

A BOUTIQUE OF VONTOBEL ASSET MANAGEMENT

Inflation finally reappears – why now and what's next?

Private and Public Pensions Summit November 2021



Vontobel



Factory Inputs



Surge in demand as output restarts – is lumber the exception or rule?

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US labour market – short term pressures?



Evidence that companies are not able to find workers

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Regional scorecards

	US	Germany	UK
CPI	6.2%	4.5%	4.2%
Core CPI	4.6%	2.9%	3.4%
PPI	8.6%	14.2%	6.1%
Unemployment	4.6%	5.2%	4.3%
First priced in hike	06/22	None for 3 years	02/22
Second priced in hike	11/22	None for 3 years	05/22
Mandate	Output + Inflation	Inflation	Inflation



Brexit as a force multiplier

Supply chains left in disarray

- Island more susceptible
- Sterling imported weakness
- EU-UK rule book heightens bottleneck risks

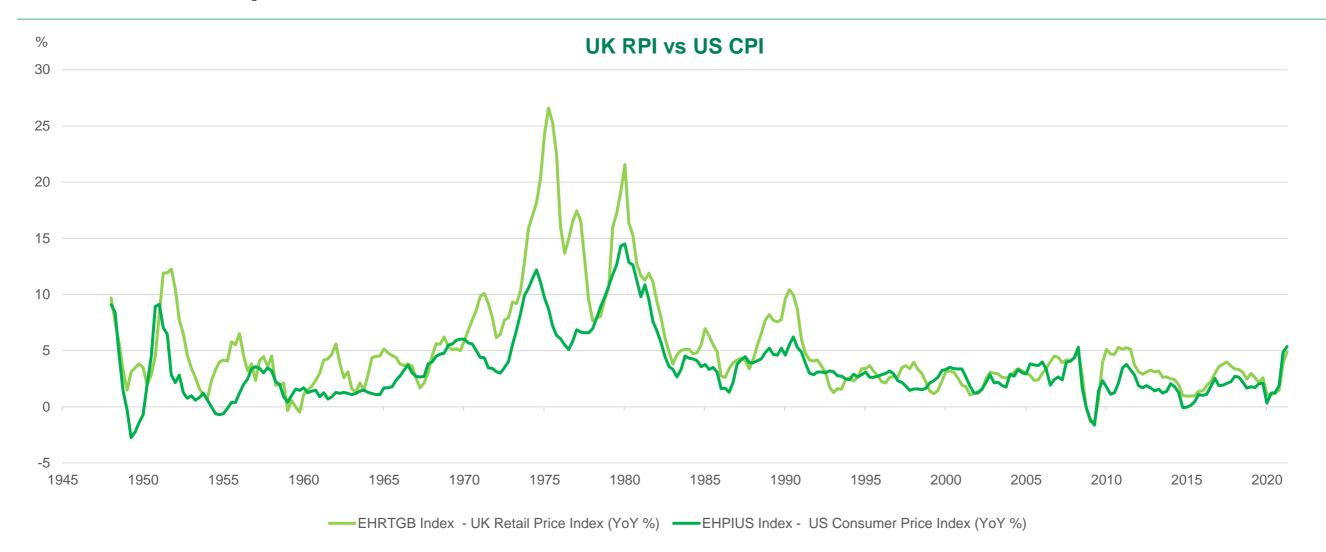
Labour market shock

- Benefited from cheap foreign labour
- Migrant workers accounted for 60% of UK net employment growth
- Net migration of EU workers down 75% between 2016 and 2019
- How many EU nationals will return?





