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London as a Listing Venue for Natural Resources IPOs

Point-of-View

2026

BDO

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Executive summary

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London remains one of the world's leading capital markets for natural resources companies, underpinned by a deep and established ecosystem of specialist investors, brokers, advisers, NOMADs and sector analysts with decades of mining and energy market experience. While overall IPO activity has been subdued in recent years, there are increasing signs of recovery. Following a particularly challenging period in 2024 and H1 2025, 2025 saw a meaningful improvement in fundraising activity and 2026 has continued to demonstrate early green shoots for quality issuers. Importantly, London's position is not defined by the volume of natural resources companies listed, but by the quality and scale of those businesses. The LSE hosts a significantly higher proportion of large-cap and mega-cap natural resources companies than comparable markets, with an average market capitalisation materially ahead of both Toronto and Sydney as comparables.

London's competitive advantage extends beyond the IPO itself. Natural resources companies require access to capital throughout the project lifecycle, and the LSE has consistently demonstrated its ability to support issuers long after admission. Since 2020, 85% of natural resources IPO issuers returned to the market for at least one follow-on fundraising and 73% completed two or more raises, highlighting the depth of London's investor base and its ability to fund growth from exploration through to development and production. Combined with liquidity levels that compare favourably with major global exchanges, this provides companies with a funding platform rather than simply a listing venue.

Recent market reforms have further strengthened London's attractiveness. Changes to the UK listing regime, secondary fundraising rules and recent changes to AIM regulations are streamlining the admission process, reducing cost and complexity for issuers while maintaining the governance standards that continue to attract institutional capital. The proposed AIM changes in particular, seek to preserve the market's entrepreneurial character while improving competitiveness against international peers.

Against this backdrop, successful IPO execution increasingly depends on preparation. Companies must be able to demonstrate robust financial reporting, effective governance, ESG credibility and readiness for evolving requirements such as Provision 29. BDO's dedicated natural resources team supports companies throughout the IPO journey, from readiness assessments and financial reporting preparation to governance enhancement, ESG reporting and internal controls. In a market that is reopening selectively and rewarding quality, IPO readiness has become a key determinant of both successful admission and long-term value creation.

Key facts

Green shoots emerging

LSE IPO proceeds rose 179% YoY to $2.7bn in 2025, marking the market’s strongest annual fundraising result since 2021.

Moving to fewer, but larger NR companies

Between Dec 2020 and Dec 2025, average market cap of AIM NR companies rose by 47.8%, despite a 20.7% decline in listings.

Creating a gap between other markets

As of May 2026, 27% of LSE NR companies were valued >$250m, compared to 19% in Toronto and Sydney, while 6% were >$10bn.

Strong follow on activity

Since 2020, 54% of LSE NR IPOs delivered positive 3M returns, while 85% completed ≥1 and 73% completed ≥2 follow-on raises.

Characterised by strong governance

LSE offers deep sector expertise, strong governance standards, and access to global capital for natural resources companies.

Simplification is removing red tape

The LSE’s proposed 2026 AIM Rules changes aim to simplify the admission and reduce listing costs to attract more issuers.

LSE position within the global NR capital markets

Geopolitics and supply constraints are reshaping NR investment and listing activity

