

Key Global Indices

[Click here to open an account](#)

	Last Close	1D% Chg	5D% Chg	1M% Chg	1Y% Chg		Last Close	1D% Chg	5D% Chg	1M% Chg	1Y% Chg
FTSE 100	7,403.9	↓ -0.4%	-0.1%	-2.2%	3.3%	S&P 500	3,337.8	↓ -1.1%	-1.3%	0.5%	20.3%
FTSE 250	21,780.2	↓ -0.4%	-0.05%	0.1%	13.2%	DJIA	28,992.4	↓ -0.8%	-1.4%	-0.7%	12.2%
DJSTOXX 50	3,490.5	↓ -0.5%	-0.4%	1.0%	15.8%	Nasdaq	9,576.6	↓ -1.8%	-1.6%	2.1%	28.4%
FTSEurofirst 300	1,667.9	↓ -0.5%	-0.6%	0.9%	14.5%	Nikkei 225	23,386.7	↓ -0.4%	-0.9%	-2.3%	9.4%
German DAX 30	13,579.3	↓ -0.6%	-1.2%	0.5%	18.9%	Shanghai Composite*	3,029.2	↓ -0.3%	3.8%	-0.7%	10.5%
France CAC 40	6,029.7	↓ -0.5%	-0.7%	0.3%	16.0%	DJIA at London close	29,031.4		*Time - GMT		4:30

FTSE 100



DJIA



DJ Euro STOXX50



Contents

Key Corporate Releases	2
Commodity, Currency & Bitcoin	3
Sector Performers & Key Economic News	4
Share Tips, Bids & Rumours and Newspaper Summary	5-7

UK Market Snapshot

UK markets finished lower on Friday, weighed down by losses in mining and energy sector stocks. Moneysupermarket.com Group dropped 4.3%, after a top broker lowered its target price on the stock to 415.0p from 570.0p. Pearson declined 3.9%, after the education publisher reported a drop in its annual revenue and pretax profit, amid reduced gains on disposals and restructuring charges. Hammerson fell 1.6%, after the company sold a portfolio of seven retail parks to Orion's European real estate fund for £400.0 million. On the contrary, James Fisher & Sons advanced 4.7%, after it secured a four-year £35.0 million contract extension to supply its submarine escape and rescue system to the Royal Australian Navy until December 2023. Halma gained 0.5%, after announcing the acquisition of US-based medical products manufacturer, Maxtec, for \$20.0 million. The FTSE 100 declined 0.4%, to close at 7,403.9, while the FTSE 250 fell 0.4%, to end at 21,780.2.

US Market Snapshot

US markets closed in the red on Friday, as rise in the number of coronavirus cases, fuelled concerns over a global economic slowdown. First Solar plunged 14.7%, after the solar-power company swung to a net loss in the fourth quarter, due to substantial legal settlement costs and delays on multiple projects. Pilgrim's Pride declined 4.6%, after the company's fourth quarter earnings fell short of analysts' estimates. On the flipside, Dropbox skyrocketed 20.0%, after its fourth quarter revenue and earnings came in above market consensus and it raised its annual profit guidance. Deere climbed 7.0%, following better than anticipated revenue and earnings for the first quarter. Chewy advanced 4.0%, after a top broker upgraded its rating on the stock to 'Outperform' from 'Sector Perform'. The S&P 500 slipped 1.1%, to settle at 3,337.8. The DJIA fell 0.8%, to settle at 28,992.4, while the NASDAQ shed 1.8%, to close at 9,576.6.

Europe Market Snapshot

European markets finished in negative territory on Friday, weighed down by losses in banking and healthcare sector stocks. Proximus declined 6.0%, following a drop in its underlying revenue for the fourth quarter and after announcing its plan to implement voluntary redundancy programme. On the contrary, Sopra Steria surged 12.2%, after it posted a jump in its revenue and net profit for 2019 and revealed a deal to buy digital services company, Sodifrance. Sika advanced 4.7%, after the company reported a rise operating profit for the full year and lifted its annual dividend. Allianz rose 0.7%, following a surge in its revenue and net profit for the fourth quarter and raised its profit outlook for 2020. The FTSEurofirst 300 index slipped 0.5%, to settle at 1,667.9. The German DAX Xetra fell 0.6%, to settle at 13,579.3, while the French CAC-40 shed 0.5%, to close at 6,029.7.

