

# REFOCUS: KPMG Real Estate Insights

8 October 2024



# 01 Introduction



James Le Bailly
Partner
Audit
Crown Dependencies



### With you today



**James Le Bailly Partner**Audit
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UK



Martyn Munford
Co-Head
Central London
Valuations for Colliers



Phil Morris
Director
Tax
Crown Dependencies



David Postlethwaite
Associate Director
ESG
Crown Dependencies



**Theola Byrne Director**Audit
Crown Dependencies

### Agenda

- UK REITs
- UK commercial property market update
- VAT and indirect tax update
- ESG Reporting: Issues for the Real Estate Sector

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Panel Q&A



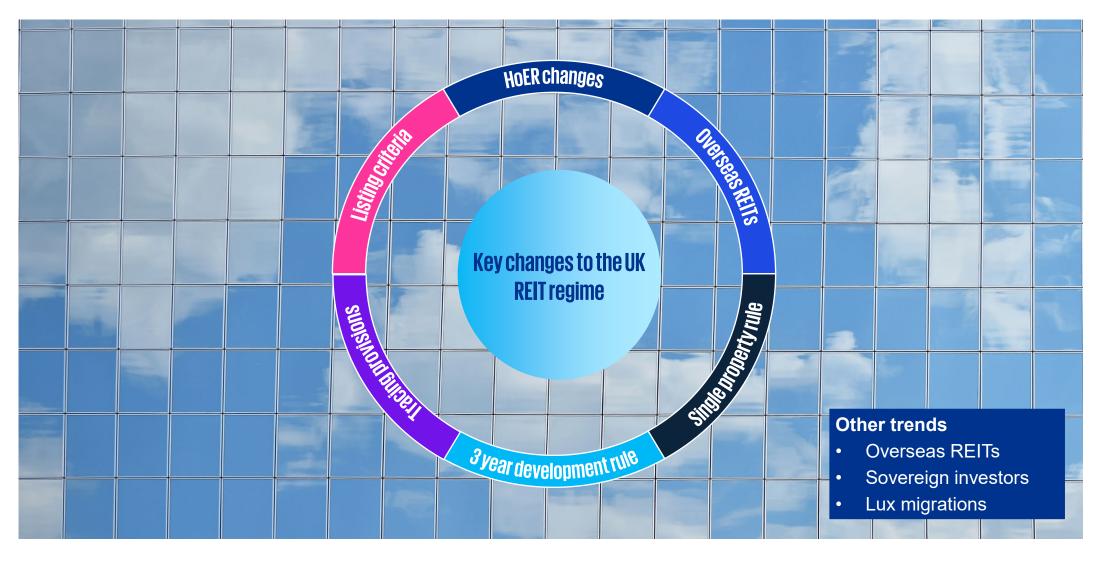
# 02 UK REITS



Saloni Hukku-Sawhney
Director
Deal Advisory Tax
UK



### Recent changes to the REIT rules







## The road ahead...

03

# UK commercial property market update



Martyn Munford
Co-Head
Central London
Valuations for Colliers



### Colliers Market Update

8 October 2024





### Colliers Global

Colliers (NASDAQ, TSX: CIGI) is a leading diversified professional services and investment management company.

