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An Introduction to Commercial Office Markets London

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## An Introduction to Commercial Office Markets - London



Freya Morrow
BA (Hons) MSc MRICS

- Associate Valuation Surveyor, Matthews Goodman, London.
- General Practice Surveyor based in the City.
- Registered Valuer in our London Valuation team.
- Valuer of commercial assets including offices, industrial and retail for a varying number of purposes, including secured lending, development and financial reporting.
- Advisor on a range of single assets, mixed-use schemes and portfolios, geographically placed across central London and the Southeast.
- Clients include banks, professional service providers, investors and developers such as:
  - » Victoria Mutual Finance
  - » United Bank
  - » Habib Bank AG Zurich
  - » Punjab National Bank
  - » NatWest/RBS
  - » Mizrahi-Tefahot Bank Limited



David Hourihan
MSc FSCSI FRICS FHEA

#### **Academia**

- Graduated from UCEM MSc in Property Investment in 2008.
- UCEM Programmes Leader for the BSc Real Estate Management and MSc Real Estate.

#### Industry

- 17 years of commercial real estate experience across the UK and Ireland.
- Specialist in investment, office agency, retail asset management and valuation.
- Previous positions with international firms including JLL and Colliers International.
- Acquisition and asset management instructions for clients including Société Générale, Metzler Bank, Mobil Oil, Scottish Widows, Aviva and British Land.
- Member of the Investment Property Forum (IPF).

#### **SCSI / RICS APC**

APC Chairman.







# **UK Office Investment Sector - Size**

Total 'invested' commercial property stock: £512bn (held by investors)<sup>1</sup>

Commercial Investment Stock by Owner Type, 2018

	Value (£bn)	Share 2018 (%)
UK Investors		
Insurance Direct & Funds	44	9%
Pension Funds	43	8%
Unlisted & Collective Schemes	84	16%
Listed Companies & REITs	71	14%
Private Companies	55	11%
Estates & Charities	23	4%
Private Investors	14	3%
Other Owners	22	4%
Sub-total	356	69%
Overseas Investors		
Unlisted & Collective Schemes	48	10%
SWF & Government	29	6%
Private Companies, Individuals	27	5%
Listed Companies & REITs	18	4%
Insurance & Pension Funds	13	3%
Other Owners	20	4%
Sub-total	156	31%
Total	512	100%

Source: Estimates based on data from MSCI, RCA, PFR and other sources

Invested Stock by Market Segment, end-2018

	£bn by i	fbn by investor origin		
	Total	UK	Overseas	
Office	220	108	112	
City	66	19	47	
West End, Mid Town	79	44	34	
Rest South East	53	29	25	
Rest UK	21	15	5	
Retail	163	141	23	
Standard Retail South East	50	41	9	
Standard Retail Rest UK	20	19	1	
Shopping Centre	51	43	7	
Retail Warehouse	43	38	5	
Industrial	77	73	5	
South East	50	47	3	
Rest UK	27	26	1	
Other Commercial	52	34	17	
Total	512	356	156	

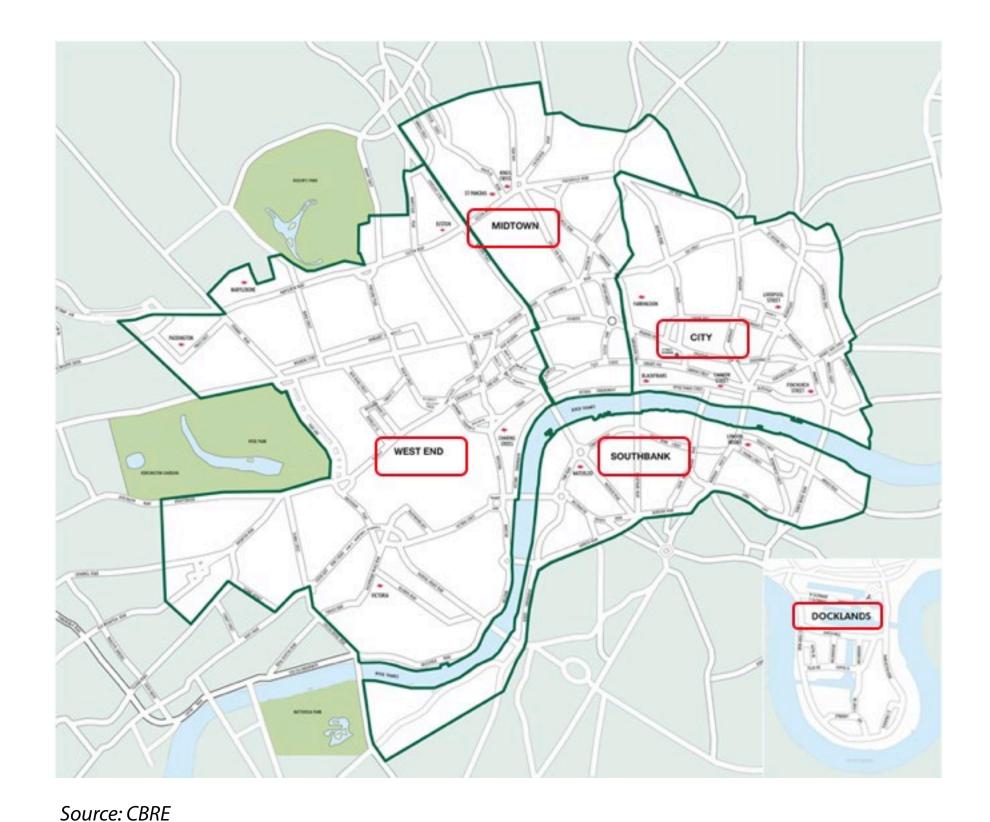
Source: Estimates based on multiple sources including MSCI and RCA.

