

Morning Wrap

Today's Newsflow

Select headline to navigate to article

- AIB Group** Q1'26 IMS – Positive start and FY26 guidance reiterated
- Kingspan** Order activity “strong”; FY26 guide re-iterated
- Cairn Homes** Orderbook continues to gain momentum; FY26/27 guidance unchanged
- Kerry Group** Strong start to year as innovation ticks up, FY guide reiterated
- Air France-KLM** Forward bookings broadly in line but Q2 fuel costs rise \$1.1bn
- Jet2** FY27 EBIT coming back to £227m
- DCC** £58 PE cash bid rejected – only the opening salvo?
- NCC Group** H126 in line (neutral)
- Economic view** Full impact of energy price rise yet to hit Irish consumers
- Evoke** FY25 headline numbers in line with post close update
- Hammerson** CFO Himanshu Raja to retire
- Technology** Hyperscalers positively surprise; Capex continues to rise driving some caution

Equity Research

30 Apr 2026

08:59

Upcoming Events

Company Events

30-Apr	AIB Group; Q126 Trading Update Air France-KLM; Q126 Results CRH; Q126 Results Kerry Group; Q126 Results Kingspan; Q126 Trading Update Persimmon; Q126 Trading Update Smurfit Westrock; Q126 Results Whitbread; FY26 Results
06-May	Diageo; Q326 Trading Update Flutter Entertainment; Q126 Results Lufthansa; Q126 Results

Economic Events Ireland

United Kingdom

30-Apr	BoE Official Bank Rate
--------	------------------------

Goodbody Capital Markets

Equity Research +353 1 6419221
Equity Sales +353 1 6670222
Bloomberg DS GDS<GO>

AIB Group Q1'26 IMS – Positive start and FY26 guidance reiterated

Goodbody View

AIB Group (AIB) has released a scheduled trading update for the three months to the end of March ahead of its AGM later this morning. The key highlights in our view are: i) gross loan growth of 1.7% ytd; ii) reiteration of all FY26 guidance; and iii) organic capital generation of 80bps in the quarter. Overall, this is a positive update with all elements of the business performing in line with expectations. It is reassuring to see the strong loan growth in the quarter and the reiteration of all FY26 guidance is welcomed.

Recommendation: Buy
Closing Price:€9.72

Denis McGoldrick
+353 1 603 2631
denis.mcgoldrick@goodbody.ie

NII 3% lower yoy; other income +8%; operating costs +2%

NII of €0.92bn was -3% yoy reflecting the lower rate environment partially offset by higher volumes. The ytd NIM was 2.65% and the company continues to guide to a y/e ECB deposit rate of 2.00% and BOE rate of 3.25%, with FY26 NII expected to be c.€3.8bn. Following the c.€10bn increase to the structural hedge in March, AIB's sensitivity to a 100bps parallel upward shift in interest rates is €256m. Fee income was -5% yoy as the prior year benefitted from one off items, while total other income was +8% yoy due to a gain on disposal of investment securities. Operating costs were +2% yoy and in line with guidance. Asset quality remains robust, with a small net credit impairment charge recorded in the quarter.

Gross loans +1.7% ytd; customer deposits in line

Gross loans of €73.5bn were c.+1.7% ytd and was supported by a +11% yoy increase in new lending to €3.6bn. Key contributors to new lending in the period were Capital Markets (€1.1bn), mortgages (€0.9bn), Climate & Infrastructure Capital (€0.6bn/+100% yoy) and UK lending (£0.3bn). Green and transition lending of €1.5bn comprised 42% of new lending ytd. AIB's ytd mortgage market share was 30%, in line with FY25. NPEs of €1.7bn were in line with FY25 and the NPE% was 2.3%. Customer deposits of €117bn were in line with Dec'25, and the company continues to expect growth of 2-3% for the full year.

Highly capital generative; conference call at 8am IST

The reported CET1% of 16.0% (excl. ytd profits of +80bps) is 20bps lower than Dec'25 due to Balance Sheet growth in the period. AIB continues to be highly capital generative which provides a good platform for continued growth, material shareholder distributions and the company remains on track to deliver on its guidance for a >20% RoTE this year. Management will hold a conference call at 8am IST with dial-in details available via the company website.

