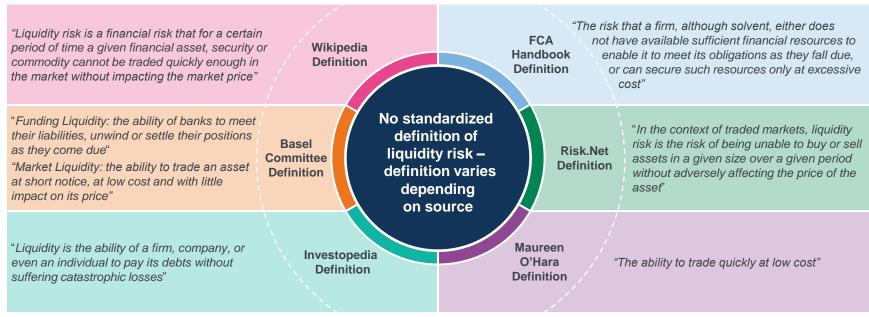


# **Liquidity Risk Optimisation for UK Insurers**

Mark Jordan, Aviva UK Ben Mabley, Goldman Sachs

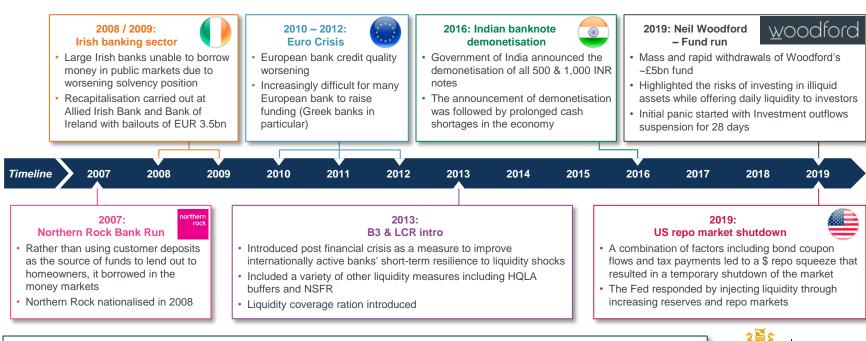
### What is Liquidity Risk?



Liquidity can take many different facets such as; market liquidity (interbank and asset market), funding liquidity and central bank liquidity.



### **Liquidity risk – A Trip Through Modern History...**

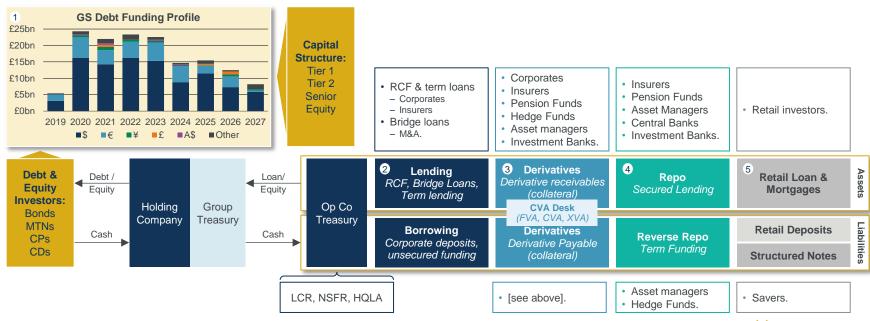


& press across multiple different areas of the financial world.

Liquidity risk increasingly mentioned in the public domain



### **Liquidity Risk Management – A Bank's Perspective**

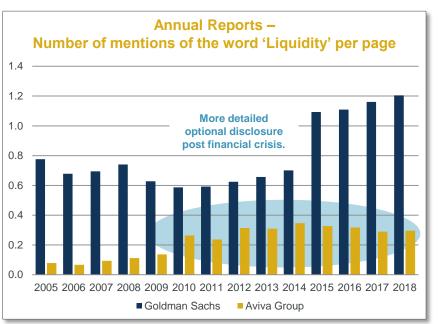


Every bank runs its liquidity & funding profile in a different manner – no one size fits all. Management of liquidity risk has become increasingly complex and is split between multiple departments.



### **How Important is Liquidity Risk to Banks & Insurers?**





General trend since the financial crisis for both banks & insurance companies to increase the quantum & detail of disclosure with respect to liquidity risk.



