

25/02

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PRESS NOTICE

EARLY REDEMPTION OF 11¾% TREASURY STOCK 2003-2007 ON 22 JANUARY 2003

The United Kingdom Debt Management Office ("DMO") has today announced its intention to redeem 11¾% Treasury Stock 2003-2007 at par on 22 January 2003 (the earliest possible opportunity).

Redemption monies will be payable on that date either to persons registered as holders of the stock on 13 January 2003 (the final ex-dividend date), or in accordance with instructions received from such holders. The next and final interest payment on the stock will also be payable on 22 January 2003.

The DMO will be prepared to respond to offers of 11¾% Treasury Stock 2003-2007 from Gilt-edged Market Makers with immediate effect.

NOTES TO EDITORS

11¾% Treasury Stock 2003-2007 was originally issued in July 1979. There is currently £234 million nominal in issue of this double-dated stock. Double-dated stocks may be redeemed at the option of HM Treasury on or after the first of the specified dates. The prospectus for 11¾% Treasury Stock 2003-2007 includes the requirement that the holders of the stock must be given not less than three calendar months' notice in the *London Gazette* of the Government's intention to redeem early. Such a notice has appeared in today's edition of the *London Gazette*.

Wednesday 22 January 2003, the next interest payment date on 11¾% Treasury Stock 2003-2007, is the earliest date that the Government can redeem this gilt. Redemption amounts and the final interest payments will be paid to persons registered as holders of the stock on 13 January 2003. The redemption of this bond was included in the assumed gilt redemptions total for 2002-2003 in the Debt and Reserves Management Report 2002-2003.

This press release will be appearing on the DMO's web site at: www.dmo.gov.uk.