Guardian Stockbrokers

Daily Market Report

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15 March 2023

Key Global Indices

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| | Last Close | 1D% Chg | 5D% Chg | 1M% Chg | 1Y% Chg | | Last Close | 1D% Chg | 5D% Chg | 1M% Chg | 1Y% Chg |
|------------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| FTSE 100 | 7,637.1 🕆 | 1.2% | -3.6% | -3.1% | | S&P 500 | 3,919.3 🕆 | 1.6% | -1.7% | -4.2% | -6.1% |
| FTSE 250 | 19,129.7 🕆 | 1.6% | -4.1% | -4.5% | -6.6% | DJIA | 32,155.4 🕆 | 1.1% | -2.1% | -5.1% | -2.4% |
| DJSTOXX 50 | 3,825.6 🗘 | 1.4% | -1.8% | -1.7% | 8.7% | Nasdaq | 11,428.2 🕆 | 2.1% | -0.9% | -2.5% | -9.2% |
| FTSEurofirst 300 | 1,774.8 🕆 | 1.5% | -2.3% | -1.7% | 4.1% | Nikkei 225* | 27,270.6 🕆 | 0.2% | -3.8% | -1.6% | 7.6% |
| German DAX 30 | 15,232.8 🕆 | 1.8% | -2.1% | -0.5% | 9.4% | Shanghai Composite* | 3,267.2 🕆 | 0.7% | -1.2% | -0.5% | 0.7% |
| France CAC 40 | 7,141.6 î | 1.9% | -2.7% | 0.2% | 12.1% | DJIA at London close | 32,237.4 | | *Tii | me - GMT | 4:30 |

FTSE 100



4,454 4,129 3,803 3,478 3,152 Sep-22 Nov-22 Jan-23 Mar-23 SMA20 — SMA50

DJ Euro STOXX50



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UK Market Snapshot

UK markets finished in the green yesterday, amid rebound in financial sector stocks. Molten Ventures jumped 8.7%, after the company in its trading update stated that it expects no impact from the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank (SVB). Rolls-Royce Holdings climbed 7.0%, after the company was awarded a contract to construct UK and Australia's SSN-AUKUS submarines. Centrica advanced 3.4% after the company announced to plans to boost power generation following extension of the operating life of two nuclear power stations in England. On the other hand, Genuit Group dropped 6.3%, after the piping manufacturing company reported a drop in its FY22 profits. Close Brothers Group eased 6.0%, after the lender's 1H23 profits dropped amid provisions related to the Novitas Ioan book. TP ICAP Group fell 4.6%, even though the company reporting an increase in its annual profit. The FTSE 100 advanced 1.2%, to close at 7,637.1, while the FTSE 250 rose 1.6%, to end at 19,129.7.

US Market Snapshot

US markets closed higher yesterday, ending its losing streak of five consecutive sessions, as concerns related to the collapse of SVB and Signature bank eased. Cvent Holding surged 13.0%, after the company entered into a definitive agreement to be acquired by Blackstone for a consideration of \$4.7 billion. Meta Platforms climbed 7.3%. The company announced 10,000 job cuts in its second round. Match Group advanced 5.6%, after a top broker upgraded its rating on the stock to 'Overweight' from 'Equal Weight'. Boeing rose 1.9%, after the company announced the completion of its two agreements with Saudi Arabia to manufacture up to 121 Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft equipped with General Electric's GEnex engines. On the flipside, United Airlines Holdings dropped 5.4%, after the airline company issued a profit warning for the first quarter. The S&P 500 gained 1.6% to settle at 3,919.3. The DJIA marginally rose 1.1% to settle at 32,155.4, while the NASDAQ added 2.1%, to close at 11,428.2.