Annual revenue

\$4.5B

Lease and sale transactions

51,000

Countries we operate in

66

Square feet managed

**2B** 

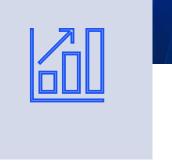
Assets under management

\$98B

**Professionals** 

18,000











**General Economy** 

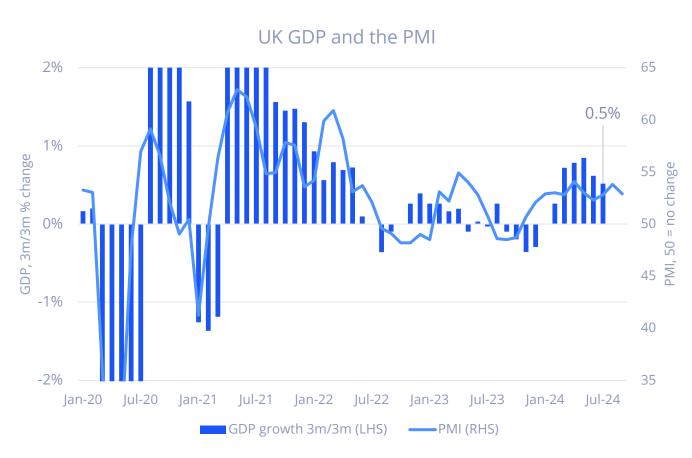
**Office Market** 

**Investment Market** 

High level Retail, Industrial Market Forecast 2024 outlook

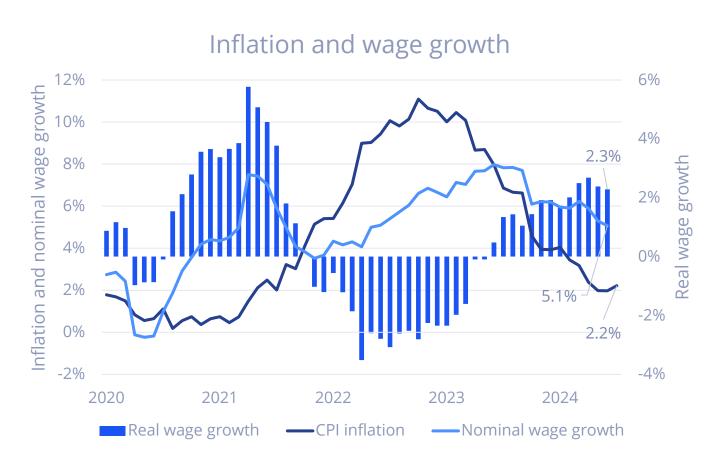
#### Strong start to 2024

### But slowdown anticipated



- The UK economy was in a technical recession in the second half of 2023.
- However, the economy grew strongly in H1 2024.
- The UK PMI has posted above the neutral 50.0 mark for 11 consecutive months, suggesting that economic activity continues to improve.
- GDP expected to increase by 1.1% in 2024 and by 1.3% in 2025.

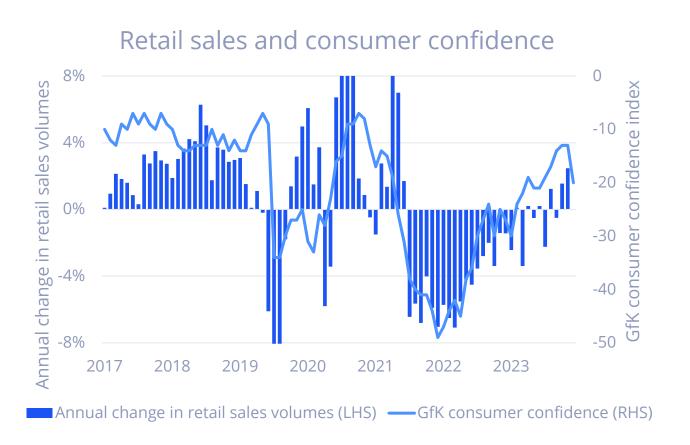
### Will real wage growth translate into higher spending?



- Inflation has eased from its 40-year high and is heading towards the Bank of England's 2% target.
- Wage growth remains elevated but has started to slow slightly in recent months.
- Nonetheless, real wages have now increased for over a year.

#### The consumer sector

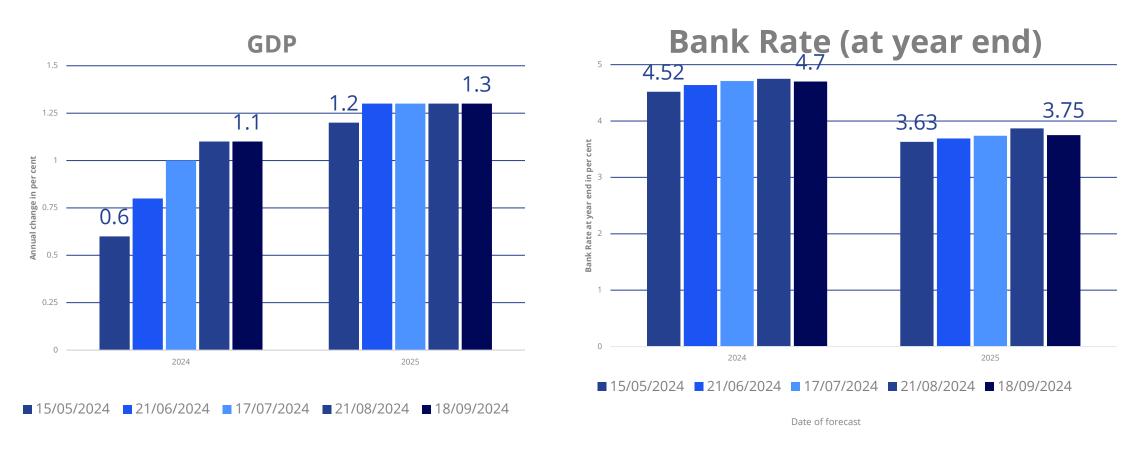
### Confidence on the up but took a hit in Sep



- Retail sales volumes remain somewhat volatile but are on an upward trajectory.
- Retail sales volumes rose by 2.5% in August but remain slightly below prepandemic levels.
- Slowing inflation and sustained elevated wage growth mean that real incomes are increasing.
- Consumer confidence has been improving recently but took a hit in September ahead of the Budget.