[Home...](#)

Kingspan Order activity "strong"; FY26 guide re-iterated

Kingspan has published a strong AGM trading update. Despite a tough start to year, hindered by harsh winter conditions in Continental Europe and much of the US, Group sales in Q1 came in at €2.1bn (+3% pre-currency; flat on a reported basis). Order activity is described as "strong" and the Group notes that the trading outlook is in "good shape" with the inflation recovery effort underway. The M&A pipeline remains "strong" and the balance sheet robust (leverage at c.1.7x). The Group remains comfortable that it is still on track to deliver a trading profit outturn in the region of €1.05bn. Moreover, the Group has re-iterated its message that it expects "the pace trading profit growth to accelerate between now and the end of the decade beyond what we have achieved in more recent years".

In terms of the divisional detail: i) Within Insulated Building Envelopes, sales were 2% behind on a pre-currency basis. The Group notes that Insulated panel sales were in line on pre-currency basis and that order intake in the ytd is significantly ahead yoy. The Group also notes that the panel backlog has "progressed further since year-end" (vs +8%). General insulation activity remained sluggish although this was partially mitigated by continued good activity in acoustic solutions and ramping activity for technical insulation. Roofing & Waterproofing sales in Europe grew in Q1 and healthy backlogs are noted. The US Roofing & Waterproofing expansion continues to happen at pace with its Oklahoma and Maryland facilities fully on track to be in production by the end of year; ii) Advnsys has had yet another exceptional quarter with sales up 28% pre currency and the pace of growth expected to ramp further in the months ahead. Indeed, order intake ytd is double the same period last year. With that as backdrop, the Group continues to add capacity at pace, with its 800,000 sq. ft facility in Kentucky on track to come on stream in the summer, followed by facilities in Texas, a second in Arkansas, and significant footprint expansions in both Vietnam and Australia.

We view this as a strong statement from Kingspan. Despite a tricky weather hampered start to 2026 (just as others have noted), the Q1 sales number is solid and order activity strong. The order backlog in panels has become incrementally more positive and the Advnsys backlog continues to be exceptional. This all provides comfort that the Group is well on track to deliver FY26 in line with guidance and indeed our forecasts – we therefore expect limited changes to numbers. Beyond what we believe will be a sector leading performance in FY26 (c.10% trading profit growth), the growth outlook in the outer years is significantly strong (HSD organic profit growth to 2030) and is something we do not believe is adequately captured in valuation. Trading on 12x FY26 EBITDA (LT avg 14x) we continue to see significant upside.

[Home...](#)

Recommendation: Buy
Closing Price:€79.20

Shane Carberry
+353-1-6419118
shane.carberry@goodbody.ie

Cairn Homes Orderbook continues to gain momentum; FY26/27 guidance unchanged

Cairn Homes has published a strong AGM trading update. The closed and forward orderbook has continued to progress strongly with 400 new homes added to it in the eight weeks since it last reported, leaving it stand at c.3,850 new homes (net sales values of €1.5bn). Demand remains strong and the Group is not experiencing any weakness in consumer sentiment as a result of the ongoing geopolitical volatility. As expected however, the build cost inflation ('BCI') environment has become somewhat more onerous (now running at c.2.5%). Despite BCI expectations increasing, as things stand, the Group do not expect any material impact on its FY outlook. Indeed, supported by a strong orderbook and the investment in operational scaling made in the prior year, the Group is still firmly on track to deliver a FY26 outturn in line with its previous guide (which was upgraded just 8 weeks ago): i) Revenue of c.€1.05-1.08bn; ii) Operating profit of c.€180-185m; iii) ROE c.16.5%. Beyond FY26, the Group has also re-iterated its expectation to deliver 3,200 homes in FY27.