Europe Market Snapshot

European markets finished higher yesterday, buoyed by gains in banking sector stocks. Casino Guichard Perrachon jumped 7.3%, after the mass-market retail group announced the sale of part of its stake in Assaí for 174 million shares. TeamViewer climbed 4.1%, after the company forecasted higher revenue and stable margin in fiscal 2023. Assicurazioni Generali added 3.6%, after the company reported a rise in its operating profit for FY22. On the contrary, Volkswagen fell 1.6%, after the automaker disclosed plans to invest €180 billion between 2023 - 2027 in areas including battery production and raw material. Credit Suisse Group shed 0.8%, after the bank announced that it has found material weaknesses in financial reporting for FY21 and FY22. The FTSEurofirst 300 index gained 1.5%, to close at 1,774.8. Among other European markets, the German DAX Xetra 30 rose 1.8%, to close at 15,232.8, while the French CAC-40 advanced 1.9%, to settle at 7,141.6.

Asia Market Snapshot

Markets in Asia are trading higher this morning, tracking overnight gains on Wall Street. In Japan, Nikon and Fukuoka Financial Group have gained 3.1% and 3.3%, respectively. Meanwhile, SoftBank Group and Odakyu Electric Railway have fallen 1.5% and 1.6%, respectively. In Hong Kong, Country Garden Holdings and Hansoh Pharmaceutical Group have risen 3.0% and 3.1%, respectively. Meanwhile, Xiaomi and WH Group have shed 0.4% and 0.7%, respectively. In South Korea, DI DongII and Seoul Broadcasting System have surged 11.0% and 12.2%, respectively. Meanwhile, NCsoft and E Investment & Development have eased 2.1% and 2.2%, respectively. The Nikkei 225 index is trading 0.2% higher at 27,270.6. The Hang Seng index is trading 1.3% up at 19,490.4, while the Kospi index is trading 1.5% higher at 2,383.8.

Daily Market Report

Key Corporate Releases Today

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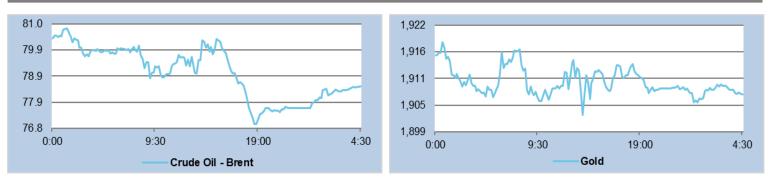
| | | | Full Yea | Full Year Consensus | | |
|--|---------|----------|---------------|------------------------|--|--|
| Company Name | Results | Currency | Estimated EPS | Estimated Revenue (Mn) | | |
| 4imprint Group Plc | Final | GBP | 2.21 | 944.76 | | |
| Keywords Studios Plc | Final | GBP | 0.99 | 610.71 | | |
| Prudential Plc | Final | GBP | 0.70 | 15,292.97 | | |
| Ferrexpo Plc | Final | GBP | 0.48 | 1,066.52 | | |
| Balfour Beatty Plc | Final | GBP | 0.39 | 7,617.60 | | |
| FDM Group Holdings Plc | Final | GBP | 0.35 | 323.14 | | |
| Marshalls Plc | Final | GBP | 0.31 | 717.00 | | |
| Advanced Medical Solutions Group Plc | Final | GBP | 0.11 | 120.00 | | |
| Aptitude Software Group Plc | Final | GBP | 0.11 | 72.67 | | |
| RM Plc | Final | GBP | 0.10 | 225.00 | | |
| Kin & Carta Plc | Interim | GBP | 0.08 | 207.33 | | |
| Centaur Media Plc | Final | GBP | 0.02 | 41.23 | | |
| Zinnwald Lithium Plc | Final | GBP | (0.01) | - | | |
| Rotala Plc | Final | GBP | (0.05) | 88.24 | | |
| Maxcyte (DI) Plc | Final | GBP | (0.20) | 37.12 | | |
| Silence Therapeutics Plc | Final | GBP | (0.34) | 18.40 | | |
| RIT Capital Partners Plc/Fund | Final | GBP | - | - | | |
| BlackRock World Mining Trust Plc | Final | GBP | - | - | | |
| Herald Investment Trust Plc | Final | GBP | - | | | |
| Allianz Technology Trust Plc | Final | GBP | - | - | | |
| Foresight Solar Fund Limited | Final | GBP | - | | | |
| Crown Place VCT Plc | Interim | GBP | - | - | | |
| Aquila Energy Efficiency Trust Plc | Final | GBP | - | | | |
| Abrdn Smaller Companies Income Trust Plc | Final | GBP | - | - | | |
| Hellenic Dynamics Plc | Final | GBP | - | - | | |
| Medcaw Investments Plc | Final | GBP | _ | - | | |
| | | | | | | |

