

THE SIZE AND STRUCTURE OF THE UK PROPERTY MARKET: END 2016 UPDATE

AT A GLANCE JULY 2017

Value of commercial property (£bn)



In 2016, the total value of commercial property fell slightly although that owned by investors remained stable.

London versus rest of UK (£bn)



Compared to 2006, the total value of commercial property in London is now 43% higher, but 12% lower in the rest of the UK. London now accounts for 38% of the commercial property stock (versus 23% of GDP).

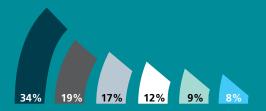
Ownership of UK commercial investment property (£bn)

£13	£20	£23	£39	£40	£60	£74	£79	£139
UK private investors	UK other	UK traditional estates & charities	UK segregated pension funds	UK insurance company funds	UK private property companies	UK REITs & listed property companies	UK & Channel Island domiciled collective investment schemes	Overseas

Total: £486

Overseas owners account for 29% of UK commercial investment property; nearly double the amount in 2006. Funds and listed property companies are the largest domestic owners of UK investment property. UK insurance companies now control only 8% of the investment market, compared to a fifth in the early 2000s.

Distribution of overseas ownership by investor type



- Funds
- SWFs and governments
- Individuals & private property companies
- Other overseas owners
- REITs & listed property companies
- Insurance companies & pension funds

Collective investment schemes (i.e. funds) remain the largest type of overseas owner. The amount owned by sovereign wealth funds has doubled over the last 3 years.

^{*} Historic estimates of total property have been revised since last year's report.

London versus rest of UK (£bn)



78% of overseas holdings are in London, compared to 41% for UK investors.

Residential property ownership (£bn)



Owner-occupied & social housing

Private rented

* Includes £38bn of mainstream investment in PRS.

UK residential property is 7 x the value of the commercial sector. The value of the private rented sector (PRS) exceeds £1th but mainstream property investors own only a tiny fraction of this, although their holdings increased by almost a third in 2016.

Other Key Points

- The value commercial property in the UK (owner-occupied as well as invested) fell 5% from a revised £926bn in 2015 to £883bn in 2016¹.
- The size of the overall stock declined for the first time since 2012 and reflected uncertainty immediately before and after the EU referendum.
- The rental value of UK commercial property, however, rose to a record £62bn, helped by increasing rents and, to a lesser extent, modest growth in the stock of floorspace.
- The industrial property sector showed an increase in its total value in 2016, helped by increased demand for distribution premises in support of internet retailing. London & the South East benefited most from this.
- Retail remains the largest commercial property sector, accounting for 38% of the total.

¹ See full report for further details

The full report may be downloaded from the IPF website: www.ipf.org.uk.

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