Recommendation: Buy
Closing Price:€2.16

Shane Carberry
+353-1-6419118
shane.carberry@goodbody.ie

We view this as a strong statement from Cairn Homes and foresee no changes to forecasts on the back of it. The orderbook continues to progress at pace and combined with prior investments made in WIP and land lays the foundations for significant volume growth in FY26 and FY27. Investors should also take comfort that whilst inflationary backdrop is (usurpingly) more burdensome, the profitability/ROE guidance remains unchanged and no material impact on its FY outlook is expected. As highlighted in a recent note (see [HERE](#)), the outlook for Cairn Homes across all tenure types remains positive, supported by continued demand, active land acquisition, and disciplined execution. Its robust, asset-backed balance sheet, low-cost landbank, and a highly efficient operating platform leaves it well-positioned to deliver strong growth in volumes, profitability, and returns over the coming years. It remains a top-pick for us.

[Home...](#)

Kerry Group Strong start to year as innovation ticks up, FY guide reiterated

Kerry reported better-than-expected Q1'26 results this morning with LFL volumes +3.1% yoy (GBY +2.8%, VA consensus +2.6%). All regions grew and were ahead of estimates, with particularly robust outcomes in the Americas (+3.4% vs. VA consensus +3.2%) and APMEA (+4.6% vs cons +4.5%) partially offset by a more muted, but better-than-expected, Europe (+0.4% vs cons -0.5%). Growth is described as 'significantly ahead' of subdued F&B end-markets, driven by continued strong innovation activity in foodservice (vols +4.6%) and 'renovation' activity in retail (vols +2.5%) with activity picking up in high growth areas including 'high protein, proactive health and new format option'. Pricing was -1.3% reflecting input cost deflation in the quarter. EBITDA margin was +60bps in the period (GBY +40bps for the FY). Importantly, the Group has also reiterated its FY guidance for constant currency adj. EPS growth of 6-10%.

FY26 company guidance has been reiterated for constant currency adj. EPS growth of 6-10% with the Group expected to maintain its strong market outperformance and despite the uncertain geo-political backdrop, underpinned by its strategic positioning and good innovation pipeline. FX is now expected to be a c3% headwind (vs 4% previously and c.3% in our model). VA consensus is for FY26 Group revenue of €6,743m, EBITDA €1,239m (18.4% margin) and adj. EPS 499c (+3.7%). We model Group revenue of €6,755m, EBITDA €1,234m (margin 18.3%) and adj. EPS of 501c (+4.2% yoy, +7% constant currency).

Overall, this is a strong and reassuring update from Kerry with Q1 LFL momentum ahead of expectations and FY guidance reiterated. We expect a positive share price reaction this morning. Kerry shares are -14% ytd, and almost -30% yoy, which leaves it trading on just 13.5x P/E, a c.35% discount to peers and -20% vs global F&B stables. Overall, we continue to view this discount as disconnected from the Group's clear and consistently strong underlying fundamentals as its holistic solutions model ensures it maintains a strong outperformance vs customers. We expect little change to our or consensus estimates following today's update.

[Home...](#)

Recommendation: Buy
Closing Price:€69.85

Patrick Higgins
+353-1-641 0403
patrick.m.higgins@goodbody.ie

Air France-KLM Forward bookings broadly in line but Q2 fuel costs rise \$1.1bn

Air France-KLM reported a Q1 operating loss of -€27m. This was ahead of consensus at -€351m and our forecast of -€473m. Q1 capacity increased by +4%, broadly in line with our forecasts of +3.8% yoy. Total RASK at constant currency increased by +3.4% mainly driven by Passenger Network which saw RASK up by +5.1% yoy. This increase was "supported by ongoing premiumization and reduced industry capacity in March". The Group load factor rose +0.3ppts yoy to 86.3%. Unit costs at constant fuel, constant currency and excluding ETS increased +0.5% yoy as the fuel price increases are "not visible in Q1 due to a delay in pricing". Looking forward to Q2 forward bookings are broadly in line with long haul 72% booked (was 73% in Q1 2025) and short & medium haul at 64% (vs 63% in Q1 2025). Overall, the better than expected performance on costs, paired with stable forward bookings going into Q2 should be well received although we note the comments on the impact of higher fuel in Q2 and that oil has traded higher again today. We will be expecting further commentary on pricing during the conference call but at first glance it feels like a positive set of results for Air France-KLM.

