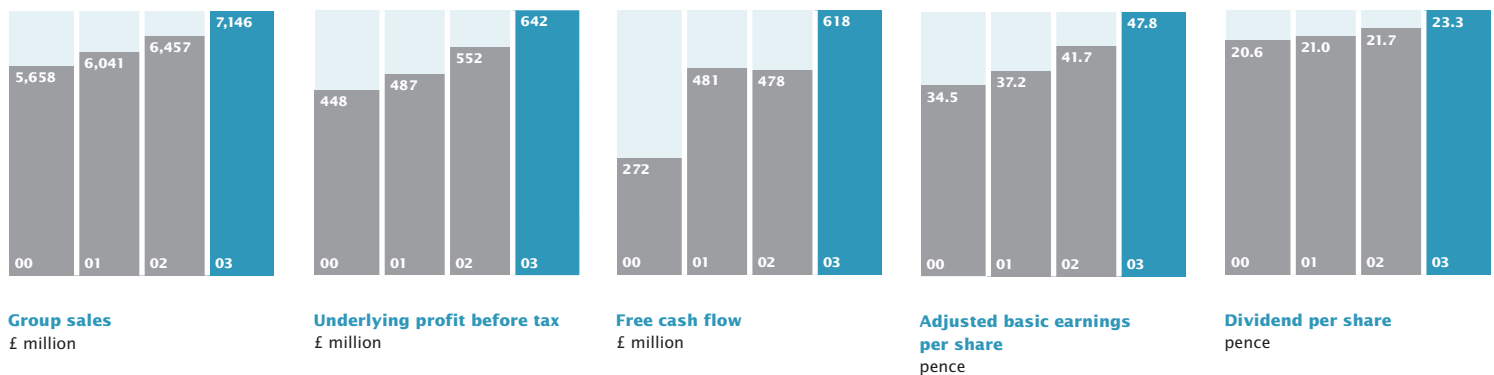


Financial highlights

- Delivering growth in sales and profits across the Group
- 16% increase in profit before amortisation of goodwill, exceptional items and taxation to £642m (2002: £552m)
- Profit before tax increased to £409m (2002: £380m)
- 15% increase in basic earnings per share before amortisation of goodwill and exceptional items to 47.8p (2002: 41.7p)
- Basic earnings per share 25.1p (2002: 25.7p)
- 7% increase in full year dividend to 23.3p (2002: 21.7p)



for the years ended 31 March	2003	2002	Change
Group sales	£7.1bn	£6.5bn	up 11%
Underlying group profit before tax ¹	£642m	£552m	up 16%
Adjusted earnings per share ¹	47.8p	41.7p	up 15%
Dividend per share	23.3p	21.7p	up 7%

¹ Before amortisation of goodwill and exceptional items

