

Webinar

ULI Europe and PwC Emerging Trends?? 2024 Report Launch???

Date: November 07, 2023

00:00:13> 00:00:17:	Hello and good afternoon.
00:00:17> 00:00:22:	Welcome to the launch of the 2024 ULIPWC Emerging Trends
00:00:22> 00:00:25:	in Real Estate Europe report launch.
00:00:25> 00:00:28:	I'm Simon Durkin, the Head of Real Estate Research and
00:00:29> 00:00:30:	Strategy at BlackRock.
00:00:30> 00:00:33:	And thank you to the ULI and PwC for inviting
00:00:33> 00:00:34:	me along today.
00:00:35> 00:00:39:	Look, this year's Emerging Trends in Real Estate report illustrates
00:00:39> 00:00:42:	it's a fairly anxious industry coming to terms with the
00:00:42> 00:00:46:	exceptional market conditions that we currently experience in Europe.
00:00:47> 00:00:51:	And while some lenders remain hopeful, a vast majority of
00:00:51> 00:00:55:	European real estate industry professionals are looking for that solid
00:00:55> 00:01:00:	footing as the combination of ESG requirements, geopolitical tensions and
00:01:00> 00:01:04:	high interest rates continue to disrupt the status quo in
00:01:04> 00:01:06:	this post COVID market.
00:01:07> 00:01:11:	Now I'm delighted to introduce Gareth Lewis from PwC, who
00:01:11> 00:01:16:	will get us started by taking us through this year's
00:01:16> 00:01:17:	emerging trends report.
00:01:18> 00:01:19:	Gareth, over to you.
00:01:23> 00:01:26:	Thank you, Simon, and good afternoon, everyone.
00:01:26> 00:01:29:	As Simon said, I'm Gareth Lewis, Director in the PwC
00:01:30> 00:01:33:	Real Estate Lead Advisory Practice, and I also lead.
00:01:34> 00:01:37:	For the firm's real estate research and thought leadership, and
00:01:37> 00:01:41:	that includes the emerging Trends in Real Estate report series,

00:01:41> 00:01:43:	we do in collaboration with the Urban Land Institute.
00:01:44> 00:01:46:	And I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Lizette
00:01:46> 00:01:49:	and the ULI for another fantastic collaboration.
00:01:49> 00:01:53:	This year, the Emerging Trends in Real Estate survey is
00:01:53> 00:01:56:	a joint survey between PwC and the ULI and it's
00:01:56> 00:01:57:	published every year.
00:01:57> 00:02:00:	In Europe, it's been published every year.
00:02:00> 00:02:04:	Since 2003 it's it's forward-looking and and we think unique
00:02:04> 00:02:07:	in terms of the the quality of the input we
00:02:07> 00:02:11:	get from senior professionals around Europe and and globally.
00:02:11> 00:02:14:	And and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank
00:02:14> 00:02:17:	all the people that participated in in the research this
00:02:17> 00:02:17:	year.
00:02:18> 00:02:21:	This year's report takes in the views of over 1000
00:02:21> 00:02:22:	participants.
00:02:22> 00:02:25:	Who were either interviewed, took part in the online survey
00:02:25> 00:02:28:	or indeed took part in a series of round table
00:02:28> 00:02:29:	meetings across Europe.
00:02:29> 00:02:36:	So that includes investors, fund managers, developers, property companies, lenders,
00:02:36> 00:02:37:	brokers and consultants.
00:02:37> 00:02:40:	So as Simon said, I'll try and give you a
00:02:40> 00:02:43:	brief highlight of the findings of this year's survey over
00:02:43> 00:02:44:	the next 10 minutes or so.
00:02:44> 00:02:47:	If we could go on to the next slide please.
00:02:49> 00:02:51:	So where are we now?
00:02:51> 00:02:51:	Well.
00:02:51> 00:02:55:	Europe's real estate industry has endured endured record low transactions
00:02:55> 00:02:56:	in the last 18 months.
00:02:57> 00:03:01:	Central bank interest rates throughout 2023 have left large parts
00:03:01> 00:03:05:	of the industry in passive mode, and the survey and
00:03:05> 00:03:09:	interviews were conducted before the crisis in Israel and Gaza,
00:03:09> 00:03:11:	which started exactly 4 weeks ago.
00:03:11> 00:03:15:	And that's clearly added to the geopolitical uncertainty out there.
00:03:16> 00:03:19:	In this market, the current approach of many investors is
00:03:19> 00:03:20:	characterized by inertia.
00:03:20> 00:03:23:	There's little wonder, I guess, that stay alive till 25
00:03:24> 00:03:28:	has become something of a mantra amongst Europe's property leaders.

00:03:28> 00:03:31:	And as one participant said, if investors have a choice
00:03:31> 00:03:33:	to sit on their hands, they're doing it.
00:03:34> 00:03:39:	Unsurprisingly, the the survey shows that interest rate movements, inflation
00:03:39> 00:03:42:	and European economic growth are top of the industry's general
00:03:42> 00:03:44:	business concerns going into 2024.
00:03:45> 00:03:48:	Although the levels of concerns are actually down or less
00:03:48> 00:03:51:	than last year, the survey also shows that those three
00:03:51> 00:03:53:	areas remain the chief worries for the industry as a
00:03:53> 00:03:55:	whole over their five year time horizon.
00:03:56> 00:03:57:	Next slide please.
00:04:01> 00:04:04:	Having said that, the proportion of respondents in this year's
00:04:04> 00:04:08:	survey expecting business confidence and profitability to increase is higher
00:04:08> 00:04:11:	than last year, with around 1/3 taking this view.
00:04:11> 00:04:15:	That's roughly half the level of of optimism 2 years
00:04:15> 00:04:16:	ago going into 2022.
00:04:18> 00:04:22:	So although the survey indicates greater business confidence and profitability
00:04:22> 00:04:24:	for 2024 than a year ago, it's fair to say
00:04:25> 00:04:27:	this is from a low base and we're still below
00:04:27> 00:04:29:	the optimism of previous years.
00:04:30> 00:04:32:	And in light of the growing realisation that we will
00:04:33> 00:04:35:	be in a a higher for longer interest rate environment
00:04:35> 00:04:39:	and progressively less positive and geopolitical sentiment emerging during the
00:04:39> 00:04:43:	research period, it's notable that much of the positive, the
00:04:43> 00:04:46:	positivity amongst interviewers often fell back on the the apparent
00:04:46> 00:04:48:	strength of the underlying Occupy market.
00:04:50> 00:04:53:	So whilst the changing macro backdrop to real estate has
00:04:53> 00:04:56:	taken a heavy toll on investor sentiment so far.
00:04:56> 00:04:59:	The sense is that it's yet to be fully tested
00:04:59> 00:05:02:	by the Occupy markets and therefore the industry is clearly
00:05:02> 00:05:04:	concerned about economic forecasts.
00:05:04> 00:05:07:	That suggests sluggish growth at best across Europe, but with
00:05:07> 00:05:10:	real worries for the big economies such as Germany and
00:05:10> 00:05:11:	the UK.
00:05:12> 00:05:14:	In the absence of a pickup in the real economy,
00:05:14> 00:05:17:	the wider expectation is that far more distress will be
00:05:17> 00:05:20:	necessary to close that bid ask gap and allow liquidity

00:05:20> 00:05:21:	to return.
00:05:22> 00:05:23:	Our next slide please.
00:05:26> 00:05:30:	Now the top real estate specific concerns remain construction costs
00:05:30> 00:05:34:	and resource availability by by some distance, although the proportion
00:05:34> 00:05:37:	of respondents selecting these factors is down on last year's
00:05:37> 00:05:38:	results.
00:05:38> 00:05:41:	Perhaps not surprising for an issue that began with the
00:05:42> 00:05:44:	onset of the pandemic and has now been a feature
00:05:44> 00:05:48:	for for around four years, 2/3 of respondents reference market
00:05:48> 00:05:49:	liquidity issues.
00:05:49> 00:05:51:	And while this is the first time the question has
00:05:51> 00:05:53:	been asked in the survey, the challenge was a really
00:05:53> 00:05:54:	big.
00:05:54> 00:05:57:	Talking point amongst amongst interviewees.
00:05:58> 00:05:59:	Next slide please.
00:06:02> 00:06:06:	So sharply slower economic growth, stubbornly high inflation and concern
00:06:06> 00:06:09:	about how much higher interest rates will rise continue to
00:06:09> 00:06:12:	cast a shadow over European real estate investment.
00:06:13> 00:06:15:	This is on top of the ever present challenges of
00:06:15> 00:06:19:	geopolitical volatility, increasing policy and regulate regulatory burdens.
00:06:20> 00:06:23:	One interview summed up the magnitude of the situation by
00:06:23> 00:06:26:	saying we're clearly going through another major transition in the
00:06:26> 00:06:29:	capital markets on a scale probably only slightly smaller than
00:06:29> 00:06:31:	the GFC and others described.
00:06:31> 00:06:35:	A Poly crisis unfolding, and that unpleasant cocktail of issues
00:06:35> 00:06:40:	has caused European real estate investment volumes to plummet and
00:06:40> 00:06:41:	prices to fall.
00:06:41> 00:06:46:	According to MSCI, only 119 billion of investment turnover was
00:06:46> 00:06:50:	recorded across Europe during the first nine months of 2023.
00:06:50> 00:06:52:	That's less than half the level for the same.
00:06:52> 00:06:56:	In 2022 and the weakest activity in 13 years.
00:06:57> 00:07:01:	Some 45% of respondents expect the availability of capital for
00:07:02> 00:07:07:	debt refinancing all new investments to decrease against 28% expecting
00:07:07> 00:07:09:	the number to increase.