Note: All Estimates are for Full Year

Daily Market Report

Commodity, Currency and Bitcoin

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Commodity

- At 0430GMT today, Brent crude oil one month futures contract is trading 1.37% or \$1.06 higher at \$78.51 per barrel, ahead of the Energy Information Administration's weekly oil inventory data, scheduled to be released later today. Yesterday, the contract declined 4.11% or \$3.32, to settle at \$77.45 per barrel, amid worries over economic slowdown. Additionally, the American Petroleum Institute reported that the US crude stockpiles advanced by 1.2 million barrels for the week ended 10 March 2022.
- □ At 0430GMT today, Gold futures contract is trading 0.2% or \$3.90 lower at \$1,907.00 per ounce. Yesterday, the contract declined 0.29% or \$5.60, to settle at \$1,910.90 per ounce, amid strength in the US Dollar and a rise in the Treasury yields.



Currency

- At 0430GMT today, the EUR is trading 0.17% higher against the USD at \$1.0751, ahead of Euro-zone's industrial production in January along with Germany's current account in January, scheduled to release later today. Additionally, investors await the US weekly MBA mortgage applications in March along with the producer price index and retail sales data in February, slated to release later today. Yesterday, the EUR strengthened 0.02% versus the USD, to close at \$1.0733. On the macro front, the US inflation eased in February, while the nation's NFIB business optimism index advanced in February.
- At 0430GMT today, the GBP is trading 0.1% higher against the USD at \$1.2170. Yesterday, the GBP weakened 0.21% versus the USD, to close at \$1.2158. On the data front, UK's average earnings including bonuses rose as expected in January. Meanwhile, UK's ILO unemployment rate remained unchanged in the same month.



Bitcoin

At 0430GMT today, BTC is trading 0.86% higher against the USD at \$24,848.13. Yesterday, BTC advanced 1.66% against the USD to close at \$24,636.25. In a major news, Polygon has partnered with Unstoppable Domains to enable users to create ".polygon" Web3 domain names. According to sources, MetaMask has launched additional features in its Web3 wallet app focused on enhancing privacy and giving more control to the customer.

To start trading Bitcoin Click Here

FTSE All Share Index- Performance

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UK Top Sector Performers

| Sector | Current Price | 1D Change | 1D (%) Change | 1M (%) Change | 1Y (%) Change |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Automobiles & Parts | 1911.38 | 100.20 | 5.5% | 17.0% | -26.6% |
| Aerospace & Defence | 6160.14 | 239.94 | 4.1% | 13.3% | 34.7% |
| Industrial Engineering | 14705.97 | 440.20 | 3.1% | -5.2% | -7.6% |
| Travel & Leisure | 7250.85 | 203.19 | 2.9% | -1.6% | 10.3% |
| Electronic & Electrical Equipment | 9409.27 | 208.01 | 2.3% | -2.9% | -0.3% |

UK Worst Sector Performers

| Sector | Current Price | 1D Change | 1D (%) Change | 1M (%) Change | 1Y (%) Change |
|---------|---------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Tobacco | 32653.88 | -148.39 | -0.5% | -5.2% | 3.4% |

Key Economic News

UK average earnings including bonuses rose as expected in January

In the UK, average earnings including bonuses climbed 5.70% in the three months to January, at par with market expectations and compared to a revised rise of 6.00% in the prior month.

UK ILO unemployment rate remained unchanged in January

In the UK, the ILO unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.70% in January. Markets were expecting the unemployment rate to rise to 3.80%.

US CPI climbed as expected in February

In the US, the CPI rose 6.00% on a YoY basis in February, at par with market anticipations and compared to a rise of 6.40% in the previous month.