Asia Market Snapshot

Markets in Asia are trading lower this morning, as a spike in new coronavirus cases has intensified investor fears over the epidemic's widening economic fallout. In Japan, markets are closed today on account of a public holiday. In Hong Kong, Want Want China Holdings, CNOOC and Galaxy Entertainment Group have declined 3.4%, 3.5% and 3.6%, respectively. Meanwhile, CK Infrastructure Holdings and Power Assets Holdings have risen 0.4% and 0.8%, respectively. In South Korea, Samsung Electronics, Hanmi Science and KB Financial Group have dropped 3.0%, 4.5% and 4.6%, respectively. Moreover, LG Display, SK Telecom and Netmarble have fallen 0.7%, 0.9% and 1.1%, respectively. The Hang Seng index is trading 1.5% down at 26,903.8, while the Kospi index is trading 3.2% lower at 2,094.5. On Friday, the Nikkei 225 index ended 0.4% lower to settle at 23,386.7.

Key Corporate Releases Today

[Click here to open an account](#)

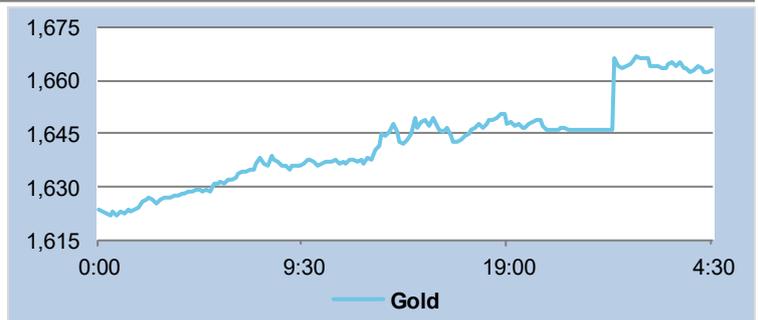
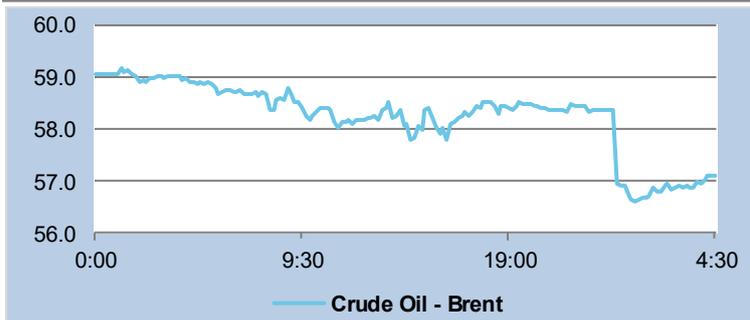
UK

Company Name	Results	Currency	Full Year Consensus	
			Estimated EPS	Estimated Revenue (Mn)
Bunzl Plc	Final	GBP	1.28	9,342.27
Kosmos Energy Ltd	Final	USD	(0.03)	1,483.86
Georgia Healthcare Group Plc	Final	GEL	0.33	953.60
Reach Plc	Final	GBP	0.40	697.50
Dechra Pharmaceuticals Plc	Interim	GBP	0.95	523.50
Ascential Plc	Final	GBP	0.18	412.88
Finsbury Food Group Plc	Interim	GBP	0.10	325.00
GlobalData Plc	Final	GBP	0.23	177.00
RTC Group Plc	Final	GBP	0.10	90.80
Tristel Plc	Interim	GBP	0.12	30.00
Quartix Holdings Plc	Final	GBP	0.12	25.53
Goldplat Plc	Interim	GBP	-	23.70
Merian Chrysalis Investment Company Limited NPV	Final	GBP	-	-
CC Japan Income & Growth Trust	Final	GBP	-	-
easyHotel	Final	GBP	-	-
Synairgen Plc	Final	GBP	(0.03)	-
Croma Security Solutions Group Plc	Interim	GBP	-	-
London Finance & Investment Group Plc	Interim	GBP	-	-
Tekcapital Plc	Final	USD	-	-
Anglo African Agriculture Plc	Final	GBP	-	-

Note: All Estimates are for Full Year

Commodity, Currency and Bitcoin

[Click here to open an account](#)



Commodity

- At 0430GMT today, Brent crude oil one-month futures contract is trading 2.36% or \$1.38 lower at \$57.12 per barrel. On Friday, the contract declined 1.37% or \$0.81, to settle at \$58.50 per barrel, amid rising concerns about the outlook for energy demand due to the impact of the coronavirus outbreak on the global economy. Additionally, Baker Hughes reported that the US oil rigs climbed by 1 to 679 in the week ended 21 February 2020.
- At 0430GMT today, Gold futures contract is trading 1.11% or \$18.20 higher at \$1662.80 per ounce. On Friday, the contract climbed 1.73% or \$28.00, to settle at \$1644.60 per ounce, led by a fall in the global equity markets.