00:07:09> 00:07:14:	And I think that explains why the proportion expressing concern
00:07:14> 00:07:19:	about the ability to refinance in 2024 jumps to 65%
00:07:19> 00:07:22:	this year from 53% compared to 2023 and only 30%
00:07:23> 00:07:23:	in 2022.
00:07:25> 00:07:25:	Next slide please.
00:07:29> 00:07:33:	So market participants are therefore more careful than ever about
00:07:33> 00:07:35:	how and where they deploy capital.
00:07:36> 00:07:39:	For many investors and developers, this means focusing on cities
00:07:39> 00:07:41:	that offer liquidity in riskier times.
00:07:41> 00:07:44:	And in this respect, it's no surprise that London and
00:07:44> 00:07:47:	Paris take the top two places in the city rankings
00:07:47> 00:07:48:	once again.
00:07:49> 00:07:52:	But the premium on liquidity combined with economic performance is
00:07:52> 00:07:55:	also evident in other cities in the ascendancy in this
00:07:55> 00:07:58:	year's survey, namely Madrid, Milan and Lisbon.
00:07:59> 00:08:03:	Though relatively still relatively highly placed, the German cities of
00:08:03> 00:08:06:	Berlin, Munich, Frankfurt and Hamburg have slipped in the rankings
00:08:06> 00:08:09:	in terms of investment and development prospects as you can
00:08:09> 00:08:09:	see here.
00:08:10> 00:08:13:	And the overall gloomy economic outlook for Germany in 2024
00:08:13> 00:08:17:	is influencing sentiment for those cities renowned previously renowned as
00:08:17> 00:08:19:	a safe havens per capital not so long ago.
00:08:20> 00:08:23:	Some interviews also suggest that real estate pricing has been
00:08:23> 00:08:26:	slower to adjust in Germany than across most of Europe.
00:08:27> 00:08:28:	Our next slide please.
00:08:32> 00:08:35:	In terms of sectors you can see the ESG influences
00:08:35> 00:08:38:	is significant and for the third year running, new energy
00:08:38> 00:08:42:	infrastructure is identified as a sector offering the greatest overall
00:08:42> 00:08:45:	prospects for investment and development.
00:08:45> 00:08:48:	As you can see here, niche operational sectors once again
00:08:49> 00:08:52:	dominate the sector rankings, underpinned by global mega trends, climate
00:08:52> 00:08:56:	change, information technology, demographics and urbanisation.

00:08:56> 00:08:59:	Beds, meds and sheds, as it's often referred to as
00:08:59> 00:09:02:	many analysts now, which you can see here shaded in
00:09:02> 00:09:06:	orange on this slide, encompasses most of these trends that
00:09:06> 00:09:07:	dominate those top sectors.
00:09:08> 00:09:13:	According to MSCI, alternative sectors account for 3rd accounted for
00:09:13> 00:09:17:	33% of the 326 billion invested in Europe in 2022,
00:09:18> 00:09:21:	compared with 21% of all investment back in 2007.
00:09:22> 00:09:26:	And the share of office and retail fell from 70%
00:09:26> 00:09:27:	to 44% in that time.
00:09:28> 00:09:31:	Interviewees agree that in an area where in an area
00:09:31> 00:09:34:	where higher rates will be the new normal and capital
00:09:34> 00:09:37:	value increases will not be guaranteed, the move towards complex
00:09:38> 00:09:41:	and more operational alternative sectors is is likely to accelerate.
00:09:42> 00:09:43:	The next slide please.
00:09:46> 00:09:50:	But there remain many issues hindering the growth of these
00:09:50> 00:09:51:	alternative real estate sectors.
00:09:52> 00:09:56:	When asked about the biggest barrier for institutional capital investing
00:09:56> 00:09:59:	in alternative sectors, the most commonly cited factor is lack
00:09:59> 00:10:02:	of knowledge, which you could perhaps reflect.
00:10:02> 00:10:04:	It could perhaps reflect, I guess a a lack of
00:10:05> 00:10:08:	confidence in investors ability to manage that operational complexity.
00:10:09> 00:10:12:	There's also the the obvious barrier, which is the investable
00:10:12> 00:10:14:	universe and liquidity of these new sectors.
00:10:15> 00:10:17:	As illustrated by the chart you can see here on
00:10:17> 00:10:20:	the right hand side showing the overall sector ranking and
00:10:20> 00:10:22:	size of transaction volumes for 2022.
00:10:23> 00:10:26:	So these emerging these sectors are still dwarfed in size
00:10:26> 00:10:28:	by the outer favour sectors such as office and and
00:10:28> 00:10:29:	retail.
00:10:30> 00:10:31:	And next slide please.
00:10:35> 00:10:38:	And we asked the question which niche and emerging alternative
00:10:38> 00:10:41:	sectors are you most likely to increase your exposure to
00:10:41> 00:10:42:	in the coming years?
00:10:42> 00:10:44:	In the coming five years, And the results can be
00:10:44> 00:10:45:	seen here.
00:10:46> 00:10:49:	According to this year's research, ESG is the driving force
00:10:49> 00:10:52:	behind the generation, a new generation of emerging niche sectors,

6

00:10:52> 00:10:57:	including battery storage for renewable energy, solar farms, electric vehicle
00:10:57> 00:10:59:	parking and charging and other infrastructure.
00:11:00> 00:11:02:	And according to one interview, this could amount to a
00:11:02> 00:11:04:	massive amount of quasi real estate over the next five
00:11:04> 00:11:05:	years.
00:11:06> 00:11:07:	Next slide please.
00:11:10> 00:11:13:	This brings me to the title of this year's report,
00:11:13> 00:11:14:	Getting Fit for Purpose.
00:11:15> 00:11:18:	Europe's Real Estate industry has reached a point in its
00:11:18> 00:11:21:	evolution where it knows it must balance making short term
00:11:21> 00:11:23:	money with providing for the longer term needs of a
00:11:23> 00:11:25:	complex and fast changing society.
00:11:26> 00:11:28:	It just needs to figure out how to get there.
00:11:28> 00:11:31:	And the slide here shows the word cloud analysis of
00:11:31> 00:11:34:	responses to the question of what trends will have the
00:11:34> 00:11:36:	most impact on real estate by 2050.
00:11:37> 00:11:41:	The reason behind the uncertainty contributing to that current market
00:11:41> 00:11:43:	stasis is, is both down to the macro environment and
00:11:43> 00:11:46:	we believe the whole question around what is fit for
00:11:46> 00:11:48:	purpose real estate and that's both in terms of the
00:11:49> 00:11:51:	real estate product and also the way in which we
00:11:51> 00:11:54:	that investment into that product is structured and operated.
00:11:55> 00:11:58:	This is probably best captured by the fact that a
00:11:58> 00:12:01:	remarkable 76% of respondents believe that current valuations do not
00:12:01> 00:12:06:	accurately reflect all the challenges and opportunities impacting real estate
00:12:06> 00:12:09:	such as climate change, social impact and occupy demand.
00:12:10> 00:12:14:	79% of those surveyed believe that ESG credentials will have
00:12:14> 00:12:18:	a material effect on asset valuations in the next 12
00:12:18> 00:12:20:	to 18 months and nine in 10.
00:12:20> 00:12:24:	I think running an environmentally and socially sustainable business is
00:12:24> 00:12:28:	the most important factor for the successful organizational transformation within
00:12:28> 00:12:30:	the real estate industry by 2050.
00:12:31> 00:12:32:	Next slide please.
00:12:36> 00:12:37:	So in conclusion.
00:12:38> 00:12:41:	But most forecasts for the eurozone suggest a sluggish economy
00:12:41> 00:12:44:	at best in 2024, with a recession of realistic concern