US NFIB business optimism index advanced in February

In the US, the NFIB business optimism index rose to 90.90 in February, compared to a level of 90.30 in the last month.

Stockbrokers

Share Tips, Bids and Rumours

Guardian

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- <u>The Daily Telegraph (Questor share tips):</u> "Hold" Nichols Plc; "Hold"Just Group.
- <u>The Guardian</u>: Metallica have bought their own factory to manufacture vinyl records, as annual vinyl unit sales outstrip CDs for the first time since 1987 in the U.S.
- <u>The Daily Telegraph</u>: Saudi Arabia is to spend £30 billion on a fleet of 72 Boeing jets as it seeks to dominate the Gulf with a new airline.
- <u>The Daily Telegraph</u>: Volkswagen will invest €180 billion into modernising its cars in the next five years, supercharging its plan to dominate the electric vehicle (EV) market.
- <u>Financial Times</u>: The world's largest private investment firms are exploring the purchase of loans from the remains of Silicon Valley Bank.
- <u>The Times:</u> Playtech, the gambling technology firm, yesterday placed an \$85 million bet on the Hard Rock brand as part of a strategic partnership with the operator of cafés, hotels and casinos.
- <u>The Times:</u> Asda's £600 million takeover of the Co-op's petrol forecourts could raise prices or lead to less choice, the competition watchdog has warned.
- Financial Times: French media group Vivendi has entered exclusive talks to sell its publishing house Editis to Czech Media Invest.
- <u>The Guardian (Comment)</u> SVB collapse presents central banks with a big headache.
- <u>The Daily Telegraph (Comment)</u>: How Switzerland's once-feted banking industry became a national embarrassment.
- <u>The Times (Tempus share tips):</u> "Avoid" Hargreaves Lansdown; "Hold" Close Brothers.

Newspaper Summary

The Times

10,000 Meta jobs to be axed amid Zuckerberg's 'Year of Efficiency': The owner of Facebook and Instagram will cut another 10,000 jobs, months after laying off 11,000 staff, as the technology group prepares for years of economic disruption. Meta Platforms unveiled a fresh wave of redundancies as it battens down the hatches, announcing it would also shut about 5,000 additional vacant roles that it had not yet filled and cancel "lower priority" projects.

Silicon Valley Bank collapse faces two U.S. investigations: America's top markets watchdog and the U.S. justice department are understood to have launched investigations into the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank. The largest U.S. banking failure since 2008 alarmed thousands of companies with cash in the bank and rattled the wider banking system.

Credit Suisse admits 'material weaknesses' in financial reporting: Credit Suisse has launched a review of its financial reporting after discovering "material weaknesses" in how it prepares its accounts. The Swiss investment bank warned it has failed to set up processes that would properly prevent the mis-statement of its finances after a regulatory intervention delayed the publication of its annual report.

Banks bounce back even as Moody's warns on outlook: American regional lenders staged relief а rallv after extraordinary sell-off, despite the ratings agency Moody's cutting its outlook for the banking system from stable to negative. Shares in First Republic Bank rose 27%, or \$8.42, to close at \$39.63, a day after falling investors regained 62%. as some confidence following the panic unleashed by the failure of two lenders, Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) and Signature Bank, in three days. Trading was halted repeatedly.

Workers squeezed as wage growth stalls: British workers suffered another squeeze in their take-home pay at the start of the year, adding to evidence that wage growth may have peaked. Official data from the Office for National Statistics showed that growth in average weekly earnings including bonuses was 5.7% in the three months to January, down from 6% from the three months prior. Weekly pay growth excluding bonuses eased to 6.5% from 6.7%. When inflation is stripped out, pay fell by 2.4%.

U.S. inflation slows amid Fed uncertainty:

Inflation continued to rise at a robust rate in the U.S. last month, moderating only slightly amid heightened uncertainty about the Federal Reserve's campaign to bring it down. Consumer prices increased by 6% in February, according to official data; down from an annual pace of 6.4% in January and in line with economists' expectations.

Company insolvencies at their highest in four years: The number of companies entering insolvency rose by almost a fifth last month as a result of the cost of living crisis and higher interest rates. Registered company insolvencies increased by 17.5% year-on-year to 1,783 in February, according to figures from the Insolvency Service.

