United Kingdom Debt Management Office

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56/04 17 December 2004

PRESS NOTICE

GILT AUCTIONS: JANUARY-MARCH 2005

In the final quarter of the 2004-05 financial year, the UK Debt Management Office ("DMO") plans to hold seven outright auctions of gilts as set out below.

Outright auctions

- Wednesday 12 January 2005: 2% Index-linked Treasury Stock 2035
- Thursday 20 January 2005: 4¾% Treasury Stock 2010
- Thursday 27 January 2005: 43/4% Treasury Stock 2038
- Wednesday 2 February 2005: 2½% Index-linked Treasury Stock 2013
- Thursday 24 February 2005*: 4¾% Treasury Stock 2010
- Wednesday 2 March 2005*: 4 1/8% Index-linked Treasury Stock 2030
- Thursday 24 March 2005*: A new current coupon conventional gilt maturing on 7
 March 2020
- * dates subject to confirmation following the Chancellor's decision on the Budgetary timetable.

Auction pre-announcements

The nominal amounts to be auctioned outright and the other terms of each auction will be announced at 3.30pm on the following dates:

- Tuesday 4 January 2005 for the auction on 12 January.
- Tuesday 11 January 2005 for the auction on 20 January.
- Tuesday 18 January 2005 for the auction on 27 January.
- Tuesday 25 January 2005 for the auction on 2 February.
- Tuesday 15 February 2005 for the auction on 24 February
- Tuesday 22 February 2005 for the auction on 2 March.

 Tuesday 15 March 2005 for the auction on 24 March. The coupon on the new gilt will also be announced on this date.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Gilt sales of £50.3 billion (cash) in 26 auctions are planned for 2004-05. 19 auctions have been held in the first three quarters of the financial year, raising £37.1 billion (cash). Progress against the DMO's remit in the financial year to-date is shown in the following table.

| Gilts sales vs remit : Financial year to 17 December 2004 (£ millions) Figures may not sum due to rounding | | | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------|--------|
| | | Conventional Gilts | | | TOTAL |
| | Shorts (1-7 yrs) | Mediums (7-15yrs) | Longs (15 yrs+) | Gilts | |
| Outright | | | | | |
| Auction sales | 11,776 | 7,597 | 12,128 | 5,581 | 37,081 |
| Remit plans | 17,600 | 10,200 | 14,500 | 8,000 | 50,300 |
| Remaining | 5,824 | 2,604 | 2,372 | 2,419 | 13,219 |
| Auctions left | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 7 |

Further details of the Government's financing plans and the DMO's remit for 2004-05 are available in the Debt and Reserves Management Report (DRMR) 2004-05, which is available on the DMO website at: www.dmo.gov.uk/remit/dmr2004 05.pdf

The plans outlined in the DRMR 2004-05 were revised on 22 April 2004 with the publication of the outturn CGNCR for 2003-04. Planned gilt sales were reduced by £0.9 billion from the total announced in the DRMR.

The gilt sales plans for 2004-05 were further revised on 2 December 2004 in the Pre-Budget Report, which included an increase of £4.1 billion (cash) in the Government's financing requirement. This was to be met by increased gilt sales of £3.2 billion (cash)¹ and higher short-term debt sales of £0.9 billion (cash). An additional conventional gilt auction was scheduled for 20 January 2005.

This press release will be appearing on the DMO website: www.dmo.gov.uk

¹£2.8 billion short conventional, £0.2 billion long conventional and £0.2 billion index-linked