00:12:44> 00:12:47:	either way, there's a sense that the industry could be
00:12:47> 00:12:50:	on the cusp of a serious downturn in demand across
00:12:50> 00:12:51:	Occupy markets.
00:12:51> 00:12:54:	And as to whether that market status will persist in
00:12:54> 00:12:56:	2024, there there's some hope.
00:12:56> 00:13:00:	That the stars are aligning, namely clarity on inflation, interest
00:13:00> 00:13:05:	rates and valuation, and hopefully that will facilitate greater
	transactional
00:13:05> 00:13:06:	activity in 2024.
00:13:06> 00:13:09:	However, there's unlikely to be a single timeline for this
00:13:09> 00:13:11:	across Europe's diverse markets.
00:13:12> 00:13:15:	Could 2024 be the year of investment opportunity for European
00:13:15> 00:13:18:	real estate when a new wave of distressed sales comes
00:13:18> 00:13:22:	forward and rising liquidity freezer shackles of bank lending?
00:13:22> 00:13:25:	Or will that risk of catching a falling knife continue?
00:13:26> 00:13:29:	To keep investors at Bay justifying that, stay alive till
00:13:29> 00:13:32:	25 mantra all of the above chimes with the perception
00:13:32> 00:13:35:	emerging from the survey that we're entering into an environment
00:13:35> 00:13:38:	in which some big calls will need to be made.
00:13:38> 00:13:42:	Whether that's timing the bottom of the market, putting serious
00:13:42> 00:13:45:	cash to work on an extensive brown to green repositioning
00:13:45> 00:13:48:	strategy, making the call between an electrical or hydrogen fuel
00:13:48> 00:13:51:	car fleet of the future or nailing colours to mask
00:13:51> 00:13:54:	around where that whole hybrid working model settles.
00:13:55> 00:13:58:	Whilst the sentiment from the survey points to an industry
00:13:58> 00:14:01:	in wait and see, mode also suggests an environment and
00:14:01> 00:14:04:	point in the market cycle where the rewards could be
00:14:04> 00:14:07:	significant for those who are brave enough to make these
00:14:07> 00:14:08:	these big calls.
00:14:08> 00:14:11:	So I think we're in exciting times and looking forward
00:14:11> 00:14:13:	to hearing the the panellists views on that.
00:14:13> 00:14:16:	And with that I will hand over to Simon.
00:14:16> 00:14:17:	Thank you.
00:14:20> 00:14:21:	That was a great summary.
00:14:21> 00:14:22:	Thank you, Gareth.
00:14:22> 00:14:24:	I mean, I I get a sense that as an
00:14:24> 00:14:28:	industry, we're moving into the acceptance phase now and
	starting
00:14:28> 00:14:32:	to turn our attentions to how we think about playing
00:14:32> 00:14:33:	this, this environment.

00:14:33> 00:14:37:	Now at BlackRock, we, we see 5 mega forces that
00:14:37> 00:14:42:	will really drive performance going forward and that gap between
00:14:42> 00:14:44:	the winners and losers.
00:14:45> 00:14:47:	And you summarize them on that on that word cloud.
00:14:47> 00:14:49:	I mean, for us, it's about digital disruption.
00:14:49> 00:14:54:	It's about geopolitics, the energy transition, demographics and the future
00:14:54> 00:14:54:	of finance.
00:14:54> 00:14:57:	And we'll touch on most of these over the course
00:14:57> 00:14:59:	of the next 45 minutes with our excellent panel.
00:15:00> 00:15:05:	So I have the pleasure of introducing my panellists, Anna
00:15:05> 00:15:09:	Dashnovska, who is an MD at Invesco, Clement Schaefer, Head
00:15:09> 00:15:12:	Real Estate for EMEA and a packet DWS.
00:15:13> 00:15:17:	I'm Anweli Boehner, a managing partner at Velo Capital, which
00:15:17> 00:15:21:	is part of Urban Partners, and Lissette Van Dorn, who's
00:15:21> 00:15:23:	the chief exec of ULI in Europe.
00:15:24> 00:15:28:	Can I just start by asking each member of the
00:15:28> 00:15:33:	panel to briefly introduce yourselves and just tell us what
00:15:33> 00:15:37:	your biggest take away or surprise was from the 2024
00:15:37> 00:15:39:	merging trends report?
00:15:39> 00:15:41:	Anna, can we start with you?
00:15:42> 00:15:43:	Good afternoon, everybody.
00:15:43> 00:15:45:	It's a pleasure to be here.
00:15:45> 00:15:46:	Thank you.
00:15:46> 00:15:51:	Yes, I'm representing Invesco Real Estate, a global investment management
00:15:51> 00:15:54:	company investing in direct real estate across the globe in
00:15:54> 00:15:55:	in Europe.
00:15:55> 00:15:58:	We're actively managing about 15 billion.
00:16:00> 00:16:04:	Year under management and I'm responsible for coordinating asset management
00:16:04> 00:16:04:	activities.
00:16:06> 00:16:09:	What is a take away, maybe not a surprise.
00:16:09> 00:16:12:	I think it's hard to have a visibility beyond a
00:16:12> 00:16:14:	few quarters or even few months.
00:16:15> 00:16:18:	The markets are very volatile and so do investors responses
00:16:18> 00:16:21:	and some of them see the glass half empty, some
00:16:21> 00:16:22:	of them see the glass.
00:16:23> 00:16:25:	How full I would like to be in the Slatter
00:16:25> 00:16:29:	Group and look forward to the near future where you

00:16:29> 00:16:33:	could benefit from this market dislocation and find attractive investment
00:16:33> 00:16:34:	opportunities.
00:16:34> 00:16:35:	Thank you.
00:16:37> 00:16:37:	Great.
00:16:37> 00:16:38:	Thanks.
00:16:38> 00:16:38:	Thanks.
00:16:38> 00:16:38:	Anna.
00:16:40> 00:16:41:	I completely agree with you.
00:16:41> 00:16:43:	Humility is something that I think we all need to
00:16:43> 00:16:45:	have a degree of as we as we deal with
00:16:45> 00:16:47:	the uncertainty ahead of us, Clemens.
00:16:49> 00:16:49:	Yeah.
00:16:49> 00:16:50:	Thank you, Simon.
00:16:50> 00:16:53:	Also I'm very happy to be here and my name
00:16:53> 00:16:54:	is Clement Schaefer.
00:16:54> 00:16:58:	I'm heading the real estate team in Europe and in
00:16:58> 00:17:02:	APAC for DWS, we are roughly managing 40 billion of
00:17:02> 00:17:05:	assets in these two regions combined and.
00:17:08> 00:17:09:	You hear my voice is a little hoarse.
00:17:09> 00:17:12:	So I I I really hope that that will hold
00:17:12> 00:17:13:	until the end of this panel.
00:17:13> 00:17:18:	But what I found astonishing when I looked at the
00:17:18> 00:17:23:	survey results was really the the high impact, the current
00:17:23> 00:17:28:	theme of interest rate hikes and inflation had also in
00:17:28> 00:17:30:	the longer term.
00:17:30> 00:17:33:	So there was a differentiation between the impact for the.
00:17:33> 00:17:38:	You know 24/23/24 currently where we are and then forward- looking
00:17:38> 00:17:42:	and I I think I have a quite different opinion.
00:17:43> 00:17:47:	If the real estate industry isn't able to adjust in
00:17:47> 00:17:50:	23 and 24 to the higher for longer interest rate
00:17:50> 00:17:55:	environment and to a more a slightly higher inflationary environment
00:17:55> 00:17:57:	then we are pretty dead in the water.
00:17:58> 00:17:58:	So.
00:17:58> 00:18:02:	So we better get that right over the course of
00:18:02> 00:18:02:	24.
00:18:03> 00:18:06:	And then actually a lot of things might be actually
00:18:06> 00:18:09:	much more positive in 25 and going forward.
00:18:10> 00:18:14:	So I personally think that concerns are overstated with with
00:18:14> 00:18:18:	regard to 24 five and onwards with regard to interest
00:18:18> 00:18:23:	rates and inflation interest in clearance and I understand the

00:18:23> 00:18:27:	the theme of Expo this year was very much around
00:18:27> 00:18:30:	survive to 25 S not very much accords with.
00:18:30> 00:18:31:	What you've what you've just said.
00:18:32> 00:18:36:	Manueli, please welcome to the welcome to the webinar.
00:18:36> 00:18:38:	How are you thinking about this?
00:18:38> 00:18:41:	Recently, good afternoon everyone.
00:18:42> 00:18:44:	I'm very happy to be here as well.
00:18:44> 00:18:47:	My name is Emmanuel, I'm a partner at Urban Partners,
00:18:47> 00:18:49:	the Northern European Investment Manager.
00:18:50> 00:18:54:	And within Urban Partners, I'm managing partner of Little Capital,
00:18:55> 00:18:58:	which is our alternative real estate credit business.
00:19:00> 00:19:05:	I think following up from what both Anna and Clement
00:19:05> 00:19:09:	said, it, it feels like the over ruling team in
00:19:09> 00:19:13:	the report is that a lot of people are scared
00:19:13> 00:19:17:	to catch a falling night or call in the market.
00:19:17> 00:19:20:	And I think, I think we can look at the
00:19:20> 00:19:24:	positive side from it in a way and also link
00:19:24> 00:19:28:	to one of the interesting ports here at the beginning
00:19:28> 00:19:30:	of your report which says.
00:19:31> 00:19:36:	Essentially, if we look at demographic, economical and social trends,
00:19:36> 00:19:40:	those are telling us what tenant demands is and the
00:19:40> 00:19:42:	strategy comes out of that.
00:19:43> 00:19:48:	We don't need to catch a falling night when it's
00:19:48> 00:19:49:	on the floor.
00:19:50> 00:19:53:	Our job is not to tie the market to perfection,
00:19:53> 00:19:56:	but find investment teams that are going to be viable,
00:19:56> 00:19:59:	viable and prudent for the medium to long term.
00:20:00> 00:20:03:	And I think a lot of the teams in the
00:20:03> 00:20:06:	report are already outlining that there is a lot of
00:20:06> 00:20:10:	health in real estate if we can invest prudently and
00:20:10> 00:20:12:	with the right copy of structures.
00:20:13> 00:20:14:	Interesting.
00:20:14> 00:20:14:	Thank you.
00:20:14> 00:20:18:	And the set any, any surprises for you this year?
00:20:20> 00:20:23:	Well, we've been working on this for a while, starting
00:20:23> 00:20:24:	already in summer.
00:20:24> 00:20:27:	So kind of I need to dig deep to kind
00:20:27> 00:20:27:	of reflect.
00:20:27> 00:20:30:	But I think what we found interesting if you look
00:20:30> 00:20:34:	just at the survey results, which seem to be somewhat
00:20:34> 00:20:37:	more positive than we've seen previous years.

