Bird & Bird

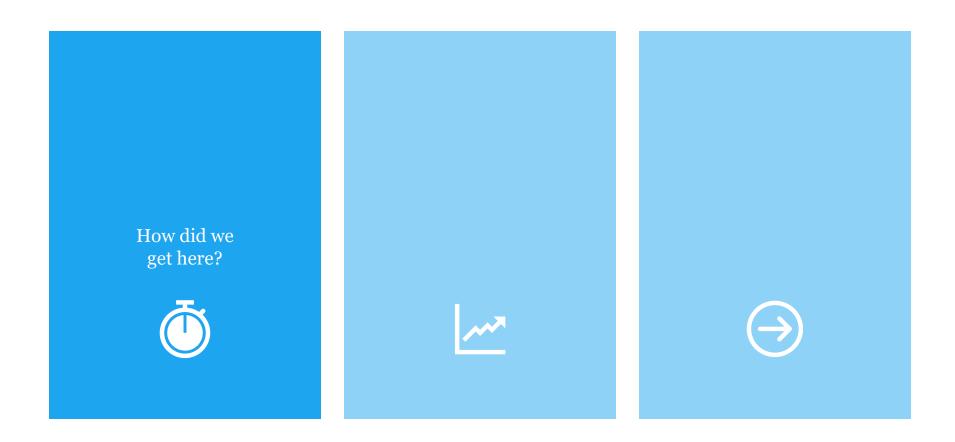
HVS HODGES WARD ELLIOTT

What is the status of Hotel Debt Finance in 2023?

5 July 2023

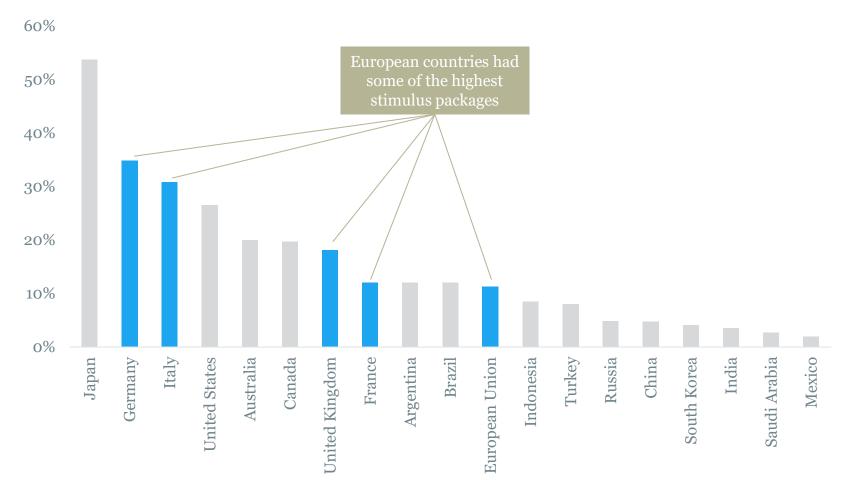


The Lending Climate





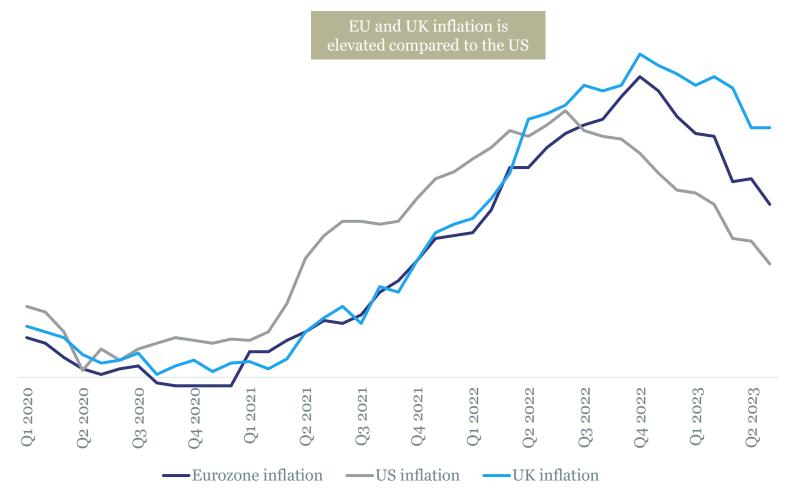
Stimulus Packages as a Percent of 2021 GDP