Currency

- At 0430GMT today, the EUR is trading 0.24% lower against the USD at \$1.0821, ahead of the German Ifo indices for February, slated to be released later today. Additionally, investors await the US Chicago Fed national activity index for January and Dallas Fed manufacturing business index for February, scheduled later today. On Friday, the EUR strengthened 0.57% versus the USD, to close at \$1.0847, after the Euro-zone manufacturing PMI advanced to a 12-month high in February, while the region's services PMI rose in the same month. Meanwhile, the Euro-zone inflation dropped in January. In other economic news, the US manufacturing and services PMI, both, dropped more than expected in February. Additionally, the US existing home sales dropped in January.
- At 0430GMT today, the GBP is trading 0.22% lower against the USD at \$1.2936, ahead of the UK mortgage approvals for January, due in a few hours. On Friday, the GBP strengthened 0.64% versus the USD, to close at \$1.2964, after the UK manufacturing PMI unexpectedly rose in February. Meanwhile, the nation's services PMI declined in February.



Bitcoin

- At 0430GMT today, BTC is trading 0.76% higher against the USD at \$9747.10. On Friday, BTC advanced 0.66% against the USD to close at \$9674.01. In major news, Canadian e-commerce company, Shopify revealed its intentions to join Libra Association, a network of founding members supporting Facebook's stablecoin project Libra. In a key development, the cryptocurrency-backed virtual world, Decentraland has gone live on the Ethereum blockchain, wherein users will be able to spend real money on digital property.

To start trading Bitcoin Click [Here](#)



Partners
with



Highly competitive and efficient international money transfers. Corporates sending multiple millions or private clients buying overseas properties, by using cutting edge technology we process your payments at very low rates and pass those savings on to you.

Can Currencyflo cut your cost? Call **020 3963 4960** or for more information www.currencyflo.com

Corporate [Open Account](#)

Private [Open Account](#)

FTSE All Share Index- Performance

[Click here to open an account](#)

UK Top Sector Performers

Sector	Current Price	1D Change	1D (%) Change	1M (%) Change	1Y (%) Change
Real Estate Investment & Services	3139.35	50.84	1.6%	3.2%	20.3%
Forestry & Paper	19329.12	230.77	1.2%	5.5%	-8.4%
Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology	17382.90	178.13	1.0%	-3.9%	16.9%
Gas, Water & Multiutilities	5938.24	41.95	0.7%	3.2%	18.8%
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	8991.63	57.76	0.6%	2.6%	29.6%

UK Worst Sector Performers

Sector	Current Price	1D Change	1D (%) Change	1M (%) Change	1Y (%) Change
Automobiles & Parts	4594.91	-122.90	-2.6%	-2.9%	-34.4%
Oil & Gas Producers	7128.01	-162.58	-2.2%	-11.4%	-20.1%
Health Care Equipment & Services	8339.68	-187.31	-2.2%	-2.3%	23.1%
Chemicals	12297.64	-233.07	-1.9%	-3.8%	-13.5%
General Industrials	6254.03	-79.51	-1.3%	0.5%	11.8%

Key Economic News

UK manufacturing PMI unexpectedly rose in February

In the UK, the preliminary manufacturing PMI unexpectedly climbed to a level of 51.90 in February. In the previous month, the manufacturing PMI had registered to a level of 50.00.

UK services PMI slid in February

In the UK, the preliminary services PMI dropped to a level of 53.30 in February, compared to a level of 53.90 in the previous month. Markets were anticipating the services PMI to drop to a level of 53.40.

Euro-zone manufacturing PMI climbed in February

In the Euro-zone, the preliminary manufacturing PMI rose to a level of 49.10 in February. The manufacturing PMI had recorded to a reading of 47.90 in the prior month.

