



**AIB Preliminary Results 2005**  
**22nd February 2006**

**HIGHLIGHTS - AIB GROUP ANNUAL RESULTS 2005**

Basic earnings per share EUR 151.0c

less profit on new Bankcentre development EUR (4.4c)

less hedge volatility(1) under IFRS EUR (0.7c)

Adjusted basic earnings per share(2) EUR 145.9c up 15%(3)

*(lower than expected taxation charge(4) +EUR 3c)*

Divisional pre-tax profit performance (5)

- AIB Bank ROI up 24%

*or 15% excluding the  $\text{€}$  50m investigation related charges incurred in 2004*

- AIB Bank GB & NI up 18%

- Capital Markets up 27%

- Poland up 13%

Income / cost gap +5%

Cost income ratio down 2.5% to 55.2%

Return on equity 20.6%

Tier 1 capital ratio 7.2%

Total dividend of EUR 65.3c, up 10%

16% US\$ earnings growth from M&T

AIB Group Chief Executive Eugene Sheehy said:

*'Our 2005 performance reflects quality growth in all our main franchises. Strong customer demand continues to drive momentum and underpins our confidence in the outlook for 2006 and beyond.'*

*(1) The impact of hedge volatility (combines the impact of economic and accounting hedges) under IFRS was an increase of  $\text{€}$  6 million to profit before taxation for the year.*

*(2) Excludes profit on new Bankcentre development ( $\text{€}$  45 million) and the impact of hedge volatility. This is the relevant number for comparison to the earnings per share guidance in the trading update of 6 December 2005.*

*(3) A 15% increase compared with the year to December 2004 pro-forma earnings per share of EUR 127.1c. The year to December 2004 statutory basic earnings per share was EUR 132.0c. A reconciliation of the pro-forma and statutory earnings per share for 2004 is shown on page 21 of this release.*

*(4) Lower than expected when communicating the trading update on 6 December 2005.*

*(5) Excluding the impact of exchange rate movements on the translation of foreign locations' profit. The percentage increase reflects the growth compared with the IFRS pro-forma accounts for 2004. The results for the year ended 31 December 2004 have been restated to represent the results of Ark Life as a discontinued operation to reflect the disposal (note 3) and the application of International Financial Reporting Standards, with the exception of IAS 32, IAS 39 and IFRS 4 which apply with effect from 1 January 2005. See Basis of preparation on page 23.*

**Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c.**

**Dividend**

The Board is recommending a final dividend of EUR 42.3c per share payable on 27 April 2006 to shareholders on the Company's register of members at the close of business on 3 March 2006. The final dividend, together with the interim dividend of EUR 23.0c per share, amounts to a total dividend of EUR 65.3c per share, an increase of 10% on 2004.

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**Forward-looking statements**

A number of statements we make in this document will not be based on historical fact, but will be 'forward-looking' statements within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Actual results may differ materially from those projected in the 'forward-looking' statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the 'forward-looking' statements include, but are not limited to, global, national, regional economic conditions, levels of market interest rates, credit and other risks of lending and investment activities, competitive and regulatory factors and technology change. Any 'forward-looking' statements made by or on behalf of the Group speak only as of the date they are made.