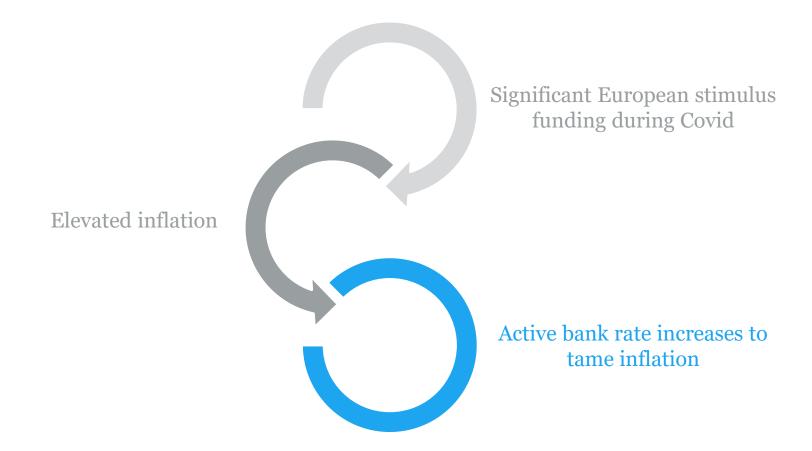
European Inflation Remains High





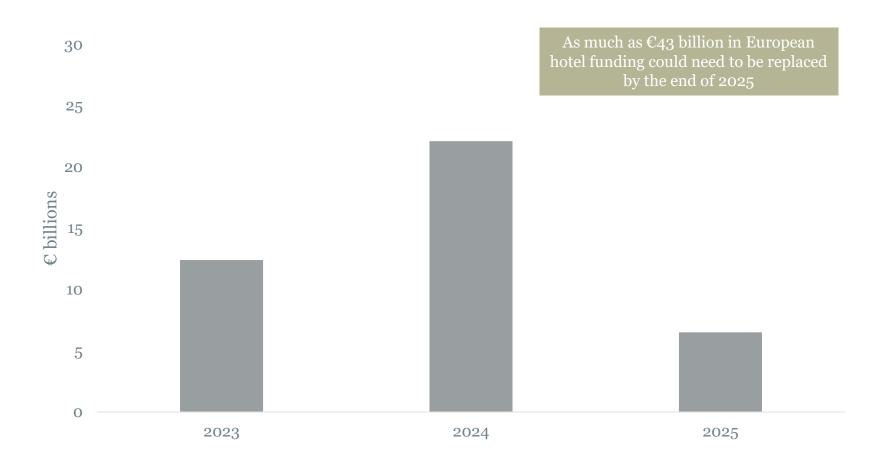
Slide 4
Source: Eurostat (harmonized index), US Bureau of Labor Statistics (CPI), UK Office of Statistics (CPI)