#### GDP and Interest Rate Forecasts

### Interest rates falling to 3.75% by the end of 2025.



Source: HM Treasury Forecasts for the UK economy..



### Energy Performance Targets - Offices

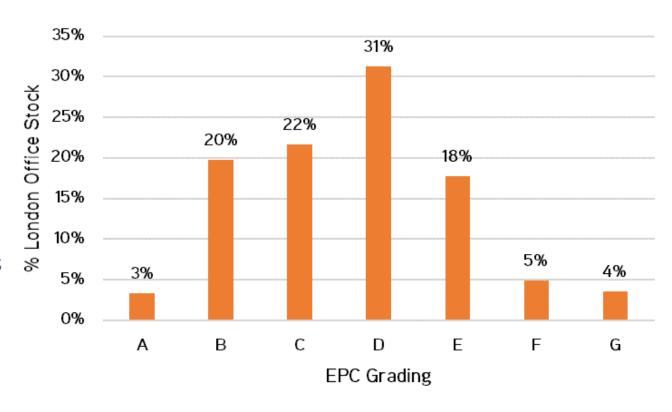
Market Focus – "B" Minimum

Below "B", asking for Business Plan – Capex

Focus for all Landlords – not just institutional

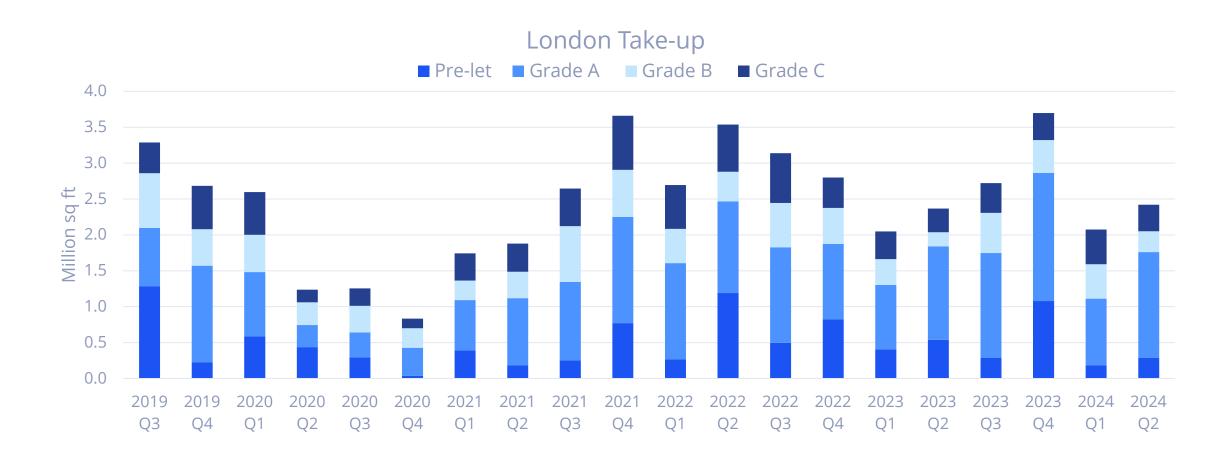
Green Leases – promoting data sharing and performance tracking (historically not easy)