Asda's Co-op forecourt takeover 'could raise prices', says regulator: Asda's £600 million takeover of the Co-op's petrol forecourts could raise prices or lead to less choice, the competition watchdog has warned. The supermarket chain, owned by Lancashire-based billionaire the Issa brothers and the private equity firm TDR Capital, agreed last August to buy 132 petrol stations and attached convenience stores from the Co-op. The deal was completed towards the end of last year and led to 2,300 workers moving to the supermarket giant.

Britishvolt owed £160 million at its collapse: Britishvolt collapsed owing about £160 million to unsecured creditors who are unlikely to see a significant dividend from the company's insolvent estate. The battery start-up fell into administration in January after failing to secure emergency funding.

Close Brothers takes hit from Novitas Loans: Profits at Close Brothers have been hit by an increased provision in the merchant banking group's troubled litigation funding business. Posting half-year results, Close Brothers confirmed that it had taken an additional provision of £89.8 million at its Novitas Loans arm, which is being wound down.

turmoil Market rewards TP Icap investors: Annual profits at TP Icap, the world's biggest interdealer broker, beat City forecasts and the company has raised its dividend. TP Icap, which acts as a middleman in trades, posted a 28% increase in adjusted profit before tax to £226 million in the year to the end of December, ahead of forecasts of £216 million among analysts. Revenue rose 13.4% to £2.1 billion and the group also raised its total dividend by 31% to 12.4p per share.

Pennon Group on track to hit targets: Pennon Group said that it was on track to deliver results in line with management's expectations. The FTSE 250 water company, which completed the Bristol Water licence merger in February, also announced that it was reinvesting outperformance in South West Water to increase "water resilience" and enhance its environmental outcomes.

Fresh permit for cannabis lifts Celadon: Shares in Celadon Pharmaceuticals rallied after its Home Office licence was updated. the final step in the process to allow the company to supply medicinal cannabis commercially. The decision follows Celadon's facility in Birmingham being certified in January to make pharmaceuticalcannabis following grade government reforms five years ago.

The Independent

U.K. considering fully banning TikTok, Minister says: TikTok could be fully banned in the U.K, the security Minister has

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suggested. The app has faced a range of bans in countries across the world, including the U.S. and Europe, where it has been banned from official devices. In other countries such as India, the app has been banned entirely, for all users.

Ofgem takes action against suppliers which have 'failed to follow the rules': Ofgem has started proceedings against a number of business energy suppliers as it found that more than half have work to do to show they are following the rules. The energy regulator said that it had examined whether suppliers were living up to their duties under the Government's energy support scheme for businesses.

Extend net zero planning to all big companies or risk climate goals, Rishi Sunak warned: Failure to require all large private companies to publish their net zero transition plans puts the U.K's climate goals at risk, Rishi Sunak has been warned. Under current rules, only firms listed on the FTSE 100 index - the biggest on the London Stock Exchange - are required to disclose how they will decarbonise their businesses by 2050.

Financial Times

VW ramps up investments in electric car transition with €180 billion injection: Volkswagen is ramping up its investments in electric vehicles, committing €180 billion over the next five years to manufacture its own batteries and expand in the world's biggest markets in the U.S. and China.

KPMG stands by audits of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank: KPMG's U.S. head said it stood behind its audits of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank, which collapsed within days of putting out annual reports certified by the Big Four accounting firm.

NatWest to limit customers' crypto payments: Two U.K. companies said that they would limit crypto payments for customers, in a move that piles further pressure on a digital asset industry rapidly losing regulated financial partners.

Vivendi in talks to sell 100% of publishing house Editis: French media group Vivendi has entered exclusive talks to sell its publishing house Editis to Czech Media Invest, founded by billionaire Daniel Křetínský, in a move that could pave the way to finalise a bigger deal with Lagardère. The sale of Editis is seen as a prerequisite to get EU regulators' approval for the group's takeover of Lagardère, a publishing and retail business. Competition authorities had balked at the idea of Vivendi controlling both Editis and Hachette, the world's third-biggest publisher, which is owned by Lagardère.