Q1 Group revenues came in at €7.48bn (+4% yoy), in line with both consensus at €7.49bn and our forecast of €7.51bn. Total operating expenses were broadly flat yoy at €7.51bn mainly driven by a -15% yoy lower fuel bill at €1.36bn and a -12% yoy decrease in maintenance costs at €862m. As a result, the Q1 operating loss came in at -€27m (vs -€328m in Q1 2025). Turning to the balance sheet, net debt (excluding hybrids) decreased to €8bn (was €8.4bn in FY25). The net debt/EBITDA ratio decreased in the quarter to 1.5x (was 1.7x in FY25) while recurring adj. FCF came in at €884m (vs €783m in Q1 2025). Looking forward to FY26, Air France-KLM has guided slightly slower capacity growth of between 2% to 4% yoy (was 3% - 5% yoy). This is mainly driven by long haul capacity growth which is now guided between 2% and 4% (previously guided at c. 4%) and Transavia capacity which is expected to increase between 8% and 10% (vs c.10% previously). Guidance on CASK at constant fuel price, constant currency and excluding ETS is kept unchanged at between 0% and +2% yoy. Net Capex guidance is decreased to below €3bn (from the €3bn previously guided), and leverage is reiterated within the 1.5x to 2x range.

On fuel, Air France-KLM is currently 66% hedged for the full year (was 62% in FY25) at \$1,061 per MT (was \$778 per MT). The fuel bill for FY26 is expected at c. \$9.3bn. This is a \$2.4bn increase vs the \$6.9bn guided in FY25 with Air France-KLM forecasting a \$1.1bn cost increase in Q2, an \$800m rise in Q3 and \$400m increase in Q4. Overall, we expect our FY26 operating profit forecasts to come back a bit with the increase in the fuel bill more than offsetting the rise in fares.

[Home...](#)

Recommendation: Sell
Closing Price:€8.73

Antonio Duarte
+353-1-603 2703
antonio.duarte@goodbody.ie

Jet2 FY27 EBIT coming back to £227m

For FY26, Jet2 guided operating profit between £435m and £440m. This compares to our updated forecast at £438m (was £432m). Net cash at the end of FY26 was guided at £2bn which was better than our forecast at £1.7bn.

Looking forward to summer 2026, seat capacity is currently +7.7% yoy at 19.9m. This is slightly lower than guided in late February, but it is still a little higher than we had expected given the conflict in Iran. Booked passengers are up +6.2% with both package and flight-only growing. This represents a slowdown from the +7.9% growth reported previously with Jet2 commenting that the booking curve has shifted closer to departure. Q1 average loads were flat yoy, however, in the context of the ambition to drive loads up towards 90% this suggests that pricing will have to be lowered to stimulate further demand. On costs, Jet2 is 87% hedged for the summer at \$707 per metric tonne. This provides a significant degree of cost certainty. We now assume FY27 seat capacity will rise by +7.5% yoy (was +6%) with loads increasing by +1ppt to 88.3% (was 89.4%). Package pricing is expected to be -2.5% lower yoy (was -1.0%) with flight-only down -5.3% yoy (was -3.5%). Putting it all together we now expect Jet2 to deliver FY27 EBIT of £227m, a 37% downgrade from our previous forecast at £362m.

After updating forecasts and maintaining the same EV/EBITDA based valuation methodology our new price target is £11.80. We maintain our HOLD recommendation.

[Home...](#)

DCC £58 PE cash bid rejected – only the opening salvo?

Following speculation and a share price rise, DCC yesterday confirmed it had been in receipt of a cash bid from a PE consortium of KKR and Energy Capital Partners. The shares traded up to around £60 and closed at £58.80. This morning the company was confirmed that a bid of £58 has been rejected – the consortium has until 10th June to submit any revised bid or withdraw.