### **Liquidity Risk Quantification – A Bank's Perspective**

Ratio	1 Funding Valuation Adjustment ('FVA')	Liquidity Coverage Ratio ('LCR')	3 Net Stable Funding Ratio ('NSFR')	
Formula	Expected funding cost of entering into a derivative over it's full lifetime	HQLA Total net cash flow amount	Available amount of stable funding Required amount of stable funding	
Numerator considerations		<ul> <li>Includes HQLA level 1 [100% weighting],</li> <li>2A [85% weighting] &amp; 2B [75 / 50% weighting]</li> </ul>	Different weightings for different forms of available stable funding (100% / 95% / 90% / 50% / 0%)	
Denominator considerations	N/A	<ul> <li>Total net cash outflows = Total cash outflows</li> <li>– min [total cash inflows, 75% of gross outflows]</li> <li>Calculated over 30 day period</li> </ul>	Different weightings for different forms of required stable funding (100% / 85% / 65% / 50% / 15% / 10% / 5% / 0%)	
Time period	Projected lifetime of derivative	30 day stress period	Average over 1 year	
Disclosed?	In some cases - Implicitly part of balance sheet	Yes	Yes	
Introduced?	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2013	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2015	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2018	
Minimum Requirement	N/A	Step-up affect from [60%] in 2015 to [100%] in 2019	>100%	

HQLA					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3			
Coins & bank notes Sovereign / central bank Central bank reserves	Some sovereign / central bank Corporate debt (AA- & above) Covered bonds (AA- & above)	Qualifying RMBS Corporate debt (A+ to BBB-) Qualifying common equity shares			



## Potential Causes of Liquidity – Insurer's Perspective

Inverted
Production
Cycle – Insurers
receive
premiums upfront
and pay claims
later

• Claims- Unexpected volume claims, catastrophic events, eg pandemics **Insurance Obligations** • Lapses, withdrawals and surrenders of insurance policies New business volumes - Reduction of premium income to meet ongoing needs. **Assets**  Ability to transform assets into cash to meet liabilities due. **Derivatives**  Collateral to post under derivative arrangements. Experience collateral Reinsurance Timing lag for claims settlement. • External Financing sources, secured financing arrangements Other / Financial • Contingent Risks: eg Contract termination upon downgrade • Unit linked – operating expenses, and redemptions.



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### **Understanding Liquidity Risk – why is it topical?**

#### **Illiquid Assets**

- Recent trend for investing in illiquids has been particularly marked for annuity providers
- Incentivised by the search for yield (in a low rates and spread environment); and matching adjustment benefit to invest in illiquid assets that match long-dated liabilities

#### **Derivative Activity**

- Insurers can enter into derivatives to manage their exposure (typically interest rate, inflation & cross currency swaps)
- Increased derivative use, for example cross-currency of non-GBP assets
- Liquidity for collateral margining EMIR Mandatory Central Clearing
- Firms investing in overseas assets for increased returns, volumes and diversification. Needs to be [???]

#### **Group Fungibility**

 Particularly Matching Adjustment portfolios for life insurers, assets are effectively ringfenced and not available to meet other liabilities

#### **Pension Reform**

- Abolition of compulsory annuitization (2014 Budget)
- Increases likelihood of surrenders of pensions savings products.



### **Liquidity Risk Management Framework**

#### Solvency I

- Prudent' valuation of liabilities reflecting accounting practices
- Simplistic capital requirements
- No provision for risk review
- Liquidity Risk approach
- Liquidity Risk not included.

#### Solvency II

#### **Risk Based Approach**

 Firms must identify and manage their risks and have adequate capital to support those risks

#### **Liquidity Risk Approach:**

- Quantitative: Not incorporated into the standard formula
- Qualitative: Article 132: Prudent Person Principle: which requires firms "to ensure the security, quality, [and] liquidity...of the firm as a whole".

### Supervisory Statements SS5/19

### Liquidity Risk Management Framework

- Systems, controls and processes
- Identification of material liquidity risk drivers
- Scenario analysis and stress testing
- Liquidity Buffer
- Quantitative metrics and tools for measuring and monitoring liquidity risk drivers
- Effective contingency planning.