Drivers of Change



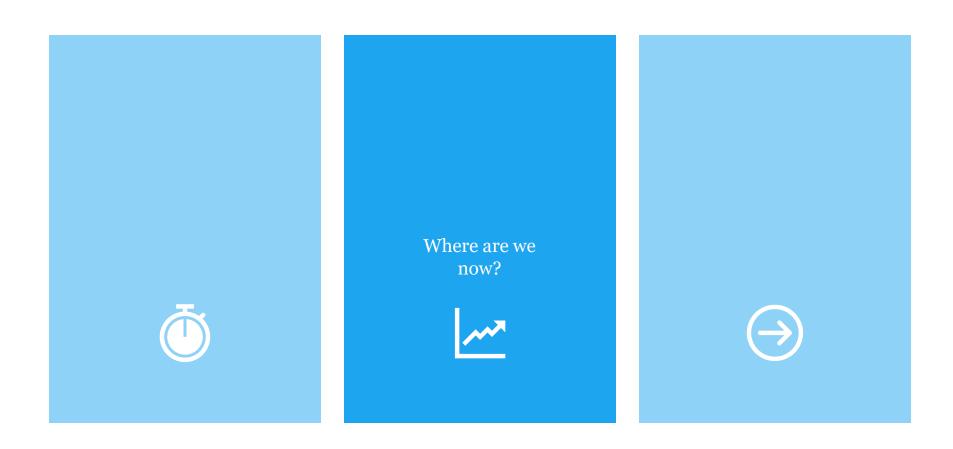


European Hotel Debt Funding Maturities



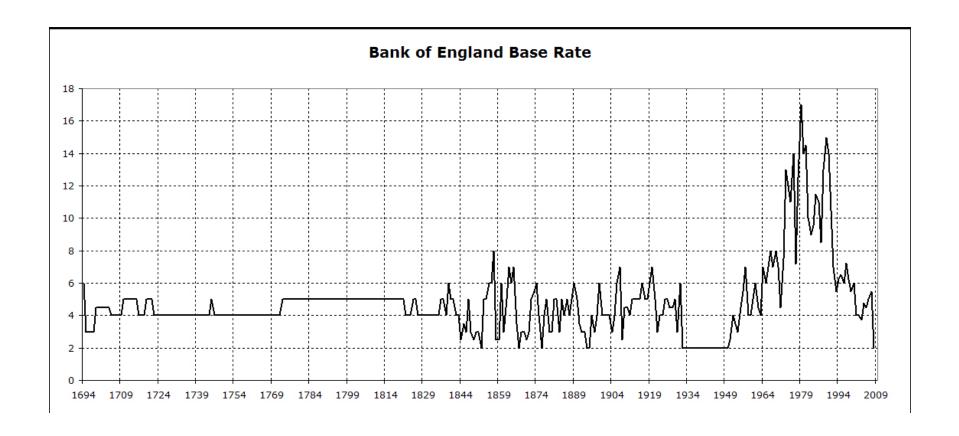


The Lending Climate





Bank of England Base Rate 1694-2009



Bank of England Base Rate 1975-2023





Where are we now?

- > Interest Cover Ratio will be challenged / breached
- > Fall in values will also result in challenges to LTV
- > Many existing deals are now outside of lending mandates
- > "Extend and pretend" not a long term option
- > Credit/investment committees concerns:
 - Have interest rates peaked yet?
 - Existing loan portfolio performance & cost of capital
 - > Impact of macro-economic issues on hotel performance
- > Bid/ask gap has led to a lack of transactions and uncertainty over value
- > Many hotel owners took on additional debt during COVID
- Significant number of alternative lenders now keen to lend to the sector
- > Hotels now seen as a mainstream investment class

Current swap rates

SONIA swaps				i	
	Current	29 Jun 2023	30 May 2023	30 Jun 2022	
1 Year	5.924%	5.871%	5.230%	2.431%	
2 Year	5.865%	5.775%	5.082%	2.618%	
3 Year	5.576%	5.485%	4.857%	2.581%	
5 Year	5.022%	4.952%	4.512%	2.490%	
7 Year	4.632%	4.579%	4.285%	2.395%	
10 Year	4.306%	4.275%	4.127%	2.342%	
15 Year	4.092%	4.077%	4.053%	2.310%	
30 Year	3.773%	3.778%	3.889%	2.184%	
Updated 03 Jul 2023 09:00 GMT					

3-month EURIBOR swaps							
	Current	29 Jun 2023	30 May 2023	30 Jun 2022			
1 Year	3.866%	3.868%	3.669%	0.805%			
2 Year	3.683%	3.674%	3.374%	1.305%			
3 Year	3.446%	3.433%	3.149%	1.500%			
5 Year	3.120%	3.117%	2.935%	1.730%			
7 Year	2.971%	2.983%	2.877%	1.870%			
10 Year	2.903%	2.927%	2.893%	2.103%			
15 Year	2.885%	2.916%	2.950%	2.343%			
30 Year	2.521%	2.562%	2.621%	1.987%			

Updated 03 Jul 2023 | 09:00 GMT

An example of the interest rate challenge



Hotel Value - £50m EBITDA - £3m Senior Debt - £25m (50% LTV) Margin - 3.25%

Interest Position (June 2022)
Interest @ 5.75% = £1,437,500
Surplus Cash = £1,562,500
ICR = 209%

Interest Position (June 2023)
Interest @ 8.75% = £2,187,500
Surplus Cash = £812,500
ICR = 137%

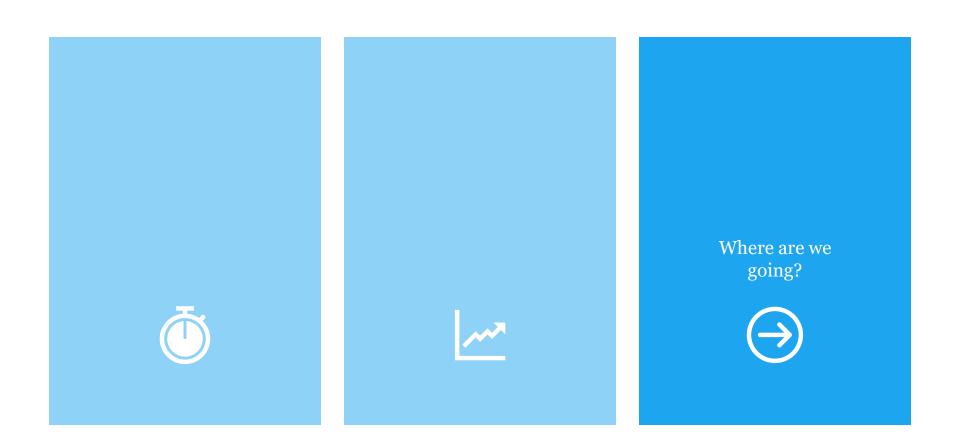
Issues for refinancing / raising new finance