We would be surprised if the consortium's best and final offer was £58, a premium of less than 20% to the average price over the past month and FY27E sub-6.7x EV/EBITDA for the energy business after tech and other proceeds. Feedback from investors would demand a higher price, and we expect that the shares will be supported at current levels by expectations of a revised higher offer.

DCC reports FY26 results 19th May – subject to the status of the bid process, we would expect the company to use the occasion to make a case for a higher valuation as a standalone business, serving as a bid defence.

[Home...](#)

Recommendation: Hold
Closing Price: £10.80

Dudley Shanley
+353-1-641 9174
dudley.c.shanley@goodbody.ie

Recommendation: Buy
Closing Price: £58.80

Kenneth Rumph
+44 7442610768
kenneth.rumph@goodbody.ie

NCC Group H126 in line (neutral)

NCC group has released a H126 trading update outlining revenue growth of 5% to £151.3m. This is split by cyber revenues of £118.4m (+5.9% y/y) and escode revenues increased 1.9% to £32.9m. Gross margins increased to 45.9% reflecting better utilisation. Overall EBITDA is +27.7% y/y to £23.5m in line with expectations. Net debt of £10m including £33m spent on buyback with £7m remaining. On outlook the group continues to expect to deliver in line with expectations and notes the sale of the escode business remains on track to close shortly pending completion of final regulatory approvals.

Recommendation: Hold
Closing Price: £1.18

Patrick O'Donnell
+353-1-641 6013
patrick.odonnell@goodbody.ie

Overall, this a solid update from NCC and given the outlook by the company, we don't expect our numbers or consensus to move for fy26. However, it is encouraging to see utilisation increasing. The company report h1 results on June 11th.

[Home...](#)

Economic view Full impact of energy price rise yet to hit Irish consumers

Yesterday's retail sales data in Ireland gave us the first indication of the reaction of Irish consumers to the start of the war in Ukraine and the subsequent energy price shock. The data suggest some caution but are not definitive, with the spending trends tracking the previous few months. However, the renewed spike in energy prices over recent days, coupled with weaker consumer confidence readings of late suggests that some further weakness may be to come.

Dermot O'Leary
+353-1-641 9167
dermot.c.oleary@goodbody.ie

Excluding the volatile motor trades component, retail sales grew by 1.4% yoy in volume terms in Q1 2026. Within this, food sales were weak, falling by 2.4% yoy, with furniture and lighting sales falling by 3.5% yoy. The fastest growing component was pharmaceutical and cosmetic (+4% yoy), followed by "Other", which includes the fast-growing internet sales component. Other areas of growth were hardware, paints and glass (+2% yoy) and electrical goods (+2% yoy).

Separate data published yesterday showed that the annual rate of inflation remained at 3.6% yoy in April. Some of the government measures on energy would have been captured in the data, but some may not have. Energy prices rose by 16% yoy according to the CPI index, with core inflation standing at 2.3% yoy. It is clear that the full effects of the rise in energy prices have not yet been felt by Irish consumers, particularly in relation to electricity prices. With oil prices at new highs and gas prices 50% above pre-war levels, one can expect this to feed into electricity prices over the coming months if it is sustained.

[Home...](#)

Evoke FY25 headline numbers in line with post close update

Evoke has this morning released its FY25 results. Headline numbers had been pre-released with Group revenue of £1,782m, and Adj. EBITDA of £356m, broadly in line with the January post close update. Divisionally, UK&I Online revenue decreased by -3% (Betting -12%; Gaming +2%), Retail revenue decreased by -1% (Gaming +5%), and International grew by +9%. Within International, Denmark, Italy and Romania delivered strong growth, partially offset by a slowdown in Spain and a decline in non-core International markets. Net Debt at the end of the year was £1,863m, with ND/EBITDA of 5.2x. Q126 revenue was in line with management expectations with 2% LFL growth. UK Online delivered a solid quarter with revenue +5% including Gaming +8%. International revenue declined by 2% with growth in Italy and Denmark offset by declines in Spain, Romania and RoW. Retail revenue is flat on a reported basis but +3% on a LFL basis. As a result of the ongoing strategic review the Board is not providing any forward-looking guidance. Discussions with Bally's Intralot remain ongoing.

