

PRESS NOTICE

STERLING TREASURY BILL TENDERS: JANUARY TO MARCH 2003

In the fourth quarter of the 2002-03 financial year the DMO will hold a weekly tender at which the Treasury bills on offer are likely to comprise both one-month (approximately 28 days) and three-month (approximately 91 days) bills. In addition, the DMO intends to continue issuing six-month bills (approximately 182 days). These are currently issued on a monthly basis, but the DMO may choose to start issuing them more frequently during the quarter.

The precise quantities and maturities of sterling Treasury bills on offer, including any six-month bills, will be announced with the results of the tender in the week prior to the relevant tender but, as with three-month bills, the DMO expects the nominal amounts of six-month bills on offer at each tender to be relatively stable. The tender and settlement dates for the tenders to be held in the January to March 2003 period are set out below.

| <u>Tender date</u> | <u>Settlement date</u> |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 3 January | 6 January |
| 10 January | 13 January |
| 17 January | 20 January |
| 24 January | 27 January |
| 31 January | 3 February |
| 7 February | 10 February |

| <u>Tender date</u> | <u>Settlement date</u> |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 14 February | 17 February |
| 21 February | 24 February |
| 28 February | 3 March |
| 7 March | 10 March |
| 14 March | 17 March |
| 21 March | 24 March |
| 28 March | 31 March |

The next quarterly notice outlining the likely nominal amounts on offer and maturities of sterling Treasury bills to be made available at tenders in the period from April to June 2003 will be issued with the results of the tender to be held on 28 March 2003.

NOTE TO EDITORS

The DMO publishes each quarter a timetable for Treasury bill tenders for the quarter ahead, and an indication of likely maturities. The remit to the DMO for financial year 2002-03 was published as part of the Debt & Reserves Management Report 2002-03, on 14 March 2002 and was revised following the Budget on 17 April 2002 and again following the Pre-Budget Report (PBR) on 27 November 2002. Under the remit, the DMO is aiming for a stock of £14.0 billion of Treasury bills in issue by end-March 2003.

Further information on Treasury bill issuance may be found in the UK Treasury Bills Information Memorandum, which was published by the DMO in September 2001. This and the press release will be available on the DMO's web site at www.dmo.gov.uk.