

## **Six Minute Strategy**

**Lessons from Down Under** 

October 2022



## Australia - a financially robust sovereign nation



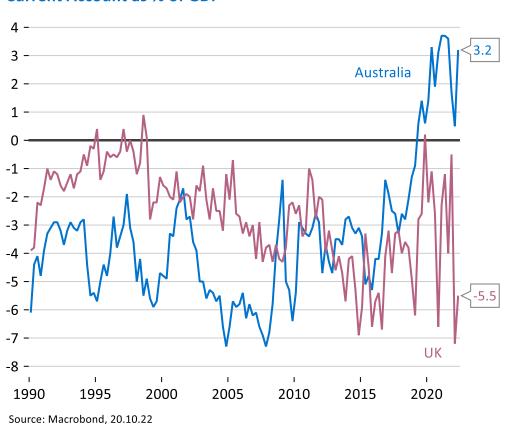


## **Australian current account improves while UK deteriorates**



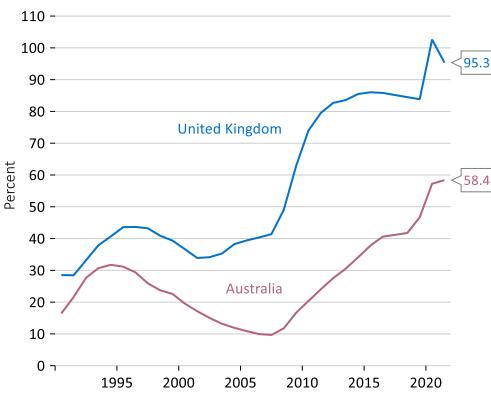
#### **Debt to GDP ratio UK and Australia widens**

#### **Current Account as % of GDP**



Source: Macrobond, 20.10.22

#### **Government Debt to GDP (IMF)**





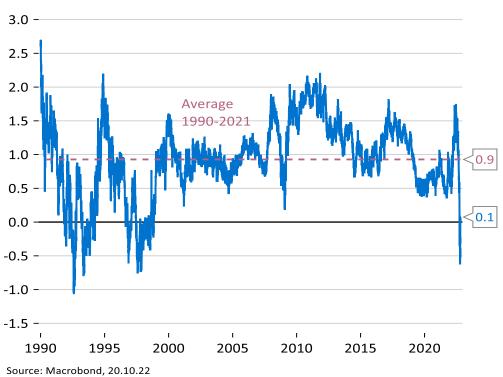
Six Minute Strategy - October 2022

# Australian govt bond have historically traded at a 1pp discount to the UK but recently narrowed and briefly traded at a premium



Australia - UK Govt bond spread narrows sharply

#### **Australia-United Kingdom, 10 Year Government Bond Spread**



Australian Govt Bond Rating AAA
UK Government Bond Rating AA- (on negative watch)

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Steady appreciation of Australian dollar vs GBP

#### **GBP per AUD, FX Spot Rates**



Source: Macrobond, 20.10.22



## 1. Budget U-turn - Start of a journey to UK fiscal credibility



Jeremy Hunt scrapped plans to cut taxes and reduced energy price subsidy period



### UK medium-term fiscal plan - Oct 17 2022

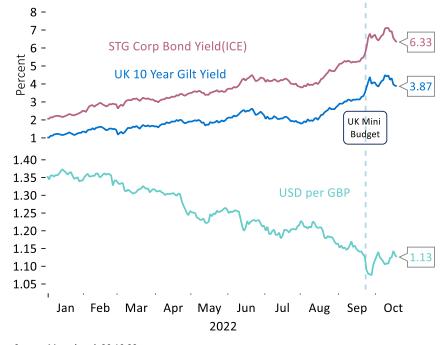
Policy (£bn)	2022- 23	2023- 24	2024- 25	2025- 26	2026- 27
Re-instate plans to raise Corporation Tax to 25% from April 2023	+2.3	+12.4	+16.6	+17.6	+18.7
Suspend 1p reduction in the basic rate of income tax	0	+5.3	+5.9	+5.8	+5.9
Maintain additional rate of income tax	+2.4	-0.6	+0.8	+2.2	+2.1
Maintain 1.25 percentage point increase in dividends tax rates	0	+1.4	-1.0	+1.1	+0.9
Maintain 2017 and 2021 reforms to off-payroll working rules (also known as IR35)	0	+1.1	+1.4	+1.7	+2.0
Cancel VAT-free shopping scheme for non-UK visitors to Great Britain	0	0	+1.3	+2.0	+2.1
Cancel one year freeze to alcohol duty rates	+0.1	+0.5	+0.6	+0.6	+0.6
Total	+4.7	+20.1	+25.4	+30.9	+32.3