Given headline numbers had been pre-released there are no surprises in terms of FY25 performance. Q1 performance is solid, with UK Online delivering a good quarter, offset by weakness in several International markets. The focus for investors remains on the proposed acquisition of Evoke by Bally's Intralot at a price of 50p per share. Bally's Intralot will either announce a firm intention to make an offer or announce does it does not intend to make an offer by May 18th.

[Home...](#)

Recommendation: Buy
Closing Price: £0.41

David Brohan
+353-1-641 9450
david.brohan@goodbody.ie

Hammerson CFO Himanshu Raja to retire

Hammerson has this morning announced that its Chief Financial Officer, Himanshu Raja, will retire on 12 August 2026 following the publication of the group's H1 2026 results. He will remain employed for a further 12 months to support an orderly transition, with Deputy CFO Richard Shaw appointed as Interim CFO from that date. The board will now begin a formal process to appoint a permanent successor, considering both internal and external candidates.

Raja has been a highly respected CFO at Hammerson, bringing deep public-company experience and a steady, disciplined approach to capital allocation, balance sheet management and investor engagement. During his tenure, he played an important role in strengthening financial resilience and supporting the group's strategic reset as a more focused, urban-centric real estate business. As he retires, he leaves behind a stronger financial platform and a reputation for calm, credible leadership within the UK listed property sector.

Recommendation: Buy
Closing Price: £3.26

Denis McGoldrick
+353 1 603 2631
denis.mcgoldrick@goodbody.ie

[Home...](#)

Technology Hyperscalers positively surprise; Capex continues to rise driving some caution

Amazon reported Q1'26 Revenue of \$181.5bn (+17% y/y) ahead of consensus levels of \$177.2bn with operating income growing to \$23.9bn, up from \$18.4bn y/y. AWS, its cloud unit, saw revenue growth of 28% to \$37.6bn; the fastest growth rate since Q2'22; and +\$2bn q/q. This means AWS is now a \$150bn run-rate business. Spending estimates in Q1 of \$44.2bn exceeded analyst estimates with 12-month trailing FCF at \$1.2bn vs \$25.9bn 12 months ago. By segment, ecommerce operations saw 12% growth to \$64.3bn vs consensus levels of \$62.7bn; with advertising revenue increasing 24% to \$17.2bn, beating consensus of \$16.9bn. Overall EPS of \$2.78 was ahead of consensus expectations of \$1.62 but that includes pre-tax gains of over \$16.8bn related to its investment in Anthropic. Outlook for Q2 includes a revenue range of \$194-199bn above estimates of \$189bn, while **Capex forecasts remain unchanged at \$200bn. Its own custom chip business is now at a \$50bn run rate, making it a top 3 global data centre chip business.**

Patrick O'Donnell
+353-1-641 6013
patrick.odonnell@goodbody.ie

Meta reported Q1'26 Revenue of \$56.31bn (+33% y/y) ahead of consensus expectations of \$55.4bn. EPS came in at \$10.44 (+62%) ahead of consensus of \$6.67; largely aided by an \$8.03 income tax benefit adding over \$3 to EPS. Meta reports higher capex plans to a new range of \$125-145bn from a prior range of \$115-\$135bn citing higher component pricing and additional data centre costs. Segmentally, advertising revenue came in at \$55.02bn (+33%) aided by a 19% increase in ad impressions and 12% rise in average price per ad. In terms of guidance for Q2; Meta projects revenue of \$58-61bn (consensus \$59.5bn); while full year total operating expense guide is unchanged at \$162-169bn.