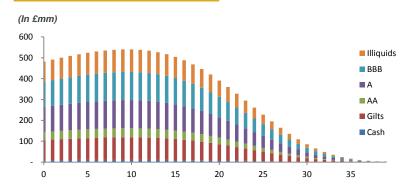
### **Liquidity Metrics**

- Liquidity Buffer: Excess of Stressed Liquidity Resources over Stressed Liquidity Requirements
- Liquidity Coverage Ratio: Stressed Liquidity Resources / Stressed Liquidity Requirements



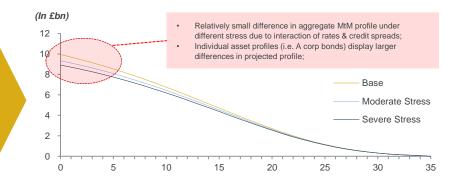
### **Quantifying Liquidity Risk (I)**

#### **Annuity Fund - Cash flow Profile**



Asset Class	GBP	USD	Rate Spread	Credit Spread
Cash	100%	0%	100bps	0bps
Gilts	100%	0%	100bps	25bps
AA	100%	0%	100bps	75bps
A	50%	50%	100bps	125bps
BBB	50%	50%	100bps	200bps
Illiquid	100%	0%	100bps	225bps

#### **Annuity Fund – Projected Asset MTM Profile**

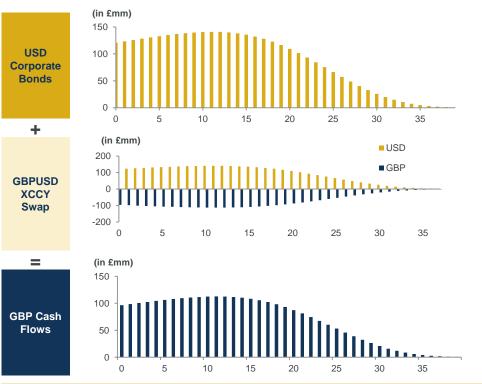


	Rates (in bps)			Credit Spreads (in bps)			
Scenario	USD LIBOR	GBP LIBOR	Swap spread	AA	Α	BBB	illiquid
Moderate Stress	-100	-75	-	+100	+150	+200	+225
Severe Stress	-250	-150	-	+200	+300	+400	+450

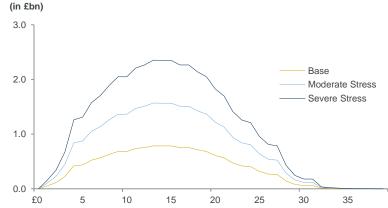
We define an annuity fund profile with a PV of £10bn and using a matching adjustment rate of 100bps.



## **Quantifying Liquidity Risk (II)**



#### **Illustrative Projected Cross-Currency Swap MTM Profiles**



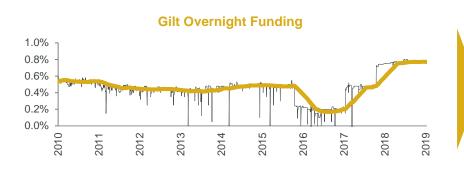
Risk	Sensitivity
Spot FX	~£35mm / 1%
GBP Rates	~\$5mm / bp
USD Rates	~\$5mm / bp
XCCY Basis	~\$5mm / bp

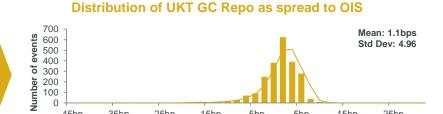
#### XCCY swap format.

- Non-resettable format;
- Proceed asset swap to term;
- Non-default adjusted CFs swapped back to term