U.K. to invest £2.5 billion in quantum computing drive: Ministers are to launch a 10-year programme to invest £2.5 billion in quantum computing, aiming to keep the U.K. competitive in one of the world's fastest-moving fields of technology. The Plan for Quantum will more than double the funding that is available to researchers in industry and universities under the present £1 billion National Quantum Technologies Programme, according to Whitehall insiders.

The Lex: U.S. regional banks: lax regulation brings heartache to the heartlands: Some institutions' lucrative diversifications also concentrated risks.

U.K. power: nuclear plant extensions show need for new capacity: Intermittency of renewables means a more reliable baseload source is required.

Lottomatica IPO: listing will boost gambling group's acquisition pot: Italian group needs to sell shares to reduce leverage and to use as a currency for future acquisitions.

The Daily Telegraph

Mirror publisher Reach to cut 420 jobs as costs soar: Daily Mirror publisher Reach has put 420 staff at risk of redundancy as it battles an advertising slowdown and surging costs. The National Union of Journalists said that 192 editorial staff were being made redundant, among a total of 420 roles at risk.

Mortgage approvals plunge by 25% New mortgage lending has plunged by a quarter as high interest rates and the aftershocks from last year's mini-Budget continue to hit the housing market. Lenders agreed home loans worth £58.4 billion in the last three months of 2022, data from the Bank of England showed, which was a drop of 24.5% compared to the same period a year earlier.

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Daily Mail

British Gas owner Centrica to extend the lives of Heysham 1 and Hartlepool nuclear power stations by two years: British Gas owner Centrica has announced plans to extend the lives of two nuclear power stations, in efforts to 'strengthen the U.K's energy security in uncertain times'. The group said the Heysham 1 and Hartlepool stations are now expected to close in March 2026, two years later than previously forecast. This is expected to add 6 terawatt hours to its electricity generation volumes between 2024 and 2026, or around 70% of Centrica's total nuclear volumes in 2022.

Sainsbury's seals £431 million deal to buy freeholds of 21 of its stores from Supermarket Income REIT: Sainsbury's has sealed a £430.9 million deal to buy the freeholds of 21 supermarkets it previously rented from real estate investment trust Supermarket Income REIT. The grocer will take full ownership of investment vehicles Highbury and Dragon, which hold a raft of stores, after exchanging contracts to buy the remaining 51% stake it does not already own. Sainsbury's has held a 49% stake in Highbury and Dragon since they were set up

in 2000.

The Scottish Herald

Scotland's unemployment rate falls to record low - ONS figures: Scotland has seen a new record-low unemployment rate, according to the latest figures.

Lanarkshire: Bells bakery wins U.K wide Tesco pastry contract: A Scottish baker has secured a contract to supply millions of pastry products to the U.K's largest supermarket.

'Humane' prawn-stunning system launched by Dundee's Ace Aquatec: Dundee-based Ace Aquatec is launching what it describes as the "first in-water, portable electric stunning system for prawns" in the world, following successful trials with Pacific white shrimp in Germany.

The Scotsman

Glasgow taxi and minibus converter Allied Vehicles to take on 70 workers and boost production: A Glasgow company that makes wheelchair accessible cars, minibuses and taxis is to take on more than 70 people under ambitious plans to ramp up production as it looks to overcome "horrendous" supply issues. Top Edinburgh hospitality business sees turnover surpass pre-pandemic peak but profits squeezed: Surgeons Quarter, which promotes, sells and manages all commercial activities held within the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh campus, saw turnover top £9.24 million across its portfolio, surpassing pre-pandemic levels. Despite revenues sitting £2 million above the venue's best year in 2019, profit levels are down due to "economic challenges and financial increases".

Oil and gas industry warns North Sea drilling ban could be 'irreversible' and leave U.K. dependent on imports: The U.K. government must not give in to pressure to ban drilling in the North Sea because such a move would leave the country dependent on imports and may prove "irreversible", oil and gas industry leaders have warned.



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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.

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