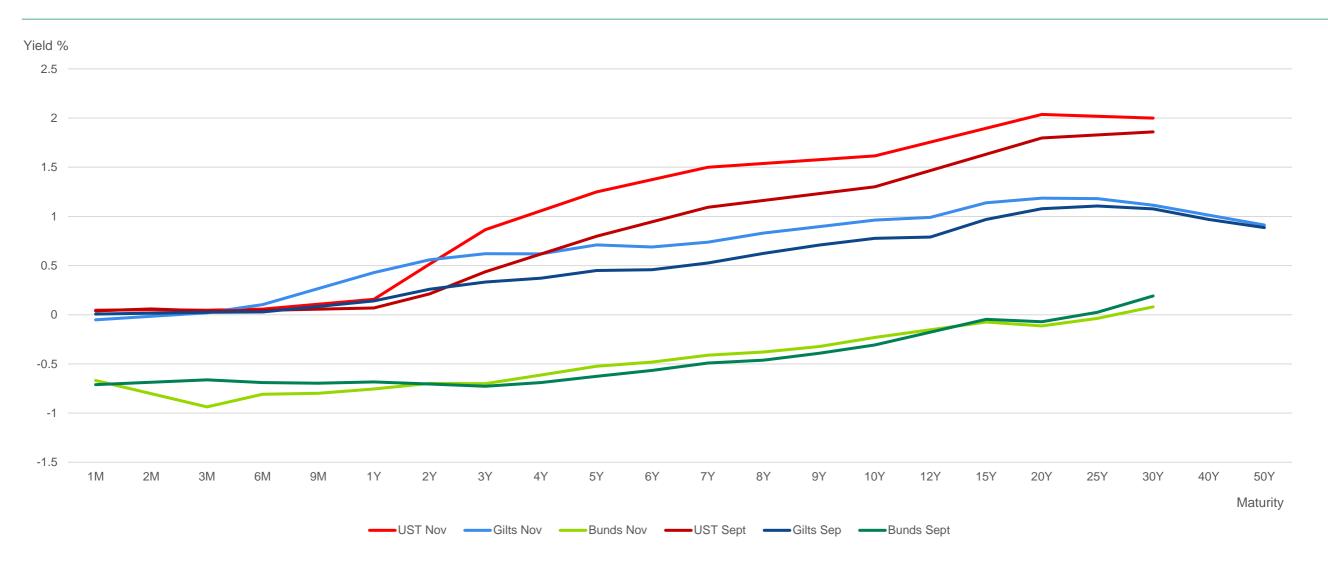
UK more susceptible to bouts of inflation



Source: Bloomberg, November 2021.



Curve shifts over last two months



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Mitigation and downside protection recommendations

Invest in short-dated bonds to minimise duration

- Duration measures sensitivity of a bonds price to changes in yield
- Bonds close to maturity are less sensitive to value erosion from rising inflation
- Credit curves are flat so opportunity cost is low
- Attractive yields still possible

Asset Backed Securities

- ABS are floating rate notes coupons with fixed spread over Sonia
- Sonia effectively tracks the Bank of England's base rate
- Refixing coupons at higher Sonia rate increases income
- No impact on market prices given no duration
- Short-dated credit exposure

Mitigate with higher levels of spread

- Credit fundamentals are strong default outlook is particularly benign
- Additional Income is scare commodity
- Potential for capital gains from spread contraction
- Consider high yield and subordinated financials

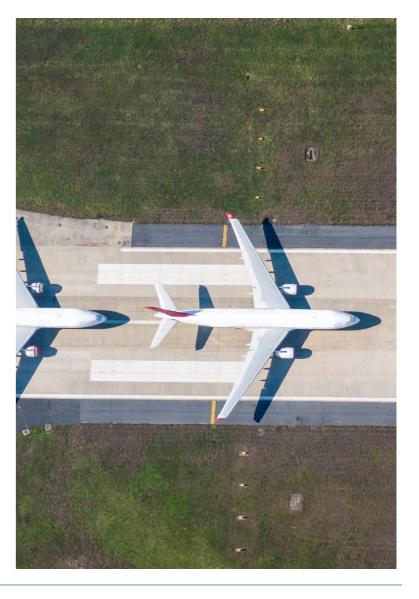
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