

Market Price Monitor

Local Equity Markets

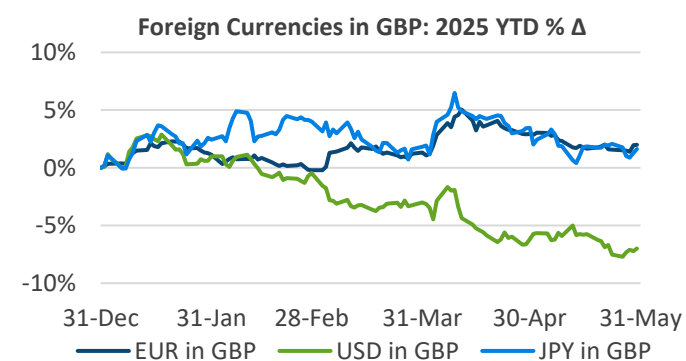
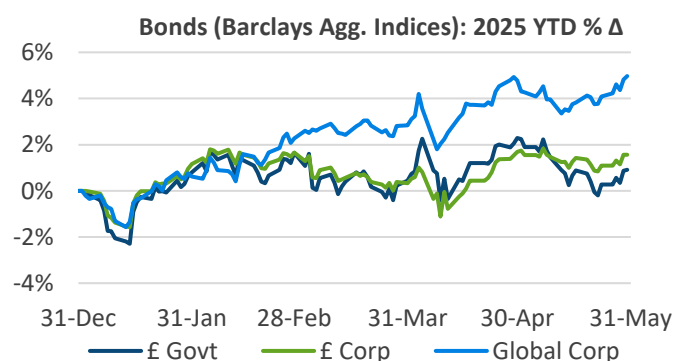
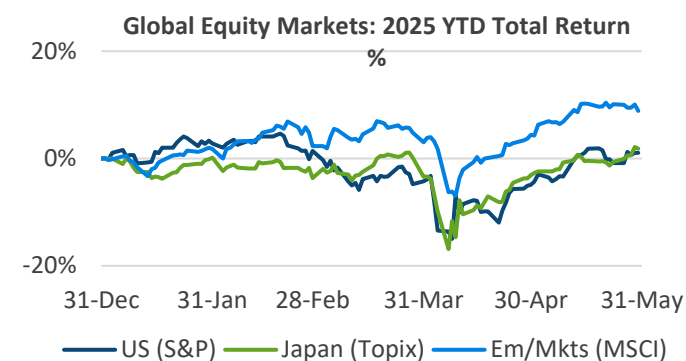
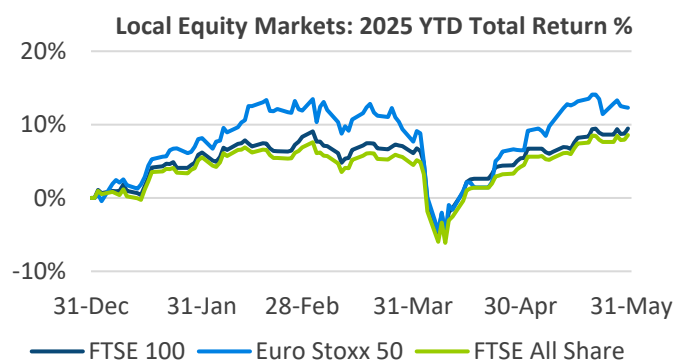
- Global equity indices had a strong performance in May as trade tensions eased.
- The Euro Stoxx 50 gained 5.4%.
- The FTSE 100 was up 3.8%.

Global Equity Markets

- The S&P 500 ended the month up 6.3%, and the Topix gained 5.1%.
- The MSCI Emerging Markets index returned 4.3%.

Bond/FX Markets

- The British government bond index fell 1.3% in May, while the British corporate bond index was relatively flat.
- The British Pound had a strong performance in May, gaining 0.8% against the US Dollar, 0.9% against the Euro, and 1.8% against the Japanese Yen.



Total Returns as of May 30, 2025

	FTSE 100	FTSE All Share	Euro Stoxx 50	US (S&P)	Japan (Topix)	Em/Mkts (MSCI)	£ Govt	£ Corp	Global Corp	EUR in GBP	USD in GBP	JPY in GBP
1 Month	3.8%	4.1%	5.4%	6.3%	5.1%	4.3%	-1.3%	-0.1%	0.2%	-0.9%	-0.8%	-1.8%
3 Month	1.0%	1.5%	0.3%	-0.4%	5.7%	6.4%	-0.7%	-0.1%	2.6%	2.2%	-6.6%	-2.3%
1 Year	10.1%	9.4%	11.1%	13.5%	3.6%	13.6%	1.0%	4.4%	7.4%	-1.0%	-5.3%	3.4%
YTD	9.4%	8.6%	12.3%	1.1%	1.8%	8.9%	0.9%	1.6%	5.0%	2.0%	-7.0%	1.6%