00:20:37> 00:20:40:	But if you then dig deeper and kind of go
00:20:40> 00:20:44:	to what the interview feedback was, it's really not so
00:20:44> 00:20:48:	positive and it's it's that marketing in a complete stencil.
00:20:49> 00:20:52:	And to me that says almost there's a lot of
00:20:52> 00:20:56:	wishful thinking around where everybody kind of keen to tap
00:20:56> 00:21:01:	into the opportunity only looking externally like first interest
00:21:01> 00:21:05:	rates
00:21:06> 00:21:10:	need to stabilize even better if they decrease sort of.
00:21:10> 00:21:14:	But accepting the current situation, I'm not sure it's already there if you look at the report, because there's a
00:21:10> 00:21:14:	lot of looking elsewhere.
00:21:17> 00:21:18:	For things to change before we can act again And
00:21:20> 00:21:24:	
00:21:20> 00:21:24.	the other thing I would say if you then look
00:21:24> 00:21:27:	at as Iman Abella was also saying the the, the
	demand drivers, they are so strong for real estate, so
00:21:32> 00:21:33:	much needs to happen.
00:21:34> 00:21:38:	There are so much fundamental demand and so much opportunity,
00:21:38> 00:21:41:	but kind of we seem to be sitting still for
00:21:41> 00:21:44:	it to kind of arrive at the doorstep.
00:21:47> 00:21:47:	Yeah.
00:21:47> 00:21:48:	Yeah, absolutely.
00:21:48> 00:21:52:	And I think it's maybe the confluence of these macro
00:21:52> 00:21:56:	mega forces that we refer to them as or structural
00:21:56> 00:22:00:	forces that is slightly complicating the the landscape somewhat.
00:22:02> 00:22:05:	So just picking up on your pointless set around sort
00:22:05> 00:22:06:	of demand and demand drivers.
00:22:06> 00:22:12:	I mean the Occupy markets have been relatively resilient in
00:22:12> 00:22:13:	this cycle.
00:22:15> 00:22:18:	And I just wonder whether if there is an impending
00:22:18> 00:22:21:	recession, I wonder whether this time it might be really
00:22:21> 00:22:25:	quite different given that in the past central banks have
00:22:25> 00:22:28:	always written to the support of economies in a recessionary
00:22:28> 00:22:31:	period, whereas this time it's the central banks who are
00:22:31> 00:22:35:	actually driving a recession, The slowdown, Clemens just telling to
00:22:35> 00:22:38:	you, how do you think a recession might impact the
00:22:38> 00:22:41:	robust occupied demand that we have been seeing?
00:22:43> 00:22:43:	Yeah.
00:22:44> 00:22:47:	Thank you for that question Simon and I, I think
00:22:47> 00:22:50:	Germany, I'm sitting here currently in Frankfurt.
00:22:51> 00:22:53:	Germany is currently in a recession.

00:22:54> 00:22:58:	And the the main facts currently if you look in
00:22:58> 00:23:03:	some figures is, is we had a reduction in in
00:23:03> 00:23:09:	unemployment rate, a reduction in unemployment rate, we have rising
00:23:09> 00:23:11:	tax revenues and.
00:23:11> 00:23:15:	That that makes me quite positive actually, right.
00:23:15> 00:23:17:	So technically we're in a recession, correct.
00:23:17> 00:23:20:	But people are not losing their their jobs.
00:23:21> 00:23:25:	That means, you know, there seems to not not be
00:23:25> 00:23:30:	any mass layoffs which drive office occupancy further down.
00:23:31> 00:23:35:	Let retail sales deteriorate and keeps the ability to hire,
00:23:35> 00:23:39:	hire to pay higher residential rents, right and I could
00:23:39> 00:23:42:	continue about the leisure of sectors and so forth.
00:23:43> 00:23:50:	So overall I am I'm, I'm not so pessimistic.
00:23:50> 00:23:53:	If there is a recession, it will be quite shallow
00:23:53> 00:23:57:	and it will be more technical in nature and given
00:23:57> 00:23:58:	the substantial.
00:23:59> 00:24:03:	Reduction in development pipeline, we're in a completely different state
00:24:03> 00:24:06:	of repair as compared to the global financial crisis, right.
00:24:06> 00:24:10:	So we're deep recession hit an over building in virtually
00:24:10> 00:24:15:	all sectors from Spanish Spanish residential to retail across Europe
00:24:15> 00:24:17:	and office as well, right.
00:24:17> 00:24:22:	So we're in completely different situation, very, very controlled completion
00:24:22> 00:24:24:	rates over the previous years and.
00:24:25> 00:24:27:	If a recession, then more a shallow 1, so I
00:24:28> 00:24:32:	don't see the healthy economic situation, the occupational markets do
00:24:32> 00:24:34:	it materially deteriorate?
00:24:35> 00:24:36:	Yeah.
00:24:36> 00:24:37:	It does feel very different this time.
00:24:37> 00:24:40:	And to your point that moving into the GFC that's
00:24:41> 00:24:44:	a supply demand dynamic was was very different with most
00:24:44> 00:24:48:	markets being quite significantly overbuilt and it was a real,
00:24:48> 00:24:51:	it was a real difference among well, how, how are
00:24:51> 00:24:52:	you?
00:24:53> 00:24:56:	Thinking about occupier markets, are you worried about
	recession?
00:25:00> 00:25:03:	I I I wouldn't say worry that.
00:25:03> 00:25:07:	I think, I think either a technical recession or a
00:25:07> 00:25:11:	stagnation is already baked into the numbers.

00:25:11> 00:25:14:	Everybody's running when doing investment analysis.
00:25:15> 00:25:18:	And also countries that are not in recession like Germany
00:25:18> 00:25:21:	have been through, have been going through a stagnation for
00:25:21> 00:25:21:	a while.
00:25:22> 00:25:27:	So in a way when I look at macroeconomic expectations
00:25:27> 00:25:31:	and the impact they have on occupier markets on the
00:25:31> 00:25:36:	commercial side of things, I think there has to be
00:25:36> 00:25:39:	a flight to quality and there has to be a
00:25:39> 00:25:45:	flight to occupiers that can sustain long term occupancy and
00:25:45> 00:25:49:	there is to be a movement away from single tenant
00:25:49> 00:25:53:	occupancy, especially when it comes to office.
00:25:54> 00:25:59:	On the residential side, the main point of analysis has
00:25:59> 00:26:01:	to be affordability.
00:26:02> 00:26:05:	Residential has been sustained by for a very long term,
00:26:06> 00:26:09:	long time by rental growth which might or might not
00:26:09> 00:26:12:	be sustainable in the long term.
00:26:13> 00:26:17:	So I take a lot of comfort from what Clements
00:26:17> 00:26:21:	has said that having a lot of investments in Germany,
00:26:21> 00:26:25:	even if the economy is not performing then tax intake
00:26:26> 00:26:30:	is increasing which might lead to support programs in case
00:26:30> 00:26:34:	there is there are issues in terms of probability.
00:26:36> 00:26:38:	Yeah, I I wouldn't to an extent we we need
00:26:38> 00:26:41:	a new playbook now to help us think about the
00:26:41> 00:26:43:	macro and and how it translates.
00:26:43> 00:26:44:	I mean just looking at the current rates of.
00:26:45> 00:26:48:	Of unemployment across most of Europe, the level of interest
00:26:48> 00:26:52:	rates and inflation would typically imply much higher rates of
00:26:52> 00:26:55:	unemployment than those that we're seeing.
00:26:55> 00:26:57:	So the economies are proving proved to be a lot
00:26:57> 00:26:58:	more resilient.
00:26:59> 00:27:03:	Anna, how are you thinking about your positioning in the
00:27:03> 00:27:05:	face of a recession?
00:27:05> 00:27:08:	Or are you already well positioned to to weather the
00:27:08> 00:27:09:	storm?
00:27:11> 00:27:16:	So well, I don't think anybody's well positioned to this
00:27:16> 00:27:22:	situation and obviously we are carefully analysing the investment opportunities.
00:27:22> 00:27:26:	I guess the era of simple real estate transaction were
00:27:26> 00:27:29:	cheap depth towards the main driver is no longer there
00:27:29> 00:27:33:	and and both investors and the investors advisors need to
00:27:33> 00:27:37:	be much more sophisticated and have to create a robust
00:27:37> 00:27:38:	business plans in order to.