UK Net Zero Target 2050 – will require "A" ratings

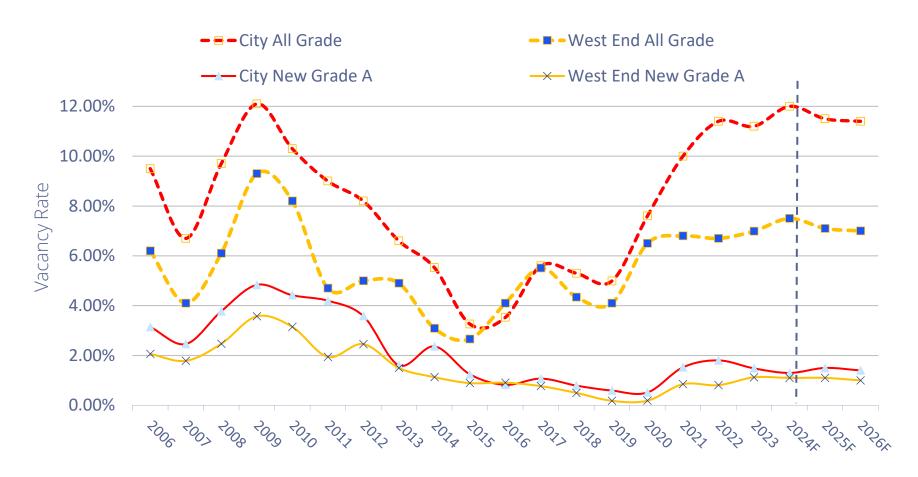


#### London Occupational Market

### London All Office Take-up

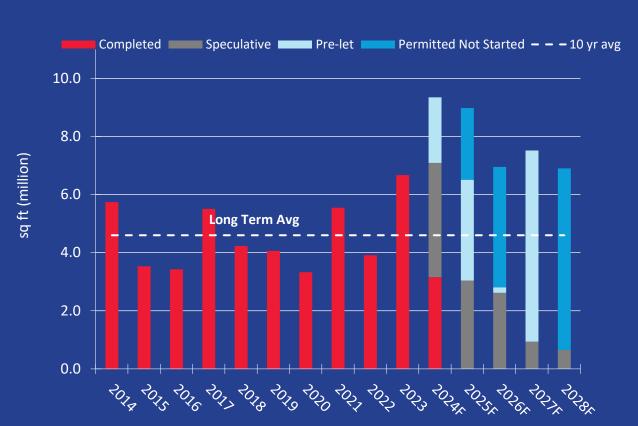


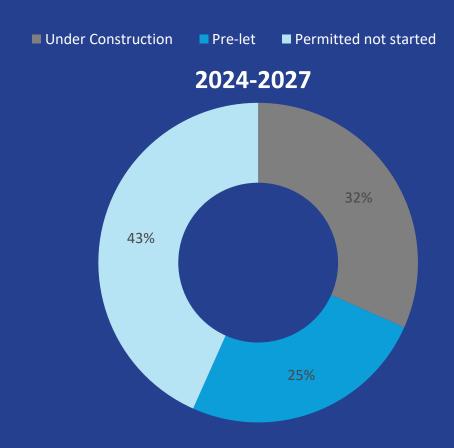
### Vacancy 2006-2026F



### London Office Pipeline

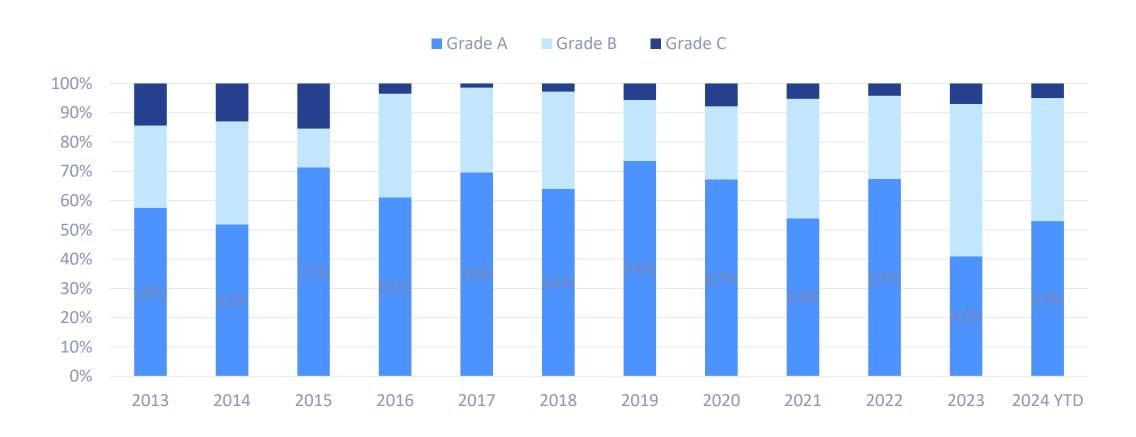
Greater delivery of speculative product in 2024-2025 but demand for pipeline space still strong