Source: HM Treasury, 17.10.22

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#### **UK** financial indicators begin to stabilise

#### **UK 10Y Gilt & Corporate Bond Yields & Sterling**



Source: Macrobond, 20.10.22

'No government can control markets, but every government can give certainty about the sustainability of public finances'

Chancellor Jeremy Hunt, 17 Oct 2022



## 2. China growth challenged by lockdowns, energy and property

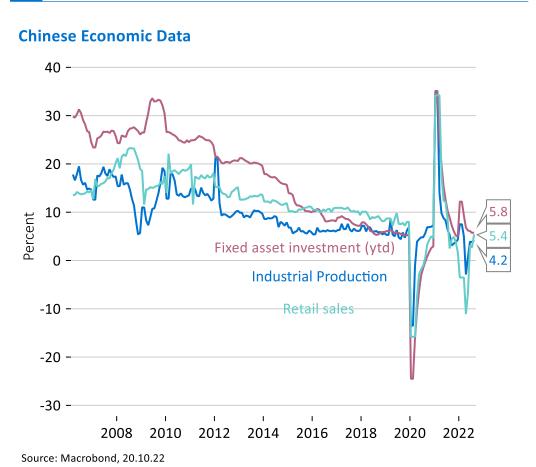
Chinese growth stalls – COVID restrictions, energy restrictions, property market



#### Chinese economy remains weak

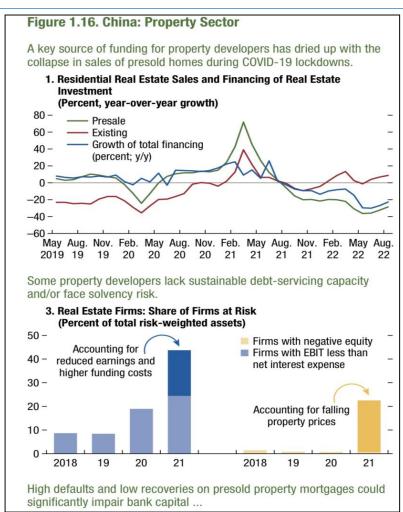
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#### China housing risks could spread to the banking sector



"Slowing global demand poses downside risks to China's strong exports, while consumers remain cautious of the property market"

Rio Tinto PLC Oct 2022 Q3 earnings report



Source: IMF Global Financial Stability Report Oct 2022



## 3. An orderly phase out of Russian gas in Europe is really possible

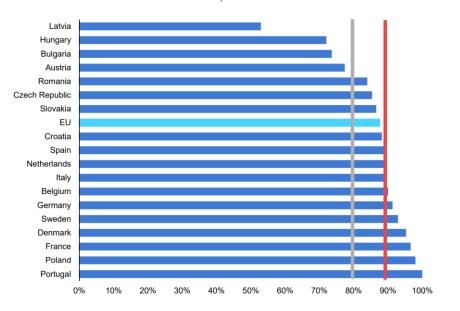
Longer term measures can be aligned with EU climate ambitions

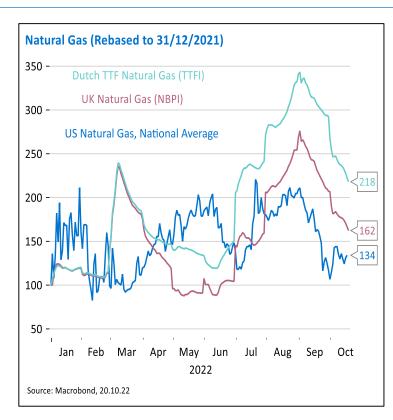


Measures to implement an accelerated and orderly phase out of Russian gas are lowering prices

EU gas inventory levels stood at 87% of their working storage capacity on 26 September 2022

Natural gas inventory levels as a percentage of working storage capacity in EU member states, 26 September 2022





The share of Russian pipeline gas to the EU has already fallen from 40% pre-Ukraine War to 9% today.

Source: Ursula von der Leyen EU Sept 7 2022

IEA, CC BY 4.0

Source: IEA Gas Market Report Q4 2022

Source: IEA analysis based on GIE (2022), Aggregated Gas Storage Inventory



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