00:27:39> 00:27:44:	Progress with with any acquisition clearly at the moment the
00:27:44> 00:27:49:	the real estate expects some premium versus the other
00.27.44> 00.27.43.	classes
00:27:49> 00:27:55:	of assets because the attractiveness, the relative
	attractiveness of real
00:27:55> 00:27:59:	estate as as investment class versus for example securities.
00:28:00> 00:28:03:	There is at the moment under under big question mark.
00:28:04> 00:28:09:	I think the the debt strategies, they definitely have their
00:28:09> 00:28:14:	rosy time, time and there will be plenty of opportunities
00:28:14> 00:28:20:	for refinancing, recapitalizing, repositioning of of different
	projects.
00:28:21> 00:28:24:	I think the trend also is that the landlords would
00:28:24> 00:28:27:	need to take much more operational risk, which is not
00:28:27> 00:28:30:	always something that they wish for or they have to
00:28:30> 00:28:31:	internal competence.
00:28:31> 00:28:35:	But I think Garth mentioned that in in his presentation.
00:28:35> 00:28:40:	But without that you cannot get really the the competitive
00:28:40> 00:28:40:	advantage.
00:28:41> 00:28:45:	At Invesco, we tend to kind of drive our investment
00:28:45> 00:28:49:	decision by the underlying secular trends both in sectors and
00:28:49> 00:28:51:	the ending the region regions.
00:28:51> 00:28:54:	And I think this will stay as it is for
00:28:54> 00:28:57:	the next at least couple of years where we're not
00:28:57> 00:28:59:	going to change this approach.
00:29:01> 00:29:05:	And also obviously the ES GS have fundamental part of
00:29:05> 00:29:06:	everything we do.
00:29:07> 00:29:11:	ES, GS part of the investment decision process not only
00:29:11> 00:29:15:	for us but probably for many other investors as well
00:29:15> 00:29:17:	and and we have put a bar very high.
00:29:17> 00:29:21:	So basically either you buying best in class in terms
00:29:21> 00:29:24:	of ESG credentials or you have a fantastic business plan
00:29:24> 00:29:27:	to get you this asset there to this level.
00:29:29> 00:29:30:	Yeah, interesting.
00:29:30> 00:29:33:	We managed to get in 15 minutes into the panel
00:29:33> 00:29:34:	before ESG was mentioned.
00:29:34> 00:29:35:	I think that has to be.
00:29:36> 00:29:37:	There has to be a record.
00:29:37> 00:29:39:	I think while whilst we're on that let's explore this
00:29:39> 00:29:40:	a little bit more.
00:29:40> 00:29:44:	The set just turning to you in in Europe, the
00:29:44> 00:29:48:	the ULI has been getting a lot of traction around
00:29:48> 00:29:50:	it sort of sea change initiative.
00:29:52> 00:29:55:	Where do you think the industry should be focusing in

00:29:55> 00:29:57:	order to accelerate that transition?
00:29:57> 00:30:00:	Because yeah, I was at your, I was at your
00:30:00> 00:30:04:	summit in in Copenhagen recently and although in real estate
00:30:04> 00:30:05:	we're making.
00:30:06> 00:30:08:	Phenomenal progress to decarbonize.
00:30:08> 00:30:12:	We're still way off track to achieve Net 0 by
00:30:12> 00:30:12:	2050.
00:30:15> 00:30:19:	I I unfortunately, I agree with that and actually officially
00:30:19> 00:30:22:	we're still in moving in the wrong direction.
00:30:22> 00:30:25:	We're not the only industry moving in the wrong direction,
00:30:25> 00:30:25:	but we are.
00:30:26> 00:30:30:	So everything that we're doing right now is not enough
00:30:30> 00:30:34:	to kind of really significantly reduce emissions.
00:30:37> 00:30:38:	A couple of things.
00:30:38> 00:30:41:	I think there's a real opportunity to look at decarbonisation
00:30:42> 00:30:45:	amidst those structural trends and what needs to happen with
00:30:45> 00:30:47:	our building stock.
00:30:47> 00:30:50:	Often when we look at it in isolation, we just
00:30:50> 00:30:54:	consider the costs and it's short term cost and not
00:30:54> 00:30:58:	really sure what the long term value of that is
00:30:58> 00:31:02:	that still we hear things about green premiums, brand discounts,
00:31:02> 00:31:03:	but it's still.
00:31:04> 00:31:08:	Very blurred with often being new buildings in the best
00:31:08> 00:31:08:	locations.
00:31:09> 00:31:13:	So what is exactly that's green element I think by
00:31:13> 00:31:19:	looking at it from the transformational perspective and then mixed-use
00:31:19> 00:31:24:	increasing density etcetera what we need in cities anyway it
00:31:24> 00:31:27:	becomes much easier to include it.
00:31:28> 00:31:31:	But I think it and it also goes for the
00:31:31> 00:31:32:	wider ESG is.
00:31:33> 00:31:36:	We need to look at it from an integral perspective,
00:31:37> 00:31:41:	just not looking at the E separately, the S separately,
00:31:41> 00:31:45:	because also we don't get the decarbonization right.
00:31:45> 00:31:49:	There's a big risk it will further increase the social
00:31:49> 00:31:51:	divide we already see in cities.
00:31:51> 00:31:55:	And therefore, I think it's really important to look at
00:31:55> 00:31:59:	what the costs are, what the potential benefits are, who
00:31:59> 00:32:02:	kind of where do those benefits.
00:32:02> 00:32:07:	Arrive and kind of share the bigger picture.
00:32:07> 00:32:11:	That sounds a bit fake probably and conceptual, but on

00:32:11> 00:32:14:	a lot of cases I'm not talking the easy ones,
00:32:14> 00:32:18:	the CBD offices, the high end residential where kind of
00:32:18> 00:32:22:	the cost to decarbonize is relatively low versus the the
00:32:22> 00:32:26:	value of the building and the value of the land.
00:32:26> 00:32:29:	It's really about the more complicated.
00:32:30> 00:32:34:	Maybe somewhat edge of city centre, suburban offices, social and
00:32:34> 00:32:35:	affordable housing.
00:32:36> 00:32:39:	Those are the areas we really need to look at
00:32:39> 00:32:44:	and work together, public and private sector to achieve this.
00:32:44> 00:32:47:	And I'm sure it's possible, but we we really need
00:32:47> 00:32:48:	to scale up.
00:32:48> 00:32:51:	And the last thing I would say, and it's not
00:32:51> 00:32:55:	only about just looking at the cost of decarbonization, building
00:32:55> 00:32:59:	the business case better, there was and Garrett presented that.
00:32:59> 00:33:05:	I think over 75% of respondents didn't think current valuations
00:33:05> 00:33:09:	reflected properly all the challenges that exist.
00:33:10> 00:33:12:	I think we have to use our common sense and
00:33:12> 00:33:15:	look, and I know how many people are already doing
00:33:15> 00:33:18:	that, but look at what is the real value, What
00:33:18> 00:33:18:	is in here?
00:33:18> 00:33:22:	And that's not just decarbonization, it's also physical climate risk
00:33:22> 00:33:24:	and it's social elements.
00:33:24> 00:33:27:	And then look at starting there.
00:33:27> 00:33:29:	What is the business case?
00:33:29> 00:33:31:	And it becomes easier to make it.
00:33:31> 00:33:34:	And the other thing I think we need to start
00:33:35> 00:33:39:	focusing on is carbon pricing, because you're only focused on
00:33:39> 00:33:41:	the cost of decarbonization.
00:33:41> 00:33:45:	There's also the cost of the externalities, and if we
00:33:45> 00:33:47:	don't do it, someone else will.
00:33:48> 00:33:49:	Yeah, interesting.
00:33:49> 00:33:52:	I think the report very clearly.
00:33:53> 00:33:56:	Has a focus on that sort of social aspect of
00:33:56> 00:33:59:	of real estate and there's a great quote in the
00:33:59> 00:34:03:	report that's that's goes something like the people who will
00:34:03> 00:34:06:	make money over the next decade will be those who
00:34:06> 00:34:08:	solve the problems of of society.

00:34:09> 00:34:12:	So maybe we are starting to see that narrative switch
00:34:12> 00:34:15:	from the E to the S on the basis that
00:34:15> 00:34:18:	the S what you can't do the S without the
00:34:18> 00:34:20:	E So it's a fundamental part of of of how
00:34:20> 00:34:22:	we do ultimately decarbonize.
00:34:23> 00:34:27:	Clements how, how, How did DWS think about real estate
00:34:27> 00:34:28:	and the energy transition?
00:34:28> 00:34:32:	And where do you see the greatest opportunities emerging from
00:34:32> 00:34:36:	the decarbonisation of the the built environment?
00:34:37> 00:34:37:	Yeah.
00:34:38> 00:34:41:	Thank you for giving me an E question and not
00:34:41> 00:34:43:	an S Yeah, so that's the thanks for that.
00:34:43> 00:34:47:	So yeah, couple things are wide.
00:34:48> 00:34:50:	Quite obvious, yeah.
00:34:50> 00:34:54:	You know if you're an investment manager and you're predominantly
00:34:54> 00:34:57:	active core, core plus you got you got an ageing
00:34:57> 00:35:00:	portfolio, what is your investors?
00:35:00> 00:35:03:	What are your investors actually expecting of you?
00:35:03> 00:35:08:	Is it to basically sell now into the market and
00:35:08> 00:35:12:	or to take on the challenge to reposition these assets
00:35:12> 00:35:17:	and take on the the decarbonisation challenge yourself?
00:35:18> 00:35:21:	If you look into the market right now for your
00:35:21> 00:35:24:	existing stock, I'm sure every manager has that there are
00:35:24> 00:35:27:	a couple buildings which need which which are in dire
00:35:27> 00:35:28:	need of CapEx.
00:35:29> 00:35:33:	And sometimes you know clients want to sell, wanted to
00:35:33> 00:35:36:	have sold that that's becomes it becomes sold.
00:35:37> 00:35:40:	Sometimes you ask for service redemptions or whatever.
00:35:40> 00:35:43:	But if you are actually in a position that you
00:35:43> 00:35:45:	can take your fate in your own hand, I think
00:35:45> 00:35:49:	investment managers are very well posi should actually take on
00:35:49> 00:35:52:	the challenge and internalise that's what we do.
00:35:52> 00:35:56:	So we we haven't sold for for quite a while
00:35:56> 00:35:56:	and.
00:35:57> 00:35:59:	Let's take older office asset.
00:35:59> 00:36:03:	Actually we have gone through the brain damage of of
00:36:03> 00:36:08:	getting our head around and repositioning these buildings because if
00:36:08> 00:36:12:	you think about the alternative, you can either sell to
00:36:12> 00:36:17:	a a cost of capital investor somewhere between 15 and