Flight to Quality and Future-proofed product is now on occupier's priority list

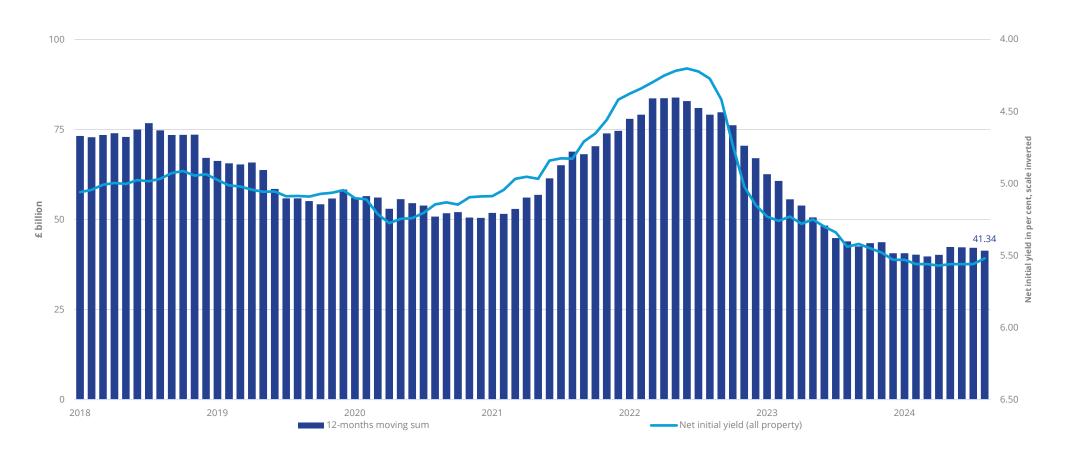
### Take Up by Grade





#### **UK Investment Markets**

### Investment Volumes (12 month rolling)



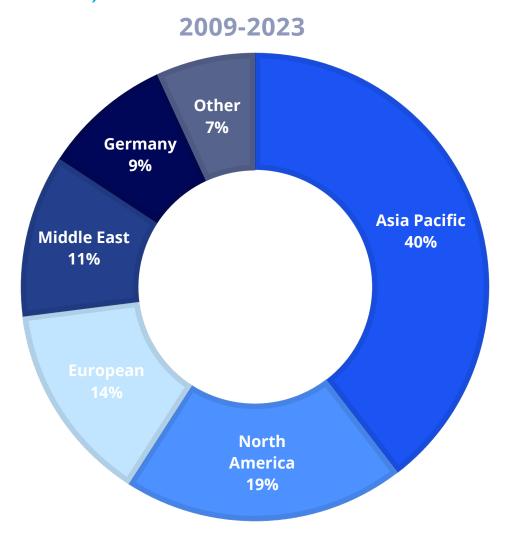
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### Investment Volumes

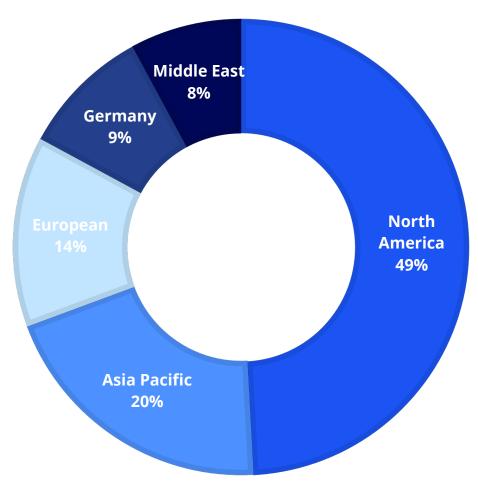


### London Investment Volumes by Origin

(£50m+)







# London Investment Markets Prime Yields

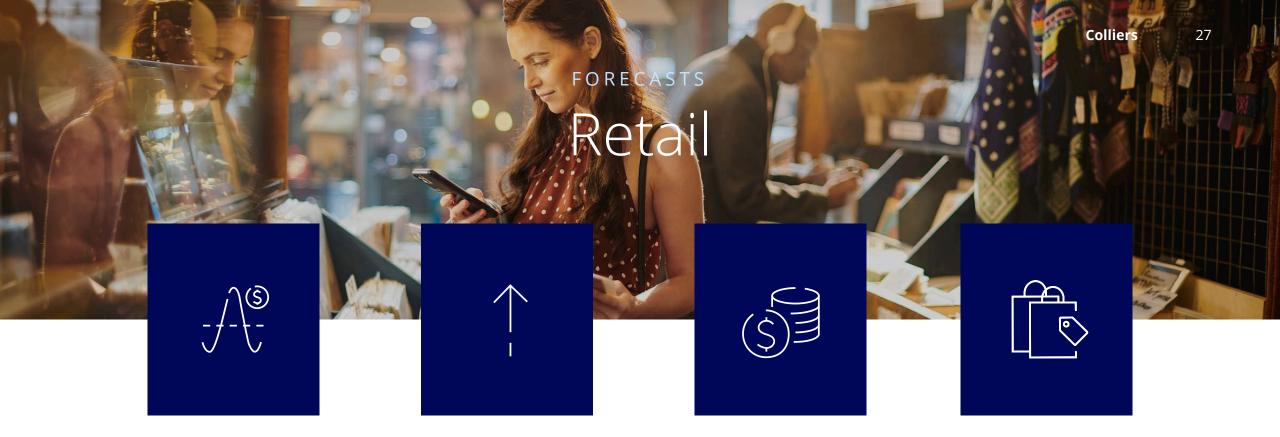
Freehold, sub £100M lot size, in a prime location, rack rented & single let to an institutional grade covenant with an unexpired term of 10 years.