### **Measuring Liquidity – Funding Rate / Repo Rate**





-5bp

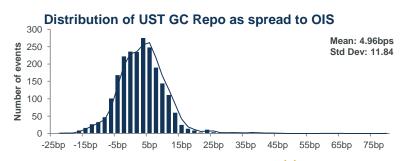
-15bp

-25bp

-35bp

-45bp





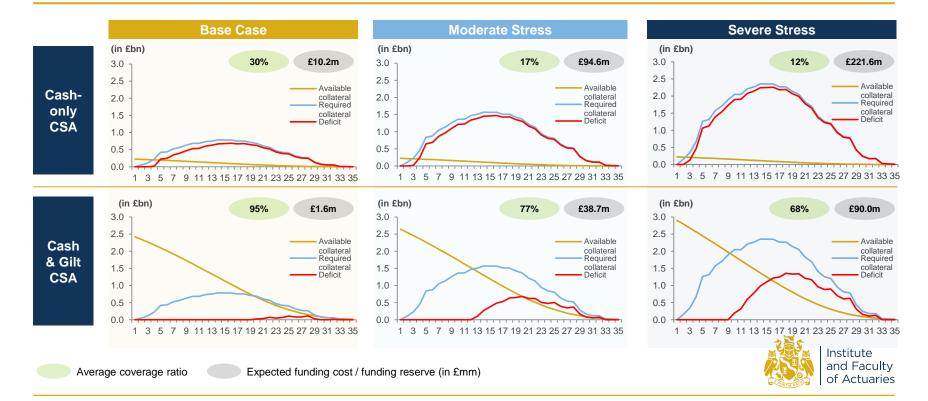
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25bp

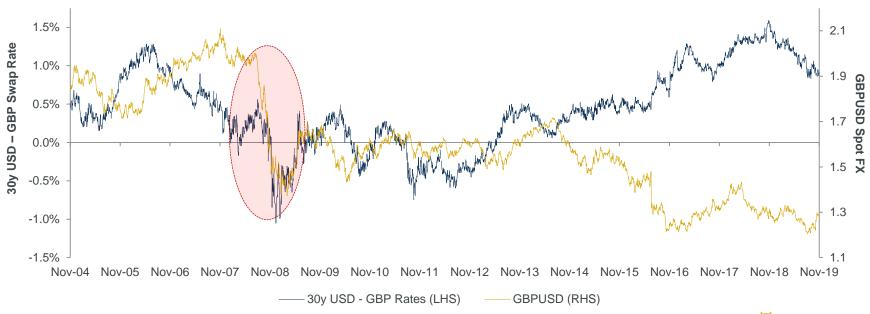
15bp

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## **Quantifying Liquidity Risk (III)**



## **Quantifying Liquidity Risk (IV)**



History shows us that there have been periods where GBPUSD depreciates and USD vs GBP Rates diverge significantly for prolonged periods of time – this can lead to large collateral calls.



# **Liquidity Solutions**

	Cash CSA	Corporate Bond CSA	SPV	
Eligible collateral under CSA	■ Cash	<ul> <li>Investment grade corporate bonds</li> <li>Symmetric CSA. Insurer can post: BBB+ IG credit &amp; above. Insurer can receive USD IG credit</li> </ul>	Underlying collateral	
Key Pricing Drivers	<ul><li>Bank SLR &amp; RWA</li><li>Bank liquidity reserves</li><li>Market risk</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Corporate bond funding levels</li> <li>Bank SLR &amp; RWA</li> <li>Bank liquidity reserves</li> <li>Market risk</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Corporate bond funding levels</li> <li>Bank SLR &amp; RWA</li> <li>Bank Liquidity reserves</li> <li>CVA</li> <li>Other running expenses</li> </ul>	
Liquidity reserve impact	Spread dilution due to liquidity set aside	Spread dilution due to liquidity set aside	Spread dilution due to liquidity set aside	
	<ul> <li>Transparent pricing currently across a number of banks</li> </ul>	✓ Larger pool of eligible assets that can be posted as collateral	√ Some operational elements more straight-forward - collateral calls are delegated	
	✓ Likely to have existing documentation in place	<ul> <li>Likely no drag on portfolio return &amp; MA spread from liquidity reserve</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Maximum loss and funding outlay limited to the initial investment amount</li> </ul>	
Pros / Cons (from insurer's point of view)	<ul> <li>Insurers may need to retain a liquidity pool in order to meet future potential collateral requirements – this may create a return drag</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Potential collateral and unwind valuation disputes between counterparties</li> </ul>	➤ Limited recourse	
,		<ul> <li>Divergence in pricing methodologies between different</li> </ul>	× Potential downgrade risk on collateral eligibility in SPV	
	<ul> <li>Extreme market conditions may result in a collateral calls in excess of the liquidity pool, creating a reliance on short-dated repo</li> </ul>	bank counterparties	× Additional running expenses	
		<ul> <li>Potential for insurer to be posted corporates and be exposed to corporate credit risk in the instance of a counterparty default</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Counterparty default on a non-standardised SPV can be a challenging process</li> </ul>	
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