Insurance Monitor

Solvency II Risk Free Rates

- GBP risk-free rates increased at all terms in May.
- The 1 and 5-year GBP risk-free rates rose by 22 and 24 basis points, respectively.
- EUR risk-free rates rose at all terms in May, with the increases more pronounced at the long end.
- The 20 and 30-year EUR rates increased by 13 and 14 basis points, respectively.
- The EUR CRA was unchanged and remains floored at 10 basis points

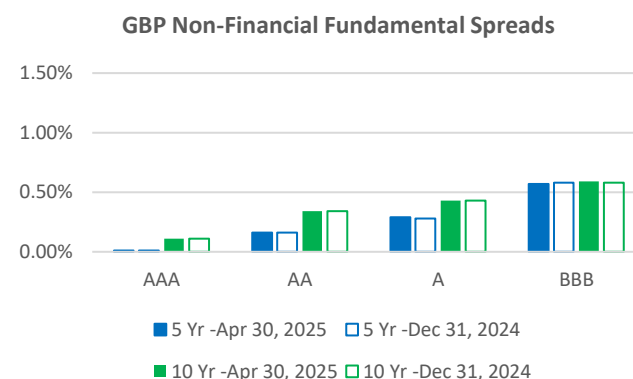
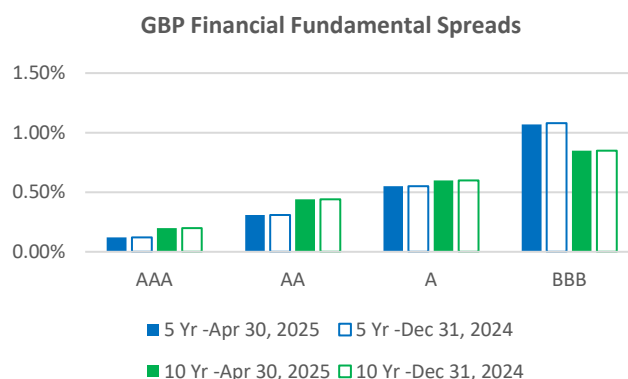
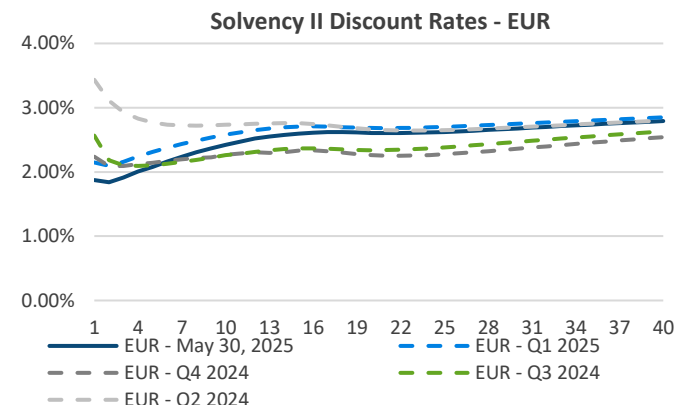
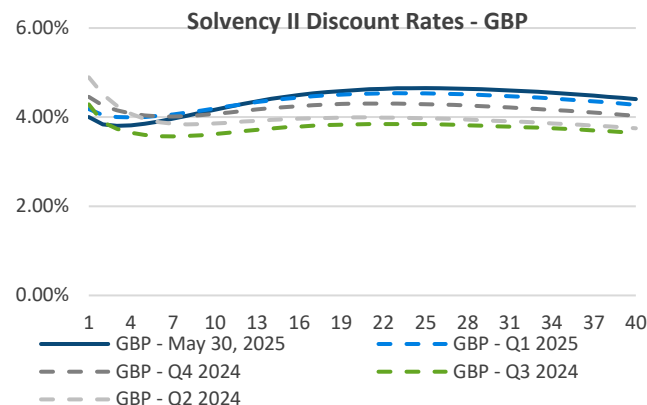
The **Solvency II risk-free discount rates** are calculated independently based on applying the Smith-Wilson Extrapolation to swap rates sourced from Bloomberg and applying the Credit Risk Adjustment as defined in the Technical Specs. For the official published curves please refer to [EIOPA](#) and [PRA](#) websites.

Solvency II Fundamental Spreads

- There were no material changes since the start of the year.

EIOPA fundamental spreads show the credit spread corresponding to the risk of default or downgrading of an asset. This is shown here across financial and non-financial assets, credit quality steps 0-3 and durations of 1-30 years. The data is provided by EIOPA.