00:36:17> 00:36:21:	20% of course IR or you internalize, internalize that within
00:36:21> 00:36:24:	within your within your remit.
00:36:24> 00:36:28:	So that that's something where I think two things really
00:36:28> 00:36:29:	come together.
00:36:30> 00:36:34:	One, an idea to strengthen returns in accordance with the
00:36:34> 00:36:36:	mandate given by the investor.
00:36:37> 00:36:43:	And 2nd, actually to take on the challenge of decarbonisation
00:36:43> 00:36:49:	and and to accelerate basically the speed of of decarbonisation.
00:36:51> 00:36:53:	Well, that that's within the existing product range.
00:36:54> 00:36:54:	And that's a bulk.
00:36:54> 00:36:57:	And that's where the battle is lost or won, right?
00:36:57> 00:37:02:	Because from today until 2050, we will probably build another
00:37:03> 00:37:04:	2025% of stock.
00:37:05> 00:37:07:	So if we are unable to decarbonize what we already
00:37:07> 00:37:09:	have, we won't get there.
00:37:09> 00:37:12:	Right, absolutely.
00:37:12> 00:37:14:	And I think the the statistic that I saw, I
00:37:14> 00:37:17:	think it was the IEA that 75% of the stock
00:37:17> 00:37:20:	that will exist in 2050 already exists today.
00:37:20> 00:37:22:	So that's.
00:37:22> 00:37:25:	It's completely supports what you're what you're saying we just
00:37:25> 00:37:27:	can't we can't build our way to net to net
00:37:27> 00:37:27:	zero.
00:37:29> 00:37:32:	Well how how are you thinking about decarbonisation and and
00:37:32> 00:37:35:	again focus on OK, well what are those, what are
00:37:35> 00:37:39:	the opportunities that that that their structural one way structural
00:37:39> 00:37:41:	trend is likely to to throw up.
00:37:42> 00:37:45:	Yeah, I I think all I heard so far is
00:37:45> 00:37:48:	honestly music to my ears because as a group we've
00:37:48> 00:37:52:	been and I would dare say obsessed about the transition
00:37:53> 00:37:54:	for a very long time.
00:37:55> 00:37:59:	And everything we do is geared in a way towards
00:37:59> 00:38:01:	urban transition.
00:38:01> 00:38:05:	Not only because we think it's the right thing to
00:38:05> 00:38:09:	do, but also because we think it's good business and
00:38:09> 00:38:13:	it significantly impacts the risk written profile of our investments
00:38:14> 00:38:18:	in a way borrowing Lizard's point on holistic approach on
00:38:18> 00:38:19:	urban environment.

00:38:19> 00:38:22:	So that is why we have structured the way we
00:38:22> 00:38:22:	are.
00:38:22> 00:38:25:	We are, we think that there is a lot that
00:38:25> 00:38:29:	can be done in real estate, but real estate alone
00:38:29> 00:38:33:	will not be enough to achieve the targets we have.
00:38:33> 00:38:38:	You will need technology, you will need new energy, you
00:38:38> 00:38:44:	will need a number of different items and investment investment
00:38:44> 00:38:49:	classes that all in around the urban environment and and
00:38:49> 00:38:54:	we are trying to capture those synergies and on I'm
00:38:54> 00:38:59:	following up on Clemens Point, I think it's very important
00:38:59> 00:39:04:	that the sector as all stops talking about brown to
00:39:04> 00:39:09:	green and actually shows that we can deliver brown to
00:39:09> 00:39:10:	green.
00:39:11> 00:39:13:	And that is what we are also trying to do
00:39:13> 00:39:14:	internally.
00:39:16> 00:39:23:	It's retrofitting an existing building is unquestionably a better situation
00:39:23> 00:39:29:	in terms of decarbonisation than demolishing an old one and
00:39:29> 00:39:30:	rebuilding it.
00:39:32> 00:39:34:	So that's that's where we all need to get better.
00:39:37> 00:39:37:	Yeah, interesting.
00:39:37> 00:39:41:	And it's a fundamentally different way of thinking about the
00:39:41> 00:39:44:	the risk and return profile of real estate than we
00:39:44> 00:39:46:	did even five, five years ago.
00:39:48> 00:39:51:	Anna, So turning to you, you raised ESG first, and
00:39:51> 00:39:55:	what are investigators doing to sort of make an impact
00:39:55> 00:39:58:	and what do you think we should be doing more
00:39:58> 00:39:58:	of?
00:40:02> 00:40:05:	Yes, I I believe that we are fairly advanced with
00:40:05> 00:40:08:	with ESG implementation not only at the strategy level but
00:40:08> 00:40:10:	actually at the asset level.
00:40:10> 00:40:13:	This is not something new and we've been working on
00:40:13> 00:40:15:	on that for, for several years.
00:40:15> 00:40:20:	So starting from the basic things like data collection, going
00:40:20> 00:40:25:	through the net 0 audit process, incorporating ESG into investment
00:40:25> 00:40:30:	decision process, cram analysis and actually the the the assets
00:40:30> 00:40:35:	CapEx business plan to improve the the credentials is something
00:40:35> 00:40:38:	that that we do and I'm sure many peers do
00:40:38> 00:40:40:	have similar approach.

00:40:41> 00:40:44:	However, not everything is straightforward and I I'd like to
00:40:44> 00:40:47:	just give a couple of examples from the asset management
00:40:47> 00:40:47:	perspective.
00:40:48> 00:40:52:	So firstly, something that Lisa had mentioned, valuations do not
00:40:52> 00:40:57:	yet reflect the the full challenges of the ESG transition.
00:40:57> 00:41:01:	I have a feeling that actually valuers are struggling, how
00:41:01> 00:41:04:	to get a single a clear guidance how those risks
00:41:04> 00:41:07:	should be valued or or even reported.
00:41:07> 00:41:11:	And there is like a potential asset obsolescence as a
00:41:11> 00:41:17:	as a big risk probably significantly undervalued at this stage.
00:41:17> 00:41:22:	Secondly, the whole thing about of regulations, regulations need to
00:41:22> 00:41:25:	be as the front of all this transformation.
00:41:25> 00:41:29:	And there are a lot of like practical problems with
00:41:29> 00:41:32:	simple things like you know signing the green contract on
00:41:32> 00:41:36:	the photovoltaic panels on the roof, consuming the energy on
00:41:36> 00:41:40:	sign, being the distributor, the landlord, a lot of problems
00:41:40> 00:41:42:	around fairly simple thing.
00:41:42> 00:41:45:	So the regulations have to be more robust and there
00:41:45> 00:41:48:	is a clearly a role role for the regulators to
00:41:49> 00:41:51:	to speed up and and give a clear guidance.
00:41:52> 00:41:56:	And finally there is this dilemma that I was thinking
00:41:56> 00:42:00:	about that for many investors and investment managers they they
00:42:00> 00:42:05:	are supposed to report on a short term performance quarterly,
00:42:05> 00:42:08:	annually, they need to deliver financial results.
00:42:08> 00:42:12:	Whereas with the ESG it's all about you know, long
00:42:12> 00:42:15:	term plan, long term potential improvements.
00:42:15> 00:42:16:	You need to spend a lot of money.
00:42:16> 00:42:19:	You need to have a plan of the CapEx in
00:42:19> 00:42:22:	order to get something at the end or perhaps perhaps
00:42:22> 00:42:25:	in order to protect the value from falling down.
00:42:26> 00:42:30:	And there is this dilemma between between you know those
00:42:30> 00:42:32:	those two streams.
00:42:32> 00:42:35:	Do I need to report my financials and my here
00:42:35> 00:42:38:	and now performance or do I take a hit now
00:42:38> 00:42:42:	and underperform for a while, but maybe we'll get the
00:42:42> 00:42:44:	better result in the future.
00:42:44> 00:42:48:	This is something that clearly is there and there has
00:42:48> 00:42:49:	to be a lot of more.
00:42:49> 00:42:52:	There have to be a lot of more KPIs embedded