Euro-zone services PMI rose in February

In the Euro-zone, the preliminary services PMI registered a rise to a level of 52.80 in February. Services PMI had recorded to a level of 52.50 in the prior month.

Euro-zone CPI declined in January

In the Euro-zone, the final consumer price index (CPI) recorded a drop of 1.00% on a MoM basis in January. In the previous month, the CPI had registered a rise of 0.30%.

US Markit manufacturing PMI fell more than expected in February

In the US, the preliminary Markit manufacturing PMI registered a drop to a level of 50.80 in February, more than market expectations of a drop to a level of 51.50. In the prior month, the Markit manufacturing PMI had registered to a reading of 51.90.

US Markit services PMI dropped in February

In the US, the flash Markit services PMI registered a drop to a level of 49.40 in February, more than market expectations of a fall to 53.00. In the prior month, Markit services PMI had recorded to a reading of 53.40.

Share Tips, Bids and Rumours

[Click here to open an account](#)

- [The Times](#): Meininger Hotels, a low-cost hotel operator, is planning to debut on London's junior stock market next month in what will be the biggest Aim listing of the year so far.
- [The Daily Telegraph](#): Upper Crust owner SSP Group is facing a shareholder revolt this week over remuneration report.
- [The Times](#): Ken Griffin, the founder of Citadel, has placed an £80 million bet against GVC Holdings, which owns Ladbrokes and Coral, in the hope of profiting from a fall in their value.
- [The Times](#): Two of Britain's biggest estate agent groups – Countrywide and LSL Property Services - are in talks over a possible £460 million merger.
- [Daily Mail \(Comment\)](#): We need a Budget for savers.
- [The Daily Telegraph \(Comment\)](#): A no-deal Brexit would leave the EU facing intense pressure to reform.
- [The Times \(Comment\)](#): Online food giants are finding our shopping habits hard to digest.

Newspaper Summary

The Times

HS2 bid vital for Bombardier's future: The head of the company that owns Britain's largest train factory has said that winning the £2.75 billion contract to build trains for HS2 is "vital" for its future.

Estate agents Countrywide and LSL 'in £460 million merger talks': Two of Britain's biggest estate agent groups are in talks over a possible £460 million merger.

Meininger Hotels in £330 million Aim float: A low-cost hotel operator is planning to debut on London's junior stock market next month in what will be the biggest Aim listing of the year so far.

Toy retailers see cold Christmas ahead: Gary Grant, Chief Executive of The Entertainer, has a lot to think about when it comes to the vital Christmas shopping period. The U.K.'s largest independent toy retailer faces fierce competition and identifying the products that will be popular is crucial. This year Mr Grant could have to deal with another factor: coronavirus.

Online food giants are finding our shopping habits hard to digest: Online grocery shopping has not taken off the way it was supposed to. Ocado, Britain's leading online grocery business, included this quote in its first annual report as a listed company in 2010: "Less than 3% of total grocery market has moved online, forecasters predict up to 40% to move online by 2025."

French warn of confusion over digital tax regimes for Google, Amazon and Facebook: Failure to reach a global deal on where and how much to tax technology giants such as Google, Amazon and

Facebook will result in different digital tax regimes emerging all over the world, France's Finance Minister warned.

Buffett suffers worst year in decade after failing to find anything to buy: Berkshire Hathaway, the \$560 billion investment group run by Warren Buffett, last year suffered its worst performance compared with the rest of the market in a decade as its billionaire Chairman struggles to identify attractive targets to buy.

Cult spreads its web to beat beauty halls: Cult Beauty, the British online cosmetics retailer, has posted annual sales of more than £100 million for the first time as more women desert department store beauty halls in favour of buying make-up brands on the internet.

Den smart-home backers get mixed messages over Seedrs crowdfunding cash: Thousands of investors who backed a promising technology start-up with more than £5 million via crowdfunding have been left in the dark over whether or not their investment has been wiped out following its collapse.

The Restaurant Group to announce outlet closures this week: The owner of Frankie & Benny's and Chiquito is expected to announce site closures this week in a new blow to retail park landlords.

Seasalt ready to set sail across oceans: Seasalt is gearing up to take its British seaside style to the U.S. after striking deals with 150 independent fashion boutiques in America.