The pricing adjustment of the sector due to long term structural changes experienced over the past few years looks to have come to an end.

Retail pricing remains attractive compared to other sectors in 2024 and we therefore predict an uptick in activity and mild yield compression.

Opportunistic investors will continue to be drawn to parts of the retail market by high yields, a stable income return, value add opportunities, and the scope for capital growth.

Supermarkets and Retail
Warehouses expected to be the star performers in the sector.



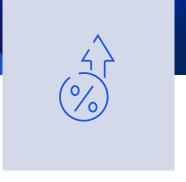
Key drivers that made Industrial & Logistics the star sector have not gone away.

Lack of supply and reduced development pipeline will continue to drive rents.

ESG agenda for occupiers will drive demand for modern warehouses.

Rental growth rates will slow further from exceptionally strong rates recorded during 2021 and 2022 to more sustainable levels of between 3.5-4.5% per annum. A significant amount of investment capital is sitting on the fence and increased commercial tension has the potential to drive values higher in H2 2024.

### 2024 Forecasts











Anticipated interest rate cuts will bode well for property yields.

Investment activity will return as investor confidence resumes on the back of falling inflation.

However, it will take some time for investment activity to resume to levels seen before the market downturn began and we may struggle to reach annual volumes of £50bn.

We predict overall capital values to increase by 5.2% in 2024, followed by an acceleration to 7.0% in 2025.

Overall trends mask large disparities between the different property sectors.



#### KPMG REfocus

### Colliers Valuation & Advisory Services

#### The Team Structure

Colliers valuation team has been operating for over 60 years. The majority of staff are in London, and we have a strong regional presence with dedicated valuation teams in Manchester, Bristol, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds and London.

The team undertakes valuations on behalf of a wide range of clients, including banks and funding institutions, REITS, private equity and institutional investors, high net worth individuals, public sector and government organisations.

We cover all core asset classes and a range of specialist sectors:

- Office
- Retail
- Industrial & Logistics
- Residential
- Hotels
- Healthcare
- Self Storage

- Data Centres
- Life Sciences
- Licensed & Leisure
- Infrastructure & Energy
- Automotive & Roadside
- Parks, Sports & Marinas
- Student Accommodation

#### **Colliers Global**



**66** Countries

**18,000** professionals

#### **Colliers UK**



**14** Offices

**1,250+** Experts

#### **Valuations**



UK: 100 Valuers

EMEA: **250** Valuers

04

## VAT and indirect tax update



**Phil Morris Director** Tax Crown Dependencies



### VAT liability on supplies of land - sale and leases

### Often exempt from VAT, but not always the case:

**Zero** and **Standard rate**  Freehold or lease

**TOGC** and **Option to tax** 

**Residential or** commercial

Long or short ease



### Topical VAT issues

- VAT recovery: evidence of taxable supplies or intention to make taxable supplies
- Partial exemption methodology applied correctly: mix of taxable (e.g. OTT commercial) and exempt (e.g. residential) supplies
- HMRC 'pre-cred' checks carried out where entity submits a significant / irregular VAT repayment return
- TOGC to VAT or not to VAT
- VAT Deregistration and assets on hand is there a sting in the tail





05

# ESG Reporting: Issues for the Real Estate Sector



**David Postlethwaite Associate Director ESG** Crown Dependencies



### Why Sustainability is increasingly Key for Real Estate



The public, investors and politicians are calling for changes in the business models companies in order to drive forward decarbonization in line with the Paris Agreement. There is no route to net-zero without decarbonization of buildings.