- ➤ Borrowers looking to refinance may be faced with a reduced debt quantum requiring additional equity, mezzanine debt or asset disposals
- > Deals that are over-leveraged, hotels in non-prime locations or assets with challenges (ground rents, under-investment, asylum hotels, new build) will be difficult to finance
- > Balancing the Lender's need for amortisation with the owners need for a return on capital will be challenging
- > Setting achievable ICR covenants
- > Until market activity increases establishing value will be challenging

Issues for refinancing / raising new finance

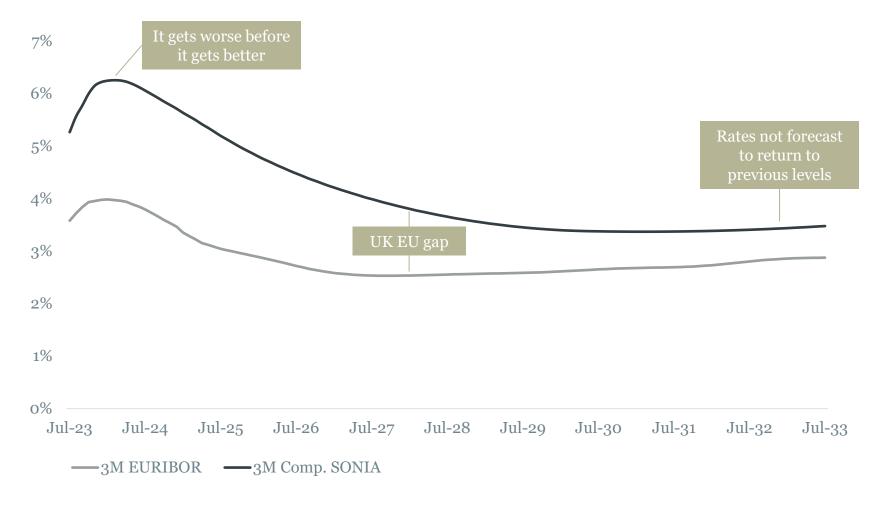
- > Is Mezzanine Finance an option to bridge the gap?
- ➤ Mezzanine debt is widely available
- ➤ Difficult to structure into existing deals
 - > Senior Lenders reluctant to allow mezzanine debt
 - Even at lower levels Senior debt service will consume a greater proportion of EBITDA
 - > Increased interest rates will also push up the cost of mezzanine debt
 - Significantly increases transaction costs
 - Options on refinancing
- > Pre-packaged whole debt solutions more likely to be achievable
- Pref-equity deals may become common
- > Borrowers face a difficult decision on interest rate hedging

The Lending Climate





European Forward Curves

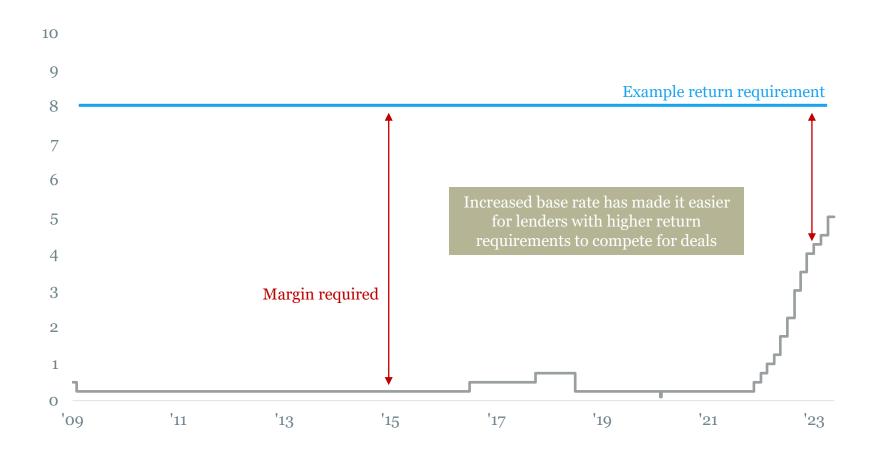




Source: Chatham Financial



Higher IRR Lenders Move Down The Risk Curve





What trends can we expect over the next 12-24 months?

- > Lenders likely to insist upon debt reduction/sale of assets on existing deals
- > Some distress although probably more "soft enforcement" than formal insolvency
- > Alternative lenders continue to take market share from traditional banks
- > Investors and lenders will favour Europe over UK
- > Growth in pref-equity transactions
- > Position on development finance is complex
- ➤ Concerns around FF&E and Capex spend being maintained
- > Higher interest rates are here to stay!

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