

MERGERSPRESSO

CORPORATE FINANCE - IT'S ALL ABOUT THE STRATEGY

LUCY ROBSON, PARTNER



**ADDLESHAW
GODDARD**

MORE IMAGINATION **MORE IMPACT**

MAY 2024

CORPORATE FINANCE

TRANSCRIPT

Welcome to Mergerspresso, Addleshaw Goddard's very first corporate finance podcast. I'm Lucy Robson and this is all you need to know on one topic in the time it takes to make your coffee.

Why this podcast? Well, having acted on 1/3 of 2023's UK public bids will be sharing our perspective on public M&A, capital markets, shareholder activism and everything in between.

So first up, strategic deals and trade buyers are roaring back.

2024 is seeing the return of the Mega Deal and the headline theme is strategic deals by trade buyers from mining, to paper to, financial services. Almost all this year's biggest takeover announcements are consolidation plays by trade buyers.

And why is that? Well, economic outlook is stabilising, empowering boards to go after the big deals. This inherent attraction in time together and undervalued sector stock should rerate. And it helps if you're taking out costs along the way.

Next up, debt markets remain challenging with interest rates higher for longer, which is keeping private equity at bay. So, we're not seeing PE go toe to toe with trade buyers just yet.

Plus, there are shareholders out there actively looking to exit. Buyers are getting bolder and they're not afraid to use that to pick up a bargain. 2024 has already seen more actively competitive deals than all of 2023. So, it's a brave corporate which doesn't have an eye on its defence response.

That's our view but let us know yours through the comments or feel free to get in touch. Catch you next time when we'll be talking about the shake up in the real estate sector. It's a REIT challenge.

MORE IMAGINATION MORE IMPACT

addleshawgoddard.com

© Addleshaw Goddard LLP. This document is for general information only and is correct as at the publication date. It is not legal advice, and Addleshaw Goddard assumes no duty of care or liability to any party in respect of its content. Addleshaw Goddard is an international legal practice carried on by Addleshaw Goddard LLP and its affiliated undertakings – please refer to the Legal Notices section of our website for country-specific regulatory information.

For further information, including about how we process your personal data, please consult our website www.addleshawgoddard.com or www.aglaw.com.