#### **Building to Net-Zero:**



5 Tn € Investment

required for decarbonisation of buildings in Germany alone.



### **90k social homes** per

year need to be built in the UK for 15 year to help tackle a "chronic housing shortage" = opportunities to deliver **social impact**.

#### per

A growing range of

### **Stakeholders** with advanced ESG expectations:



Investors and Lenders



Corporates and Supply Chain Players



Regulators



**Employees** 



Consumers

### **Green Buildings Premia**



Research conducted by Knightfrank showed significant uplift for both rental and sales value for top-rated BREEAM assets, reaching 12.3% premiums for the highest rated buildings. Uplift was highest for prime Central London office rents. Equally there is a growing

"Brown Discount" according CBRE research in the UK.

### Flows of investments into Sustainable Funds



of all EU-domiciled funds are impact funds (Art.9) or promote sustainability (Art.8)

In the EU, capital is increasingly focused on ESG-aligned investment strategies. Large capital market-oriented companies are required to report on economic exposure to environmentally sustainable economic activities as defined by the EU Taxonomy.

### The CSRD transforms ESG reporting

#### Scope of application

- All companies (incl. non-capital market oriented) with 250 employees, €50 Mio. in revenues or €25 Mio. in total assets [2 out of 3 criteria]
- Listed companies report in FY24, other large companies report in FY25
- 3-year phase-in for SMEs
- Will catch non-EU parents from FY28

#### Reporting

- Mandatory inclusion in the management report
- Digital reporting of sustainability information in line with the European Single Electronic Format (ESEF)
- Application of the mandatory standard on non-financial reporting (ESRS) developed by the EFRAG Commission

#### **Mandatory Audit**

- Limited Assurance according to ISAE 3000 or a comparable standard will be mandatory
- **Reasonable Assurance possibly** the next step in the process of aligning the depth of review with that of the annual report

CSRD/ **Architechture of** Sustainability Standards.

1. Sector-agnostic

2. Sector-specific

3. Entity-specific

**4 Reporting Areas** 

Governance, Strategy, Implementation, **Metrics & Targets** 

3 Topics

Environment, Social, Governmental

**Sustainability Reporting** 



### Architecture of the ESRS

#### The reporting standards for CSRD (ESRS) include a range of topics that are relevant to the Real Estate sector









Reporting Levels			
Sector-agnostic Standard			
Cross Cutting Standards	Environment	Social	Governance
ESRS 1 – General requirements ESRS 2 – General disclosures	ESRS E1 – Climate change ESRS E2 – Pollution ESRS E3 – Water & Marine Resources ESRS E4 – Biodiversity & Ecosystems ESRS E5 – Resource Use & Circular Economy	ESRS S1 – Own workforce ESRS S2 – Workers in the Value-Chain ESRS S3 – Affected Communities ESRS S4 – Consumers & End-Users	ESRS G1 – Business Conduct
Sector-specific Standard			
Entity-specific Standard			

#### **Reporting Areas**

#### **Strategy & Governance**

- Sustainability aspects of the strategy and business model
- Process of materiality assessment
- Management responsibilities
- **Processes and reporting procedures** established to address and monitor sustainability issues.

**Implementation: Impact, risk & opportunity** management

For each material topic, need to report how the strategy is put into action through policies, targets, action plans and allocated resources.

#### **Metrics and targets**

Measurement to meet policies and targets and how the transition process is going, including past performance (retrospective information) and future perspectives

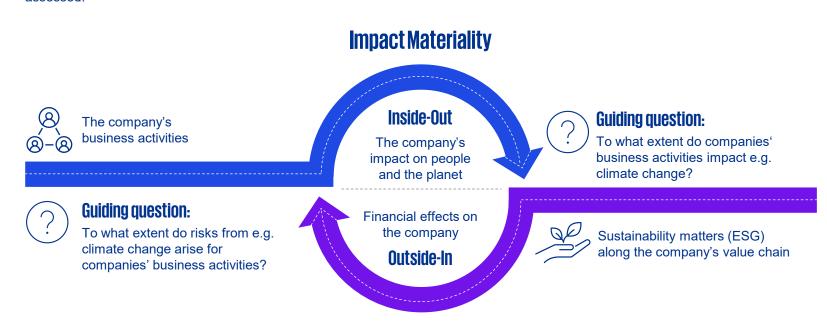


### Double Materiality Assessment – first step towards CSRD Reporting journey

#### The Principle of Double Materiality

CSRD requires to report on ESG topics based on the double materiality concept: impact and financial materiality.