Ken Griffin bets £80 million against Ladbrokes and Coral owner GV: A

billionaire hedge fund tycoon has placed an £80 million bet against one of Britain's largest chains of high street bookmakers.

Financial Times

Global investors warn S Korea's Kepco over carbon emissions: International funds are slashing their holdings in Korea Electric Power Corp over the state-backed utility's lack of progress on cutting carbon emissions.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Mustier rules himself out of HSBC running: Jean Pierre Mustier, the Chief Executive of UniCredit, has ruled himself out of the running to be the next Chief Executive of HSBC, with the race to lead Europe's largest lender set to enter its seventh month without conclusion.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

JPMorgan lines up ex-regulator to lead U.K. digital bank: JPMorgan has lined up a former senior City regulator to lead its efforts to launch a digital bank in the U.K. as it becomes the latest large U.S. lender to attempt to force its way into the crowded British market.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Risks build in world's largest bond funds: Ultra-low interest rates and a flood of debt issuance by U.S. companies have led to a silent accumulation of risks in some of the world's largest bond funds.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Chinese carmakers accelerate drive into India: Chinese carmakers are accelerating their entry into India to counter falling

[Click here to open an account](#)

demand at home with a new market where mass car ownership is in its infancy.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Private jet demand surges in wake of coronavirus outbreak: Demand for private jets has surged since the outbreak of the deadly coronavirus as companies and individual seek alternative ways to fly out of Hong Kong.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Buyout group CVC steps up plans to reshape global rugby: CVC Capital Partners is plotting an ambitious reshaping of global rugby, as the European buyout firm aims to become the biggest commercial player in one of the world's most popular sports.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Raf Simons to join Prada as co-creative director: Raf Simons is to join Miuccia Prada as co-creative director of the Prada label, in a move that the luxury group hopes will reinvigorate interest in the company and attract new generations of high-end shoppers.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

MGA head warns coronavirus could lead to toy shortage: The maker of the world's most popular toy said he fears the coronavirus outbreak will lead to global shortages of toys as early as Easter as factories in China are left incapacitated.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

JetBlue signs loan linked to ESG goals: JetBlue has signed on to a new credit facility that is priced according to its performance on environmental and social matters, the first of its kind in the airline industry.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

Lex:

Barbers/hairdressers: full pelt: Salons are not immune to high street woes, even if haircuts cannot shift online.

To Read More Click [Here](#)

The Daily Telegraph

A no-deal Brexit would leave the EU facing intense pressure to reform: We are now in the warm-up period before negotiations begin between the EU and the U.K.

The stock market may catch a cold from coronavirus: For a couple of reasons, the next few weeks are going to give investors an interesting ride.

The Questor Column:

Questor: NMC still has potential but there's no room for such shoddy controls:

Never mind the balance sheet and the profit and loss. In many cases potential investors are better off studying the founder and their wider family, not the fundamentals of a business, to understand the risks they are putting their money under. That can often be reassuring. At Associated British Foods, the billionaire Weston family holds its nerve, rides out economic ups and downs and invests for the long term in brands such as Primark and Kingsmill bread. Less conventional but no less successful is boohoo.com's fashion tycoon Mahmud Kamani, who bought his son Umar's website PrettyLittleThing to turbocharge growth. The risk can be higher if the founder is no longer in charge. Witness the row over dividends a few years back between Sir Stelios Haji-Ioannou and the airline he set up, easyJet. But that is nothing compared with the ongoing drama between Gulf hospitals group NMC Health and its founder, Bavaguthu Raghuram Shetty. On paper, Mr Shetty is a man to back. So keen was he to get patients into his first pharmacy in the Seventies he carried them in on his shoulders in lieu of an ambulance. That grit drove him to build NMC into an empire with more than 200 healthcare facilities that treats more than 8.5 million patients a year. But the rags to riches tale was a long time ago. Mr Shetty resigned as co-Chairman of NMC last week having achieved something that Sir Stelios, Mr Kamani and the Westons have never knowingly managed: to lose track of the size of his stake in the business. Questor first took a look at fast-growing NMC in September 2017, just as it was taking its place in the FTSE 100. The company had done what it said it would do when it floated in 2012, adding bed capacity and focusing on higher-margin treatments such as IVF. But its shares were trading at such a lofty premium it would not take much to put them in the sick bay, we concluded. Short-seller Muddy Waters did just that in December, publishing an annihilation of NMC's finances that raised doubts over asset values, cash levels, profits and debt. The company rebutted all of them, only to instigate an independent review of the

