

# 10% CEPS CAGR while deleveraging

- Beating competition in resilient end markets
- 10% CEPS CAGR 24'-25e despite deleveraging 4pp...
- ...which opens up for both projects and M&A: up to BUY (Hold)

#### Leasing track record persists

The Q4'23 results were a bit on the soft side, while the operational metrics, such as the occupancy rate at 93.3% (93.3%), stayed flat q-o-q, and net leasing of SEK 18m (32m) bodes well ahead. On top of this, Wihlborgs has announced several quality leases so far into Q1'24 (e.g., mega-lease to Novo Nordisk of DKK 56m). We have trimmed our estimates, and we are  $\sim$ 1% above Infront cons. for '24e, and 10% above for '25e rec. PTP. The deviation in 2025 is driven by our lower net interest forecasts, as we are only  $\sim$ 1% ahead on rental income.

### Local presence is key

Since its inception, Wihlborgs' local presence has enabled growth by it acquiring assets, often at attractive yields. It also focuses on value-accretive tenant adaptations and new construction projects. Given the increased uncertainty in 2023, Wihlborgs acquired for just ~SEK 130m, relative to SEK 2.4bn in 2022. Project investments have continued to rise, from SEK 1.5bn in 2022 to SEK 1.9bn in 2023, relative to SEK 1.3bn on average in '17-'21. For 2024, we forecast SEK 1.6bn, which leads to healthy rental growth in '25-'26e.

### One of the most reliable out there

Although we expect two more quarters of negative CEPS growth, we argue it is time to be excited about this reliable compounder, as the next ten will showcase solid earnings growth. We argue that Wihlborgs is one of the best-managed property companies in Sweden, and we think it will remain so, i.e., by finding attractive value-adding acquisitions and delivering stable margins on projects. The share is trading at 13x 2025e CEPS, a ~10% discount to its 10-year average. This is appealing, and the '25e leverage will be ~4pp below the 10-year average, implying upside potential to estimates, and/or multiple expansion. We upgrade Wihlborgs to BUY (Hold) with an unchanged target price of SEK 95.

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SEKm	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2026e
Sales	3,335	3,881	4,127	4,341	4,568
NOI	2,331	2,763	2,947	3,122	3,218
NOI margin (%)	69.9	71.2	71.4	71.9	70.4
CEPS	5.9104	5.5135	5.7418	6.7231	6.9622
DPS	3.10	3.15	3.25	3.63	3.75
EPRA NRVPS	90.64	89.17	93.04	103.19	112.18
EPS	7.44	-0.09	5.71	10.80	10.19
Rental growth	8.99	16.37	6.33	5.19	5.24
CEPS growth	3.36	-6.71	4.14	17.09	3.56

Source: ABG Sundal Collier, Company Data

#### Reasons:

# Recommendation change Post-results comment



### Constr. & Real Estate

Estimate changes (%)

	2024e	2025e	2026e
Sales	-2.4	-2.5	0.0
NOI	-2.6	-2.7	0.0
CEPS	-2.6	-2.4	0.0
EPRA NRV per	6.3	6.1	0.0
share			

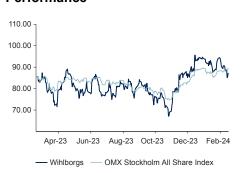
Source: ABG Sundal Collier

#### WIHL-SE/WIHL SS

Share price (SEK) Target price	15/2/2024	85.60 95.0
MCap (SEKm)		26,316
MCap (EURm)		2,330
No. of shares (m)		307.4
Free float (%)		86.8
Av. daily volume (k)		568

Next event Q1 Report 23 April 2024

#### **Performance**



	2024e	2025e	2026e
P/CEPS	14.9	12.7	12.3
P/EPRA NRV	0.92	0.83	0.76
Implicit yield (%)	4.8	5.0	5.0
Dividend yield (%)	3.8	4.2	4.4
Net LTV (%)	49.41	47.20	45.59

# **Company description**

Wihlborgs is one of the leading property companies in the Öresund region with a strong local footprint, which has enabled growth by acquiring assets, often underdeveloped at attractive yields. The total property portfolio exceeds SEK 45bn where Malmö is the largest market, followed by Helsingborg, Lund and Copenhagen. Offices and retail make up over 80% of the portfolio while industrial/warehouses and developments make up the rest. Backahill is the largest shareholder.

### **Risks**

Property supply has been relatively high for a long time, which has increased vacancies despite a solid uptake. However, prime rents have also been increasing. Supply is expected to come down in the near term, but the many potential project starts in the region are a threat. The main risk for a real estate company is the macro events. The refinancing risk is also important but Wihlborgs has a longer duration credit facilities and interest maturity compared to the sector average. In our view, the strong capitalization for Swedish banks also reduces the refinancing risk for Swedish real estate companies.