00:42:52> 00:42:57:	at the strategic level of the corporates, not only real
00:42:57> 00:43:01:	estate, to basically motivate decision makers to invest.
00:43:02> 00:43:03:	Yeah, absolutely.
00:43:03> 00:43:06:	Completely agree around the, the measurement, the measurement piece.
00:43:06> 00:43:09:	And you know, I think maybe we're moving into an
00:43:09> 00:43:14:	environment where you know, traditional benchmarking doesn't really serve the
00:43:14> 00:43:17:	purpose that we need it to, to serve if we
00:43:17> 00:43:21:	are to make progress along that decarbonisation path to to
00:43:21> 00:43:21:	2050.
00:43:23> 00:43:26:	So how how are these challenges actually reflected in your?
00:43:27> 00:43:32:	Specific strategies So are you now thinking about how you
00:43:32> 00:43:37:	weight your portfolios differently today than how we would have
00:43:38> 00:43:40:	done pre pre COVID Clemens?
00:43:40> 00:43:41:	That one's you.
00:43:42> 00:43:44:	We COVID.
00:43:44> 00:43:44:	All right.
00:43:47> 00:43:50:	So first of all, thank you.
00:43:50> 00:43:51:	You know I.
00:43:52> 00:43:54:	From training, I'm economist, yeah.
00:43:54> 00:43:57:	So I, I, I always ask myself, is this a
00:43:57> 00:44:00:	complete disruption or is it a parallel shift?
00:44:01> 00:44:04:	And as hard as hard as it feels right now
00:44:05> 00:44:10:	that increases in interest rates and inflation are a parallel
00:44:10> 00:44:13:	shift and not the disruption.
00:44:14> 00:44:18:	Yeah, it creates this, it creates distress, but that.
00:44:19> 00:44:23:	Shouldn't over over paint basically the the, the situation that
00:44:23> 00:44:26:	we're in a in a parallel shift scenario for for
00:44:26> 00:44:27:	in general.
00:44:28> 00:44:33:	So therefore the the way to judge about investments in
00:44:33> 00:44:36:	our view is, is still it needs to drive on
00:44:36> 00:44:42:	a relative basis versus other asset classes attractive risk adjusted
00:44:42> 00:44:43:	returns.
00:44:44> 00:44:48:	And ESG, well we we tried to move actually away
00:44:48> 00:44:51:	from from the term ESG and because we say it's
00:44:51> 00:44:54:	part of our decision making therefore therefore we try to
00:44:55> 00:44:56:	avoid that nomenclature.
00:44:57> 00:45:05:	But effectively the the the biggest disruptional effect I've seen,
00:45:05> 00:45:11:	we we we've noticed since since since COVID is, it's

00:45:11> 00:45:12:	not.
00:45:12> 00:45:16:	And as I said the the interest rates and the
00:45:16> 00:45:21:	and the inflation, it's probably the work from home for
00:45:21> 00:45:26:	the office sector and that's where we think the impact
00:45:26> 00:45:31:	on the sector's probably the the biggest however it's it's
00:45:31> 00:45:32:	bifurcating right.
00:45:32> 00:45:37:	So, you know, certain office locations are the the winners
00:45:37> 00:45:39:	and others are the losers, right?
00:45:39> 00:45:40:	So.
00:45:41> 00:45:43:	I want to leave a little space for the others
00:45:44> 00:45:46:	if you if you intend to pass that question around
00:45:47> 00:45:49:	right I could go on for ages but but generally
00:45:49> 00:45:52:	speaking you know it's we're it's in a parallel shift
00:45:52> 00:45:56:	and the disruption is probably the the hardest in the
00:45:56> 00:45:58:	in the in the office sector on the niche I
00:45:58> 00:46:01:	would leave the niche sectors for my fellows here on
00:46:01> 00:46:02:	the on the pen.
00:46:03> 00:46:04:	Very thoughtful, Clemence.
00:46:04> 00:46:06:	Thanks Manuela.
00:46:07> 00:46:09:	So as you think about what sort of?
00:46:10> 00:46:13:	Balance diversified exposure might look like for for real estate
00:46:13> 00:46:16:	as you know the report is telling us that and
00:46:16> 00:46:18:	as it has done over the last the last few
00:46:18> 00:46:19:	years.
00:46:19> 00:46:22:	Now that you know the winning sectors are inverted common
00:46:22> 00:46:25:	as the alternative sectors and we won't debate whether they
00:46:25> 00:46:27:	should be called alternatives or not.
00:46:28> 00:46:33:	But has your view of balanced exposures fundamentally changed?
00:46:36> 00:46:37:	Yeah, I think.
00:46:40> 00:46:44:	I think if I look at our investment criteria pre
00:46:44> 00:46:49:	COVID, we were already very much focused on alternative residential
00:46:49> 00:46:53:	for example and all the subsets that you can find
00:46:53> 00:46:55:	that within that.
00:46:55> 00:46:59:	So I think in a way we believed into a
00:46:59> 00:47:04:	big a big component of what the alternatives were already
00:47:04> 00:47:07:	before COVID, I think.
00:47:08> 00:47:12:	I I think what has changed over the last 18
00:47:12> 00:47:16:	months is how you look at the capital structure of
00:47:16> 00:47:22:	your investments rather than asset classes and how
	fortunately speculative

00:47:23> 00:47:27:	approach to real estate is probably off the table now
00:47:27> 00:47:30:	and we need to go back to the basics and
00:47:30> 00:47:35:	create values based on what our tenants want and need.
00:47:37> 00:47:40:	In terms of asset classes, I think I like to
00:47:40> 00:47:44:	take a slightly more contrarian position when it comes to
00:47:44> 00:47:45:	office.
00:47:47> 00:47:53:	I think there are clear differences between most European
	centres
00:47:53> 00:47:56:	and the and the largest US office markets.
00:47:58> 00:47:59:	But you want to be.
00:48:00> 00:48:03:	Central in a modern asset which is multi tenant and
00:48:03> 00:48:07:	provides services over and above what the old office used
00:48:07> 00:48:07:	to be.
00:48:09> 00:48:11:	In that case, I think it's a it's a good
00:48:11> 00:48:13:	place to be at the moment.
00:48:14> 00:48:18:	Yeah, I don't think the other the theme that we're
00:48:18> 00:48:21:	hearing here is one of huge dispersion, no, not just
00:48:21> 00:48:24:	between locations but also between assets.
00:48:26> 00:48:30:	And am I willing just why we've got you so,
00:48:30> 00:48:34:	so do you think we're likely to see that famed
00:48:34> 00:48:37:	wave of distress as we move into 2024?
00:48:37> 00:48:39:	I know a bit of a switch to sort of
00:48:39> 00:48:41:	a bit more of a capital markets focus as we
00:48:41> 00:48:42:	start to wrap up.
00:48:43> 00:48:45:	Yeah, it's a very good question and as most good
00:48:45> 00:48:48:	questions it doesn't have a simple answer.
00:48:49> 00:48:53:	My my personal view is that if.
00:48:54> 00:48:57:	With wave of distress, we expect a huge volumes of
00:48:58> 00:49:02:	quality income producing real estate coming to market at discounted
00:49:03> 00:49:03:	prices.
00:49:03> 00:49:07:	We are never going to see that and fortunately we
00:49:07> 00:49:12:	are never going to see that because that will create
00:49:12> 00:49:16:	a much larger systemic crisis when it comes to the
00:49:16> 00:49:18:	financial sector on.
00:49:19> 00:49:23:	More timid but very active way.
00:49:23> 00:49:28:	I think we are already seeing significant distress in the
00:49:28> 00:49:34:	market with ongoing and existing development specifically but also income
00:49:34> 00:49:36:	producing portfolios.
00:49:36> 00:49:40:	So that require refinancing going to look for equity and
00:49:40> 00:49:45:	that at terms that would have been unacceptable just six
00:49:45> 00:49:46:	months ago.

00:49:47> 00:49:52: 00:49:52> 00:49:56: 00:49:57> 00:50:00:	Often disguise the by structuring to try and pretend that the mark is still higher than what it really is. So in a way, if people are waiting on the
00:50:00> 00:50:04: 00:50:04> 00:50:08:	side of the river for the opportunity of a lifetime, either it's not going to happen or someone will have
00:50:08> 00:50:10:	matched it way up river.
00:50:11> 00:50:13:	If we can, if we can be selective and in
00:50:13> 00:50:16:	the market, there is already a world of attractive investment
00:50:16> 00:50:18:	opportunity at the moment.
00:50:19> 00:50:19:	Interesting.
00:50:19> 00:50:20:	Thank you.
00:50:20> 00:50:23:	Anna, just just sort of turning to you just as
00:50:23> 00:50:26:	we, as you think about sort of capital markets and
00:50:26> 00:50:30:	financing, yeah, how are you thinking about the evolution in
00:50:30> 00:50:32:	the, in the debt, in the debt space?
00:50:33> 00:50:37:	And the availability of finance, yes, we've been active in
00:50:37> 00:50:40:	the Dead Space for, for the last 1218 months and
00:50:40> 00:50:43:	and we see a lot of opportunities there.
00:50:44> 00:50:47:	As I said this is a window of opportunity for
00:50:47> 00:50:52:	different debt strategies and alternative lenders will will have a
00:50:52> 00:50:56:	role to play in exactly what Emmanuel was saying recapitalizing
00:50:56> 00:51:01:	and basically and ensuring that that portfolios stay healthy.
00:51:01> 00:51:05:	So this is exactly one of our investment themes.
00:51:05> 00:51:08:	At the same time I'm also the opinion that you
00:51:08> 00:51:12:	know the, I'm not so negative about the office sector
00:51:12> 00:51:16:	as such because if you look at fundamentals and occupiers
00:51:16> 00:51:20:	market, it's still there and with the very limited construction
00:51:21> 00:51:24:	activity there will be clearly a rental growth and and
00:51:24> 00:51:28:	for sure for the best in class the space which
00:51:28> 00:51:31:	has been already proven that the vacancy is very low.
00:51:31> 00:51:33:	So this trend will continue.
00:51:33> 00:51:37:	At the same time you know everybody speaks about alternative
00:51:37> 00:51:41:	sectors, you know life science, medical centres, but again these
00:51:41> 00:51:45:	are niche products so not all the investors can chase
00:51:45> 00:51:47:	the same little niche sectors.
00:51:47> 00:51:50:	There has to be some activity also in things like
00:51:50> 00:51:53:	retail and in standard office and I'm sure smart investors
00:51:53> 00:51:57:	will find the the right structures and opportunities to
00:51:57> 00:51:58:	enter in in those as well.