allegations a few days later. And then came the Shetty disclosure, plus news of complicated share dealings involving several other directors that further knocked confidence. NMC is fiendishly complicated so there should be no place for poor controls. For example, it buys generic drugs from another of Shetty's firms, Neopharma, and the \$170 million acquisition of cosmetic surgery specialist CosmeSurge two years ago was from a related party. Like most founders, Mr Shetty cannot be easily disentangled. His wife remains group medical director. A second venture that he brought to the London market, Finabl, has also performed poorly. NMC still has potential. Look at the joint venture struck last year with the investment arm of Saudi Arabia's General Organization for Social Insurance, a government-administered pension fund that covers private sector employees in the kingdom. What it lacks is credibility. Earlier questions were raised about how the group presented its numbers. Following interim results in August, analysts at Jefferies, the bank, calculated in October that the underlying growth for NMC's healthcare clinics was only 8.2%, despite the company favouring a figure of 13% that included pharmacy and distribution sales. The bank also estimated that assets acquired in 2018 were not yet growing the top line. Who knows what surprises will accompany full-year figures due on March 6. Analysts at Morgan Stanley had set a target price-to-earnings multiple of 20 times for NMC, reading across from Mouwasat, a Saudi Arabian hospitals group that has performed strongly. Although NMC insists it is on track to deliver full-year results in line with expectations, the shares are trading at about eight times earnings, so deeply has confidence been shaken. This is no place for private investors. Questor says, "Sell".

Daily Mail

Muddy Waters' short-seller king Carson Block: 'I've got a hit list of U.K. firms':

The feared activist investor who has taken on hospitals operator NMC Health – a member of the prestigious FTSE 100 – and litigation finance firm Burford Capital has set out plans to expand and target more U.K. companies.

Housebuilder dividends to soar by £1 billion: Five-year bonanza for investors will deliver huge annual boost even after Help to Buy ends: Britain's biggest

[Click here to open an account](#)

housebuilders are set to boost payouts to shareholders by £1 billion a year – even after the lucrative Help to Buy scheme ends.

Mining giant Anglo American considered giving 85,000 small Sirius Minerals shareholders stake in itself: Anglo

American considered offering Sirius Minerals investors shares in Anglo itself as part of its takeover bid, the MoS can reveal.

The Scotsman

Holiday accommodation booking firm sees Scots listings double: A website for

booking campsites, “glamping” sites and caravan parks has seen its Scottish listings almost double in the past year – while its total global bookings have exceeded £100 million.

Risk Warning & Disclaimer

CFD and Spread betting Risk Warning

All trading involves risk. Spread bets and CFDs are complex instruments and come with a high risk of losing money rapidly due to leverage. **68% of retail investor accounts lose money when trading spread bets and CFDs with this provider.** You should consider whether you understand how spread bets and CFDs work, and whether you can afford to take the high risk of losing your money. Professional clients can lose more than they deposit.

Shares Risk Warning

The value of stocks and shares, and the income from them, can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the full amount you originally invested. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance.

If you are unsure about dealing in shares and other equity investments, you should contact your financial adviser as these types of investments may not be suitable for everyone.

Disclaimer

Any research has been produced by an independent third party provider. Further details can be provided on request. Any report has been prepared using information available from public sources, which are believed to be reliable as at the date of this report. However, Guardian Stockbrokers, its employees and its independent third party provider make no representation as to the accuracy or completeness of this report. This report should therefore not be relied on as accurate or complete. The facts and opinions on this report are subject to change without notice. Guardian Stockbrokers, its employees and its independent third party provider have no obligation to modify or update this report in the event that any information on this report becomes inaccurate.

Any report is prepared for informational purpose only, with no recommendation or solicitation to buy or to sell. The background of any individual or other investor has not been considered in providing this report. Individuals and other investors should seek independent financial advice which considers their specific risks, objectives and specific constraints, and make their own informed decisions. Individuals and other investors should note that investing in shares carries a degree of risk and the value of investments can go up or down. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Investments should be made with regard to an investor's total portfolio. Guardian Stockbrokers, its independent third party provider and its employees make no representation or guarantee with regard to any investment noted on this report, and shall therefore not be liable with regard to any loss.