# **Quarterly estimates**

Income statement (SEKm)	1Q'23	2Q'23	3Q'23	4Q'23	1Q'24e	2Q'24e	3Q'24e	4Q'24e
Rental income	971	964	977	969	1,014	1,023	1,043	1,047
Operating costs	-304	<del>-</del> 242	<del>-</del> 262	<del>-</del> 310	-308	<b>-</b> 278	<del>-</del> 278	<del>-</del> 316
Net operating income	667	722	715	659	706	745	765	731
NOI margin (%)	68.7%	74.9%	73.2%	68.0%	69.6%	72.8%	73.3%	69.8%
Adm. Costs	<del>-</del> 23	<b>-</b> 21	<del>-</del> 23	<del>-</del> 25	<del>-</del> 22	<del>-</del> 23	<del>-</del> 23	<del>-</del> 24
All other income & costs	2	25	5	7	5	6	6	5
Recurring EBIT	646	706	697	641	689	728	748	712
Net financial items	<b>-</b> 189	<del>-</del> 235	<del>-</del> 264	<del>-</del> 275	<b>-</b> 278	<b>-</b> 277	<b>-</b> 259	<del>-</del> 244
Income from property management	457	471	433	366	411	451	489	468
Value chg. Realized	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Value chg. Unrealized	<del>-</del> 28	<b>-</b> 59	<del>-</del> 828	<del>-</del> 297	<b>-</b> 50	<del>-</del> 232	277	396
Value chg. Derivatives	<b>-</b> 99	35	11	<b>-</b> 506	0	0	0	0
Pretax profit	467	-384	<del>-</del> 437	361	219	766	864	896
Deferred tax	<del>-</del> 68	<b>-</b> 89	87	99	<del>-</del> 62	<del>-</del> 32	-143	<b>-</b> 164
Current tax	<b>-</b> 7	<del>-</del> 8	<del>-</del> 5	-12	<del>-</del> 12	-13	-14	<b>-</b> 14
Net profit	255	370	-302	<b>-</b> 350	287	174	608	686
Minority interest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Div. Pref/D-shares and hybrids	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net profit to shareholders	255	370	-302	<b>-</b> 350	287	174	608	686
Cash earnings	450	463	428	354	399	438	474	454
CEPS	1.46	1.51	1.39	1.15	1.30	1.42	1.54	1.48

Source: ABG Sundal Collier, Company data

Income Statement (SEKm)	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2026e
Rental income	2,296	2,684	2,983	3,074	3,060	3,335	3,881	4,127	4,341	4,568
Other income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operating costs	-579	-743	-843	-852	-865	-1,004	-1,118	-1,180	-1,219	-1,350
NOI	1,717	1,941	2,140	2,222	2,195	2,331	2,763	2,947	3,122	3,218
NOI margin (%)	74.8	72.3	71.7	72.3	71.7	69.9	71.2	71.4	71.9	70.4
Adm. costs	-55	-65	-72	-77	-83	-88	-92	-92	-94	-100
All other income & costs	0	1	34	3	6	8	39	22	22	22
Recurring EBIT	1,662	1,877	2,102	2,148	2,118	2,251	2,690	2,877	3,050	3,140
Net financial items	-483	-471	-327	-318	-303	-390	-963	-1,058	-920	-934
Income from property management	1,179	1,406	1,775	1,830	1,815	1,861	1,727	1,819	2,130	2,206
Value chg. realized	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Value chg. unrealized	1,851	1,312	1,479	826	2,153	396	-1,212	392	2,052	1,739
Value chg. derivatives	201	37	13	-73	202	654	-559	0	0	0
Pretax profit	3,231	2,755	3,267	2,583	4,170	2,911	-24	2,211	4,182	3,945
Deferred tax	-636	-313	-290	-315	-765	-579	29	-401	-798	-747
Current tax	-27	-39	-54	-46	-57	-44	-32	-54	-63	-66
Net profit	2,568	2,403	2,923	2,222	3,348	2,288	-27	1,755	3,321	3,132
Minority interest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Div. Pref/D-shares and hybrids	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net profit to shareholders	2,568	2,403	2,923	2,222	3,348	2,288	-27	1,755	3,321	3,132
Cash earnings	1,152	1,367	1,721	1,784	1,758	1,817	1,695	1,765	2,067	2,140
Other related information	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	=	-	-
Tax Rate (%)	20.5	12.8	10.5	14.0	19.7	21.4	12.5	20.6	20.6	20.6
Investments in developments	-1,061	-1,239	-1,659	-1,231	-1,236	-1,518	-1,862	-1,583	-1,504	-1,579
Acquisitions	-2,780	-900	-2,881	-327	-412	-2,438	-134	-500	0	0
Other investments	-24	-42	-8	-14	-35	0	-18	0	0	0
Divestments	11	195	2,764	1,486	3	98	18	0	0	0
EPS	8.35	7.82	9.51	7.23	10.89	7.44	-0.09	5.71	10.80	10.19
CEPS	3.7472	4.4466	5.5981	5.8030	5.7184	5.9104	5.5135	5.7418	6.7231	6.9622
Dividend per share	1.56	1.88	2.25	2.63	3.00	3.10	3.15	3.25	3.63	3.75
Payout ratio of CEPS	41.70	42.17	40.19	45.24	52.46	52.45	57.13	56.60	53.92	53.86
Rental growth	12.83	16.90	11.14	3.05	-0.46	8.99	16.37	6.33	5.19	5.24
NOI growth	13.11	13.05	10.25	3.83	-1.22	6.20	18.53	6.65	5.95	3.07
CEPS growth	12.06	18.66	25.90	3.66	-1.46	3.36	-6.71	4.14	17.09	3.56
Source: ABG Sundal Collier, Company L	Data									
Balance Sheet (SEKm)	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2026e
Properties	38,612	42,146	45,519	46,072	50,033	55,179	55,872	58,346	61,902	65,220
Goodwill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deferred tax asset	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ass. companies and JVs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	44	66
Financial assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other assets	426	413	759	684	804	1,471	1,154	1,116	1,125	1,132
Cash and liquid assets	179	183	280	205	315	159	346	345	498	269
Total assets	39,217	42,742	46,558	46,961	51,152	56,809	57,372	59,829	63,569	66,686
Shareholders equity	13,592	15,530	17,887	19,396	21,948	23,380	22,391	23,178	25,499	27,517
Pref. and D shares + minorities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hybrids	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deferred tax	2,989	3,295	3,582	3,853	4,622	5,180	5,171	5,572	6,371	7,118
Interest bearing debt	20,653	22,814	23,628	22,208	23,278	26,806	27,949	29,173	29,713	30,001
Other liabilities	1,983	1,103	1,461	1,504	1,304	1,443	1,861	1,906	1,986	2,050
Total liabilities and equity	39,217	42,742	46,558	46,961	51,152	56,809	57,372	59,829	63,569	66,686
Source: ABG Sundal Collier, Company L	Data									
Other balance sheet related	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2026e
infor. (SEKm)	20.474	20.624	22 240	22.002	22.002	26.647	27 600	20 000	20.245	20.722
Net IB debt	20,474	22,631	23,348	22,003	22,963	26,647	27,603	28,828	29,215	29,732
Rental area m2 (000)	2,009	2,106	2,181	2,103	2,143	2,229	2,279	2,340	2,389	2,399
Equity ratio (%)	35 53.03	36 52.70	38 51 20	41 47 76	43 45.00	41	39	39 40 41	40	41 45 50
Net loan to value	53.02	53.70	51.29	47.76	45.90	48.29 5.75	49.40	49.41	47.20	45.59
ICR real estate	3.44	3.98	6.32	6.75	6.97	5.75	2.77	2.70	3.29	3.34
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BVPS	44.21 57.00	50.52	58.18 70.10	63.09	71.39	76.05	72.83	75.39	82.94	89.51
EPRA NRV per share	57.00	50.52 61.32	58.18 70.10	63.09 76.22	71.39 86.33	76.05 90.64	72.83 89.17	75.39 93.04	82.94 103.19	112.18
	57.00									