Alphabet reported Q1'26 results ahead of expectation with revenue of \$109.9bn, up 22% y/y. EPS of \$2.81 was ahead of \$2.61 expectations. Alphabet has increased its forecasts for FY26 capex to \$180-190bn range from \$175-\$185bn level after the cloud backlog has doubled in the last 3 months hitting c \$462bn and it spent \$35.7bn in Q1 capex (+107% y/y). Alphabet also expect "significant" growth again in 2027 in AI Capex. In terms of the business units, Google cloud came in at \$20bn (+63% y/y) and ahead of \$18.4bn estimates led by demand for enterprise AI solutions and AI infrastructure showing strong return on AI capex investment. Profitability is on the rise with operating income up 30% y/y including a 2% increase in operating margin to 36.1%. All business lines are seeing AI-related demand strength. Google Search added revenue of \$89.6bn (+16% y/y) with query depth rising aiding advertising relevance. Gemini now has 350m paid subscribers; while enterprise adoption saw 40% q/q rise with Gemini Enterprise MAU. **Shares are falling 6% on capex rises despite a lack of revenue upgrades in Q2.**

Microsoft delivered Q3 revenue of \$82.9bn (+18% y/y) aided by strong performance in its cloud and AI business with net income up 23% to \$31.8bn. Intelligent Cloud Division generated Revenues of \$34.7bn (+30% y/y) ahead of analyst expectations of \$34.1bn; and within that its cloud unit Azure was up 40% y/y with tangible signs of growth acceleration and ahead of analyst expectations of 37.9%. Its AI business is now at a revenue run rate of \$37bn (+123% y/y). Overall Cloud revenues came in at \$54.5bn (+29%) with remaining performance obligations up 99% to \$627bn. Microsoft is another of the hyperscalers lifting capex estimates in the year to \$190bn with consensus at about \$160bn. Microsoft is now guiding Q4 revenues of \$86.7bn-\$87.8bn, in line with analyst expectations of \$87.6bn; while the outlook for Azure growth of 39-40% is ahead of consensus at 36.4%; a positive point for investors evaluating return on investment as capex scales. Microsoft shares are marginally up after the update.

[Home...](#)

Issuer & Analyst Disclosure

Analyst Certification

The named Research Analyst certifies that: (1) All of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about any and all of the subject securities and issuers. (2) No part of my remuneration was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views expressed by me in this report.

Regulatory Information

Goodbody Stockbrokers UC, trading as Goodbody, is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland and Goodbody Stockbrokers UC is authorised and regulated in the United Kingdom by the Financial Conduct Authority. Goodbody is a member of Euronext Dublin and the London Stock Exchange. Goodbody is a wholly owned subsidiary of Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. This publication has been approved by Goodbody. The information has been taken from sources we believe to be reliable, we do not guarantee their accuracy or completeness and any such information may be incomplete or condensed. All opinions and estimates constitute best judgement at the time of publication and are subject to change without notice. The information, tools and material presented in this document are provided to you for information purposes only and are not to be used or considered as an offer or the solicitation of an offer to sell or to buy or subscribe for securities.

Conflicts of Interest

Goodbody has procedures and policies in place to identify and manage any potential conflicts of interest that arise in connection with its research business. Goodbody analysts and other staff who are involved in the preparation and dissemination of research operate and have a management reporting line that is independent to its business. Information barriers are in place between the Corporate Finance arm and the Research arm to ensure that any confidential and or price sensitive information is handled in an appropriate manner.

Our Investment Research Conflicts of Interest Policy is available at [Conflicts of Interest](#)

Investors should be aware, that, where appropriate, research may be disclosed to the issuer(s) in advance of publication, in order to correct factual inaccuracies only and not to materially amend the research in any way. Goodbody is satisfied that it has operational procedures in place, which ensure that such disclosures will not compromise the report's objectivity.

Goodbody Stockbrokers acts as corporate broker to AIB Group, Kingspan, Cairn Homes, Hostelworld Group

Goodbody has provided investment banking services in the past 12 months to AIB Group, Kingspan, Hammerson, Cairn Homes, Hostelworld Group

The list of companies for which Goodbody acts as market maker and on which it provides research, is available at [Regulatory Disclosures](#)

Other disclosures

A description of this company is available at [Company Descriptions](#)

All prices used in this report are as at close of business of the previous working day unless otherwise indicated.