Through stakeholders consultation, the company will identify the 1, positive/negative impacts and 2, financial opportunities and risks related to the ESG topics that must be assessed.



#### **Material ESG-related impacts**

- Determine actual and potential impacts, direct and indirect; inside and outside the company; short-, medium and long-term
- For actual impacts: assess according to severity (scope, scale and remediability)
- For potential impacts: additionally assess according to likelihood

#### Material ESG-related financial risks and opportunites

- Determine short-, medium and longterm financial risks and opportunities
- Assess according to likelihood & magnitude of financial effects on cash flow and enterprise value<sup>(n)</sup>

Note.: (n) ESRS I, par. 53: "Sustainability matter is material (...) when it generates or may generate risks or opportunities that have a material influence (or are likely to have a material influence) on the undertaking's cash flows, development, performance, position, cost of capital or access to finance"



**Financial Materiality** 

### CSRD is just one piece of the (growing) puzzle

### **EU SFDR**

Mandatory reporting for asset managers, funds and market participants

### **UK SDRs**

A new regime for UK managers with ESG disclosures, labels and antigreenwashing rule

### **EU CSDDD**

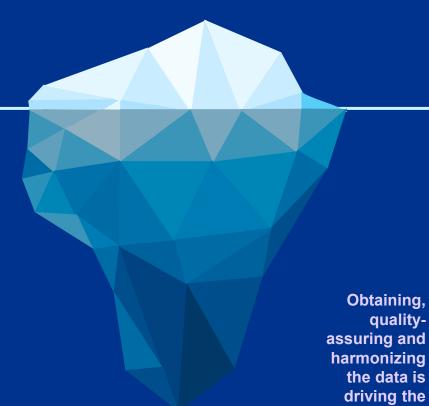
Large corporates and financial institutions to assess human right and environmental risks

### ISSB

**Countries** are now moving to adopt the IFRS' global baseline for sustainability reporting



### ESG Reporting is much more than BI Tools: We need Data **Ecosystems**





#### **Disclosure**

"Last mile" of reporting: Assembling single KPIs from data warehouse to integrate into a glossy, printed yearend report for investors and stakeholders. Usually highly specialized tools for this purpose only.



#### Planning, Reporting & Analysis

Many BI tools from countless suppliers allow to build dashboards, analytic reports or planning applications. Basic KPI calculations can be included; tools are targeted to be used/configured by functional departments.



#### **Processes, Collaboration, Governance**

For data collection, reconciliation and handling of unstructured information, flexible applications have to be provided. Low code platforms are ideal for quick solutions in case of new functional requirements.



#### (Financial) Consolidation

Financial consolidation systems and processes are usually well-established in large organizations. These can be leveraged also for data collection of ESG data.



#### **KPI Harmonization & Calculation**

ESG data is rarely well-structured and the raw source data is of poor quality. Data has to be organized, structured, harmonized and quality-assured in a suitable environment.



#### **Data Storage**

Similar to financial data warehouses, ESG KPIs have to be stored and provided to the stakeholders in designated data marts. Corresponding governance structures and features have to support the data provision.



#### **Data Integration / Data Collection**

Unlike for financial data, 95% of ESG information comes from heterogenous data sources, most likely not SAP. These sources have to be connected and automatic/auditable interfaces established



#### **Data Sources & External Data**

ESG Reporting asks for various external data such as ESG ratings or statical emissions data which has to be integrated into the internal data sources for KPI calculations or risk metrics.

Obtaining,

the data is

driving the

effort!

quality-

### What are the next steps you should be thinking about?

#### **Get ready for assurance**

- · Assess the control environment, data quality and availability of sufficient documentation to support assurance.
- Rectify issues ahead of the formal assurance process..



- Design the future state of your reporting.
- Deploy your target operating model, including training as well as support for change management.

#### **Assess maturity**

- · Assess the maturity of processes, the control environment, data model and policies.
- Understand the current distribution of roles and available knowledge and capacity.

#### **Understand the impact**

- · Understand current and emerging requirements for you and your value chain / stakeholders.
- · Understand when, where, and how this will impact your business.



#### **Determine what is material**

- Determine which topics are relevant to report on.
- Decide what information is material about these topics.



### **Our ESG Services**



#### **Strategy & Transformation**

Advice on ESG strategy and in specialist areas like climate change and human rights.



Helping clients to assess their ESG readiness and prepare for ESG reporting.



Providing external assurance on the ESG reporting by a business



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# 06 Panel Q&A



### **Key Contacts - Real Estate Jersey**





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# Thank you



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