Valuation (SEKm)	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2026e
Shares outstanding adj.	307	307	307	307	307	307	307	307	307	307
Share price	85.60	85.60	85.60	85.60	85.60	85.60	85.60	85.60	85.60	85.60
Market cap. (m)	26,316	26,316	26,316	26,316	26,316	26,316	26,316	26,316	26,316	26,316
P/E (x)	10.2	11.0	9.0	11.8	7.9	11.5	-974.7	15.0	7.9	8.4
P/CEPS	22.8	19.3	15.3	14.8	15.0	14.5	15.5	14.9	12.7	12.3
Implicit yield (%)	3.3	3.7	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.6	4.8	5.0	5.0
Yield on BV (%)	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.4	4.2	4.9	5.1	5.0	4.9
Dividend yield (%)	1.8	2.2	2.6	3.1	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	4.2	4.4
P/EPRA NRV	1.50	1.40	1.22	1.12	0.99	0.94	0.96	0.92	0.83	0.76
P/BVPS (x)	1.94	1.69	1.47	1.36	1.20	1.13	1.18	1.14	1.03	0.96
EV/NOI (x)	15.33	13.56	12.30	11.84	11.99	11.29	9.52	8.92	8.41	8.16

Source: ABG Sundal Collier, Company Data

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	Research Coverage	Investment Banking Clients		
	% of	% of	% of	
Total of Rating	Total Rating	Total IBC	Total Rating by Type	
BUY	63.07%	20%	9.01%	
HOLD	29.83%	4%	3.81%	
SELL	6.53%	0%	0.00%	

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#### **Expected updates**

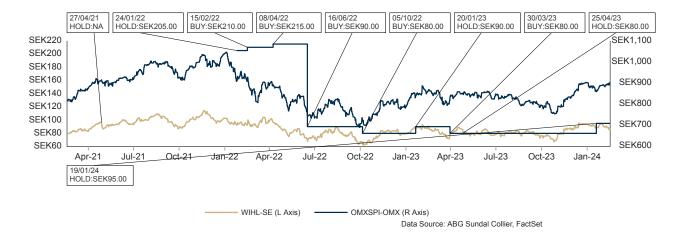
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### Stock price, company ratings and target price history

Company: Wihlborgs Currency: SEK Current Recommandation: BUY

**Date:** 15/2/2024 **Current Target price:** 95.0

Current Share price: 85.60



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Production of recommendation: 2/16/2024 08:34.

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