The time of publication of the report is Irish Standard Time (UTC +1), which accounts for transitions between IST and GMT (i.e. daylight saving time).

A summary of our standard valuation methods are available at [Valuation Methodologies](#)

A summary of share price recommendations and whether material investment banking services have been provided to these companies is available at [Regulatory Disclosures](#)

Other important disclosures are available at [Regulatory Disclosures](#)

Goodbody updates its recommendations on a regular basis. A breakdown of all recommendations provided by Goodbody is available at [Regulatory Disclosures](#) Where Goodbody has provided investment banking services to an issuer, details of the proportion of buys, holds and sells attributed to that issuer will also be included. This is updated on a quarterly basis.

Recommendation Definitions

Goodbody uses the terms "Buy", "Sell" and "Hold. The term "Buy" means that the analyst expects the security to appreciate in excess of 10% over a twelve month period. The term "Sell" means that the security is expected to decline in excess of 10% over the next twelve months. The term "Hold" means that the analyst expects the security to neither appreciate more than 10%, or depreciate more than 10% over the next twelve months.

On 26th November, 2012, the terms "Add" and "Reduce" were removed from the Recommendation Definitions and both were replaced with the "Hold" recommendation. Any Previous Recommendation that refers to either an "Add" means that the analyst expected the security to appreciate by up to 15% over a twelve month period. Any Previous Recommendation to "Reduce" means that the analyst expected the security to decline by up to 15% over the next twelve months.

In the event that a stock is delisted the firm will automatically cease coverage. If however the firm ceases to cover a stock for any other reason the firm will disclose this fact.

Distribution of Research to US Investors

Goodbody Stockbrokers UC acts as a market maker and distributes investment research to US major institutional investors and all transactions by US persons involving securities of companies discussed in reports distributed by Goodbody Stockbrokers UC are to be effected via Goodbody Securities, Inc. ('GSI'), a member firm of FINRA and SIPC. GSI is an affiliate of Goodbody Stockbrokers UC and does not act as a market-maker or maintain any positions in any security.

Neither GSI nor its affiliates hold a proprietary position and/or controls on a discretionary basis more than 0.5% of the total issued share capital of the issuer(s) covered by this report.

Details of all such positions that are the subject of the research are disclosed in the research reports and at www.goodbody.ie/legal-and-regulatory-disclosures/. This information was current as of the last business day of the month preceding the date of the report.

An affiliate of GSI may have acted, in the past 12 months, as lead manager/co-lead manager of a publicly disclosed offer of the securities in this company. Investors should be aware that an affiliate of GSI may have provided investment banking or non-investment-banking services to, and received compensation from this company in the past 12 months or may provide such services in the next three months. The term investment banking services includes acting as broker as well as the provision of corporate finance services, such as underwriting and managing or advising on a public offer.

Estimates/forecasts developed by Goodbody Research may not be met. Additional information is available, upon request to Goodbody Research, about the bases and assumptions behind the conclusions reached in Research reports.

Disclaimer

While all reasonable care has been taken in the production and dissemination of this report it is not to be relied upon in substitution for the exercise of independent judgement. Nothing in this report constitutes investment, legal, accounting or tax advice, or a representation that any investment or strategy is suitable or appropriate to your individual circumstances, or otherwise constitutes a personal recommendation to you.

Private customers having access, should not act upon it in anyway but should consult with their independent professional advisors. The price, value and income of certain investments may rise or may be subject to sudden and large falls in value. You may not recover the total amount originally invested. Past performance should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of future performance; neither should simulated performance. The value of securities may be subject to exchange rate fluctuation that may have a positive or adverse effect on the price or income of such securities.

All material presented in this report, unless specifically indicated otherwise is copyright to Goodbody. None of the material, nor its content, nor any copy of it, may be altered in any way, transmitted to, copied or distributed to any other party, without the prior express written permission of Goodbody.

Goodbody, 9-12 Dawson Street, Dublin 2, Ireland

T (+353 1) 6670400 **W** www.goodbody.ie **E** research@goodbody.ie