1 IPF (2018) The Size and Structure of the UK Property Market: End 2018 Update



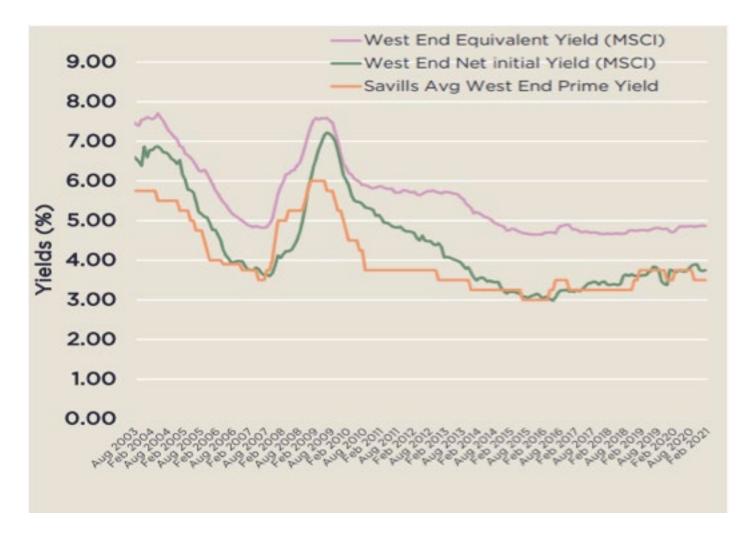
## **UK Office Investment Sector** - Structure

#### London and its sub markets:



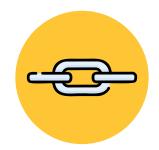
#### Rents & Yields - West End

	Average				
	Grade A	Grade B	Prime	Rent Free	
June-20	£82.16	£61.52	£100.00	24	
Sep-20	£74.21	£63.47	£120.00	24	
Dec-20	£74.97	£61.00	£107.50	24	
Mar-21	£86.00	n/a	£118.50	27	



Source: Savills

# UK Office Investment Sector - SWOT Analysis



### Strengths

- GRETI 2020 UK ranked no 1 out of 99 countries and territories.
- Mature economic structure.
- Economy showing positive with GDP growth.
- Lockdown restrictions lifting.
- Investor profile: International long-term core.
- Political stability in Britain.



## Opportunities

- Changing work patterns.
- Repurposing of older office buildings.
- Sustainability.



#### Weaknesses

- Market practices:
  - » Non-standardisation of DCF appraisal techniques.
  - » Reluctance to adopt more sophisticated quantitative modelling applications.
  - » Measures of risk still heuristic.
- Traditional Lease Terms.



#### Threats

- Corona Virus.
- Difficult trading environment for tenants.
- Widening gap between primary and secondary stock.





# London Office Investment Market - Key Trends & Forecasts



#### Trends

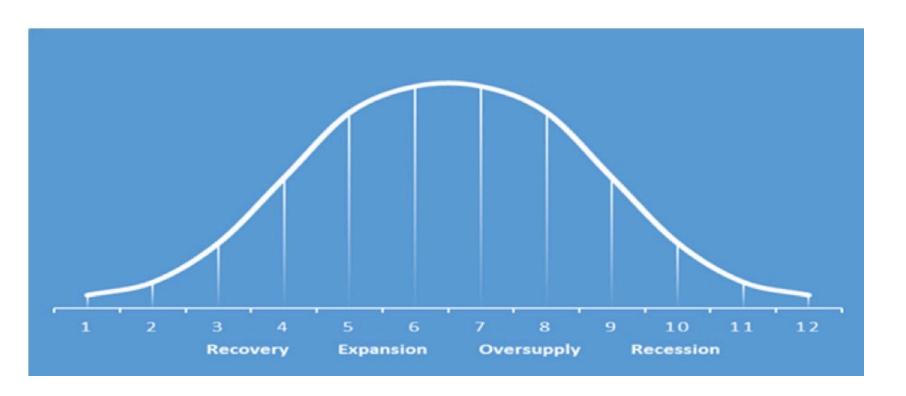
- 1 How has the pandemic affected the valuation process for London offices?
- 2 Where currently is Investor appetite: Core, Core Plus, Value Added, Speculative?
- In terms of location Have certain London office sub-markets been affected more than others during the lockdown?
- In lettings Have lease terms changed as a result of the pandemic?



### Forecasts (next 12 months?)

- 1 Will tenants pay more for a high rated BREEAM office building?
- 2 Will London office rents remain rise or fall after the lockdown?
- What type of investor will be most active in the London office markets?
- 4 How will office design change post pandemic?

# Where is the London office investment market in its life cycle?





# Thank you for attending our webinar.

Here's our upcoming schedule....

An Introduction to Commercial Office Markets

Dublin

9th June 2021 | 11:00am BST

An Introduction to Commercial Office Markets Paris

16th June 2021 | 11:00am BST

An Introduction to Commercial Office Markets Frankfurt

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 | 11:00am BST



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