00:51:59> 00:52:03:	And this is something we're watching carefully for the next
00:52:03> 00:52:04:	year, hopefully.
00:52:05> 00:52:08:	Yeah, I think I I tend to agree with you
00:52:08> 00:52:11:	there around around offices and I think as we move
00:52:12> 00:52:15:	through the next cycle, you know I think the office
00:52:15> 00:52:20:	will play an increasingly important role for occupiers in order
00:52:20> 00:52:23:	to bring people back to the office and to.
00:52:25> 00:52:29:	And to try and reinstate that culture at the organizational
00:52:29> 00:52:33:	level that's so difficult to achieve when one's when one's
00:52:33> 00:52:36:	working from home more full more full time.
00:52:37> 00:52:41:	Lissette, quick word from you on alternatives.
00:52:41> 00:52:44:	What what sort of insights have you been hearing from
00:52:44> 00:52:49:	from your your membership around exposure to alternative sectors?
00:52:51> 00:52:53:	Well, I think there are a few things I would
00:52:54> 00:52:54:	like to say.
00:52:55> 00:52:58:	I think overall if we kind of look over the
00:52:58> 00:53:01:	long term how real estate has developed, I think the
00:53:01> 00:53:05:	level of granularity and complexity has gone up massively.
00:53:06> 00:53:09:	A lot of what we call niche are also kind
00:53:09> 00:53:12:	of sub sectors to where we first just looked at
00:53:12> 00:53:16:	the big buckets of retail versus offices and then a
00:53:16> 00:53:19:	long time there was nothing and then we came to
00:53:19> 00:53:24:	logistics and residential in some countries more than in others.
00:53:24> 00:53:26:	That's not enough anymore.
00:53:26> 00:53:30:	And we've realized also in the financial crisis as in
00:53:30> 00:53:33:	the pandemic that one type of retail is not the
00:53:33> 00:53:36:	other type of retail and that we need to kind
00:53:36> 00:53:37:	of dig deeper.
00:53:38> 00:53:42:	And therefore also new niche sectors pop up like we're
00:53:42> 00:53:48:	now looking at medical offices, we're looking at senior living,
00:53:48> 00:53:52:	senior living with care etcetera, etcetera, so.
00:53:52> 00:53:56:	Every time it becomes more nuanced and I think we
00:53:56> 00:53:57:	shouldn't forget that.
00:53:58> 00:54:01:	And and I think it says something about the sophistication
00:54:01> 00:54:04:	also in the industry that has developed over time.
00:54:05> 00:54:08:	And the other thing I would say is every time
00:54:09> 00:54:12:	we try to figure out what will happen with officers,
00:54:13> 00:54:17:	we've seen it with retail in the financial crisis, suddenly
00:54:17> 00:54:19:	people discovered the Internet.
00:54:20> 00:54:22:	And there was a real price difference and kind of
00:54:22> 00:54:24:	many people suffering so much.

00:54:24> 00:54:28:	There was a real advantage to kind of a shop
00:54:28> 00:54:29:	via Internet.
00:54:30> 00:54:32:	A large part of that remains, but it wasn't the
00:54:32> 00:54:33:	end of retail.
00:54:34> 00:54:36:	And in the pandemic we thought this is the end
00:54:36> 00:54:37:	of the office.
00:54:37> 00:54:38:	We'll never go back.
00:54:39> 00:54:42:	And now we're trying to figure out and we got
00:54:42> 00:54:45:	a kind of financial crisis on top of the pandemic
00:54:46> 00:54:46:	almost.
00:54:46> 00:54:49:	I'm not sure if you can say financial difficulties.
00:54:51> 00:54:53:	Now we're trying to figure out how that's going to
00:54:53> 00:54:54:	play out.
00:54:55> 00:54:58:	That might take a while to figure out what exactly
00:54:58> 00:55:01:	will happen with officers and how much.
00:55:01> 00:55:04:	I see it here in London where in the city
00:55:04> 00:55:07:	it took a long time for people to come back,
00:55:07> 00:55:10:	but now we see all kinds of new coffee shops,
00:55:10> 00:55:12:	cafes, etcetera coming back.
00:55:12> 00:55:18:	So we kind of shouldn't jump to conclusions too quickly.
00:55:18> 00:55:20:	And monitor how things are going.
00:55:20> 00:55:24:	Once we get through this, the effect might be different.
00:55:24> 00:55:28:	If however we get to a recession and unemployment would
00:55:28> 00:55:32:	increase, things might also change with that again.
00:55:33> 00:55:38:	So I think it's a constant evolution with different sectors
00:55:38> 00:55:42:	but and and the the last thing I would say
00:55:42> 00:55:47:	is there's so much where we previously saw a lot
00:55:47> 00:55:47:	of.
00:55:48> 00:55:54:	Social infrastructure taken care of by governments, we're seeing them
00:55:54> 00:56:00:	pulling that back, for example on senior living and all
00:56:00> 00:56:02:	medical care, etcetera.
00:56:02> 00:56:05:	Private sector stepping in and what we see is where
00:56:06> 00:56:11:	new opportunities arise, like in energy infrastructure, communication infrastructure, the
00:56:11> 00:56:15:	government's not even getting in there, but immediately it's private
00:56:15> 00:56:15:	sector.
00:56:16> 00:56:20:	So there's definitely a lot of opportunity, but looking at
00:56:20> 00:56:23:	sectors like we used to do with big office, big
00:56:23> 00:56:25:	retail in the past, I I think that is a
00:56:25> 00:56:27:	thing of the past.

00:56:27> 00:56:30:	It's not like that anymore and it will be far
00:56:30> 00:56:32:	more granular going forward.
00:56:33> 00:56:34:	Great.
00:56:34> 00:56:34:	Great.
00:56:34> 00:56:38:	Segue then, Lisette to my last very quick question for
00:56:38> 00:56:41:	the last two minutes, and I'm taking your word of
00:56:41> 00:56:43:	advice as being.
00:56:44> 00:56:46:	We don't judge the future by what we've experienced in
00:56:47> 00:56:49:	the past, which would probably have been my word of
00:56:49> 00:56:50:	advice.
00:56:50> 00:56:53:	So rather than asking people what are their top picks
00:56:53> 00:56:56:	for 2024 because that's more than covered in the report,
00:56:56> 00:56:59:	what would your one piece of advice be as we
00:56:59> 00:57:00:	move into the next cycle?
00:57:01> 00:57:06:	Anna, starting with you, tough one, but I think understand
00:57:06> 00:57:10:	your tenant, your occupier and for this you need and
00:57:10> 00:57:14:	a good asset manager and the value of the smart
00:57:14> 00:57:17:	asset managers is enormous.
00:57:17> 00:57:21:	Their experience, their ability to create value, to go to
00:57:21> 00:57:25:	apply the ESG path into the best in the buildings,
00:57:25> 00:57:29:	understanding the full life cycle and and advising really what
00:57:30> 00:57:33:	drives the occupational demand, that's critical.
00:57:33> 00:57:36:	So I would say focus on your asset managers.
00:57:37> 00:57:38:	Great one man, Willie.
00:57:40> 00:57:44:	Very quickly, very quickly, I will say don't panic.
00:57:44> 00:57:48:	Accept that the decade of real estate being seen as
00:57:48> 00:57:53:	bond proxy race three is over and focus on creating
00:57:53> 00:57:55:	value for your clients who are.
00:57:55> 00:57:57:	As Anna said, you're occupied.
00:57:58> 00:57:59:	Great one, Clements.
00:57:59> 00:58:00:	Last word.
00:58:01> 00:58:03:	Revisit retail.
00:58:04> 00:58:06:	Love it, love it.
00:58:06> 00:58:08:	Well, with that we're at the top of the hour.
00:58:08> 00:58:12:	Thank you ever so much to my panellists, delighted that
00:58:12> 00:58:16:	the that that we've kept the tone relatively upbeat and
00:58:16> 00:58:21:	focused on the opportunities and the opportunity set that this
00:58:21> 00:58:24:	market is undoubtedly going to create for us.
00:58:25> 00:58:29:	So just before we close out, we really do appreciate
00:58:29> 00:58:30:	your feedback.
00:58:30> 00:58:31:	So you will receive a.
00:58:32> 00:58:35:	Survey popping up on your screen maybe now or we

00:58:35> 00:58:39:	will send you a link that's really, really valuable in
00:58:39> 00:58:42:	helping us and ULI sort of shape their their events
00:58:42> 00:58:43:	for the future.
00:58:44> 00:58:48:	And one plug before we wrap up the ULI Europe
00:58:48> 00:58:53:	webinar on Healthy Buildings, Tuesday, the 21st of November, put
00:58:53> 00:58:56:	it in your diary and look forward to seeing you
00:58:56> 00:58:57:	again soon.
00:58:57> 00:58:58:	Thank you very much.

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