Fundamental spread = maximum (probability of default + cost of downgrade; 35% of long-term average spread). For fundamental spreads on other tenors please refer to the [EIOPA](#) website.



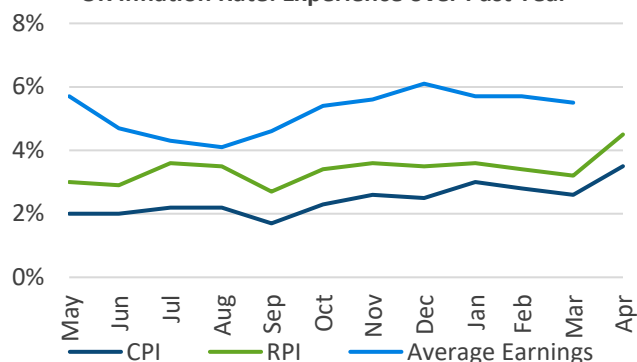
	Change in GBP Discount Rates (bps)				
	1Y	Y5	Y10	Y20	Y30
Since Q1 2025	-18	-15	-3	9	13
Since Q4 2024	-45	-18	10	31	38
Since Q3 2024	-28	25	55	77	82
Since Q2 2024	-89	-11	31	62	69

	Change in EUR Discount Rates (bps)					
	1Y	Y5	Y10	Y20	Y30	CRA
Since Q1 2025	-27	-23	-16	-8	-7	0
Since Q4 2024	-36	-6	16	35	32	0
Since Q3 2024	-69	-2	16	27	21	0
Since Q2 2024	-156	-69	-31	-5	-2	0

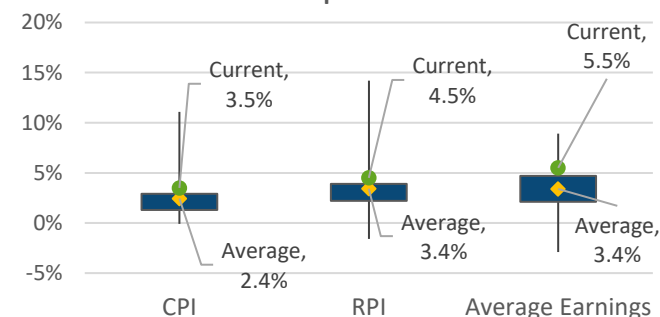
UK Inflation Monitor

- UK's CPI rose by 90 basis points to 3.5% in April.
- UK's RPI measure increased by 130 basis points to 5.5% in April.
- According to the ONS: *"The largest upward contributions came from housing and household services, transport, and recreation and culture; the largest, partially offsetting, downward contribution came from clothing and footwear."*
- Average earnings were decreased by 20 basis points to 5.5% in March, after the previous months figure was revised higher by 10 basis points.
- The projected RPI curve was marginally higher in comparison to the previous month.

UK Inflation Rate: Experience over Past Year



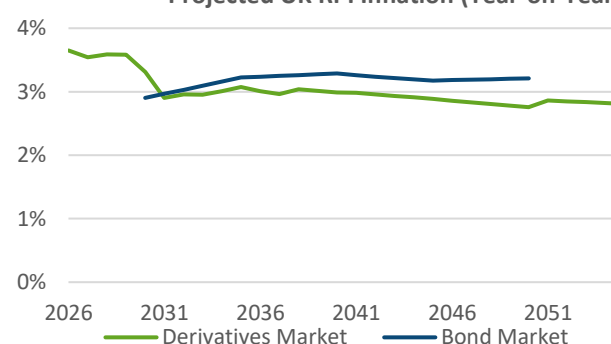
Max, Min and 50% Range: Since BoE Independence



Historical UK GDP Growth (Year-on-Year)



Projected UK RPI Inflation (Year-on-Year)



Historical year-on-year inflation rate is assessed by the % change on:

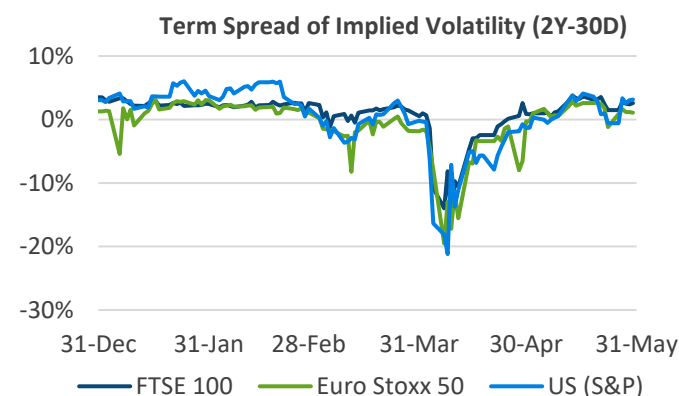
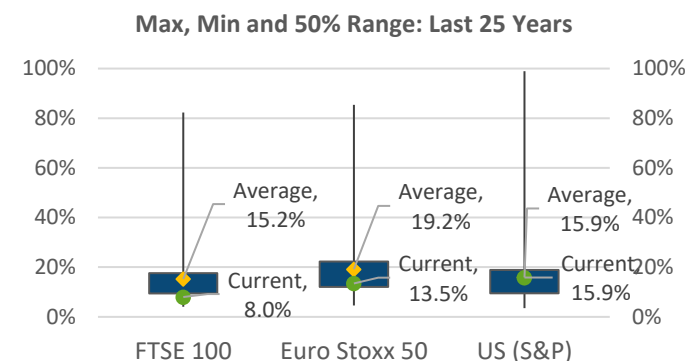
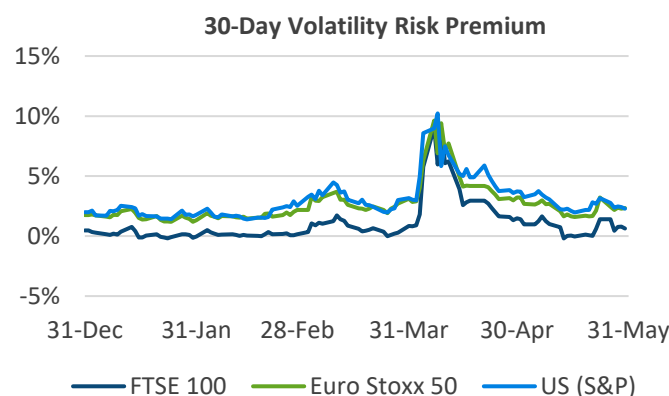
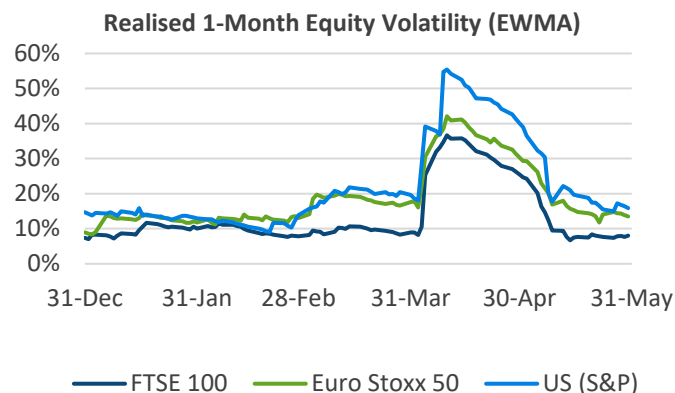
- **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** – measuring the monthly price of a basket of consumer goods and services
- **Retail Price Index (RPI)** – similar to CPI, but the main difference due the addition of mortgage payments, council tax and other housing costs
- **Average Earnings** – measuring the average total weekly employee remuneration over the previous 3 months.

Projection year-on-year inflation rate is the forward rate calculated from market data:

- **Derivatives Market View** – constructed from zero coupon inflation par swap rates against the RPI index at various tenors
- **Bond Market View** – constructed from the difference between the nominal rates implied by the conventional gilts and the real rates implied by the index-linked (RPI) gilts.

Volatility and Hedging Cost Monitor

- Realised volatilities on major indices declined sharply back to pre-April levels.
- The FTSE 100 ended the month with a realised volatility of 8.0%. The same measure stood at 13.5% and 15.9% on the Euro Stoxx 50 and the S&P 500, respectively.
- Volatility risk premiums on major indices decreased. The FTSE 100 had a volatility risk premium of 0.6% at month-end. The volatility risk premium on both the Euro Stoxx 50 and S&P 500 was 2.3%.
- The spread between implied volatility of 2-year and 30-day at-the-money options was in positive territory for major indices at month-end.



Actual realised equity volatility is measured by the weighted standard deviation of 1 month daily index change. The Exponentially Weighted Moving Average (EWMA) methodology places more importance to the recent returns in the calculation of the volatility.

Volatility Risk Premium is estimated as the difference between 30-day implied volatility and projected realised volatility. This reflects the additional cost of hedging from purchasing a basket of options, in comparison to managing a dynamic delta hedge with futures (ignoring rolling transaction costs).

Volatility Term Premium is calculated as the difference between the implied volatility of an at-the-money 2-year maturity option and the implied volatility of an at-the-money 30-day option. This gives an indication of market demand for protection over the longer term, relative to demand for protection in the shorter-term. Bloomberg as the source of the data interpolates between listed options to provide implied volatility data for these fixed terms.



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