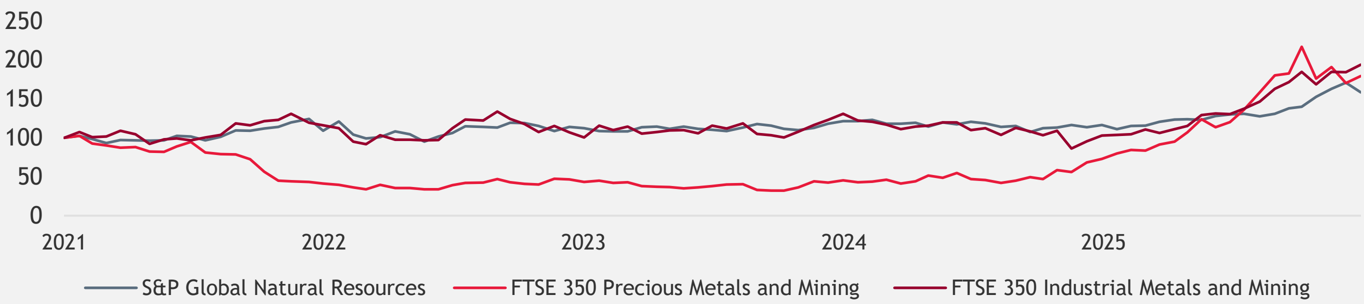
Entering 2026, the natural resources industry continues to navigate significant uncertainty shaped by global economic conditions, commodity price volatility, inflationary pressures, regulatory shifts, and geopolitical risks, all of which influence investment behaviour and operational strategies. The world is transitioning, with AI adoption, the energy transition, urbanisation, and the expansion of the global middle class expected to sustain elevated commodity demand and robust cash flows. The NR[1] sector appears well-positioned for growth, especially in base metals like copper, which are supported in the near term by the Chinese economy. However, a deeper or more prolonged conflict in Iran could ultimately undermine demand by entrenching higher inflation and slowing global economic activity.

Global capital markets sentiment towards NR

The S&P Global NR Equities Index delivered a total return of 19.7% in Q1 2026, driven by rising commodity prices, structural supply constraints, and a war-related energy shock. Q1 began positively, supported by resilient corporate earnings and recovery expectations, before sentiment shifted sharply in late February as the Middle East conflict disrupted energy production and supply chains, pushing oil and gas prices higher. Energy led gains with a 37.9% return as turmoil in Venezuela and Iran drove crude prices higher.

Metals and mining posted a more modest return of 10.5%. Copper entered a supply deficit and gold continued to attract central bank and institutional demand as a geopolitical and inflation hedge. These trends are also evident in London-based indices, which are signalling a powerful new uptick: since May 2026, the FTSE 350 Precious Metals & Mining Index has surged by 139%, and the FTSE 350 Industrial Metals & Mining Index has risen by 93%.

Comparison of NR indices performance, total return[2]



Geopolitical impact on NR listing strategies

Vår Energi (oil & gas)

OSE, February 2022: IPO was priced at the bottom of indicated range due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Cobalt Holdings (metal investor)

LSE, June 2025: IPO was cancelled due to weak demand and market volatility.

Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Company (gold)

LSE, H1 2025: IPO was paused waiting for better market conditions.[3]

The global IPO market began Q1 2026 with strong momentum, raised $41bn across 232 IPOs (a 37% increase in proceeds compared to $30bn in Q1 2025), although escalating geopolitical tensions complicated investor decision-making and created tailwinds for energy, defence, and digital infrastructure. Meanwhile AI and selected healthcare subsectors continued to attract demand. In EMEIA, the Middle East conflict has driven energy prices higher and pushed regional equity markets into retreat. In the past years, rising volatility has already delayed some NR IPOs, while others were forced to price below the target.

Source: MSCI website; S&P Global website; Cohen & Steers — Global Natural Resource Equities Commentary — [Q1 2026]; EY — How IPO candidates can navigate uncertain and selective markets — [April 2026]; World Bank — Commodity Market Outlook — [April 2026]; S&P Global — World Exploration Trends — [2026]; BCG — Great Company, Great Stocks: Miners Must Be Both — [February 2026]; Media overview

Notes: (1) Herein after NR stands for natural resources; (2) Rebased at 100 on 21 May 2021; (3) IPO timing is not publicly disclosed; (4) According to BCG's survey of mining investors in February 2026, n=n/a

LSE position within the global NR capital markets

Geopolitics and supply constraints are reshaping NR investment and listing activity

Geopolitical impact on commodity market

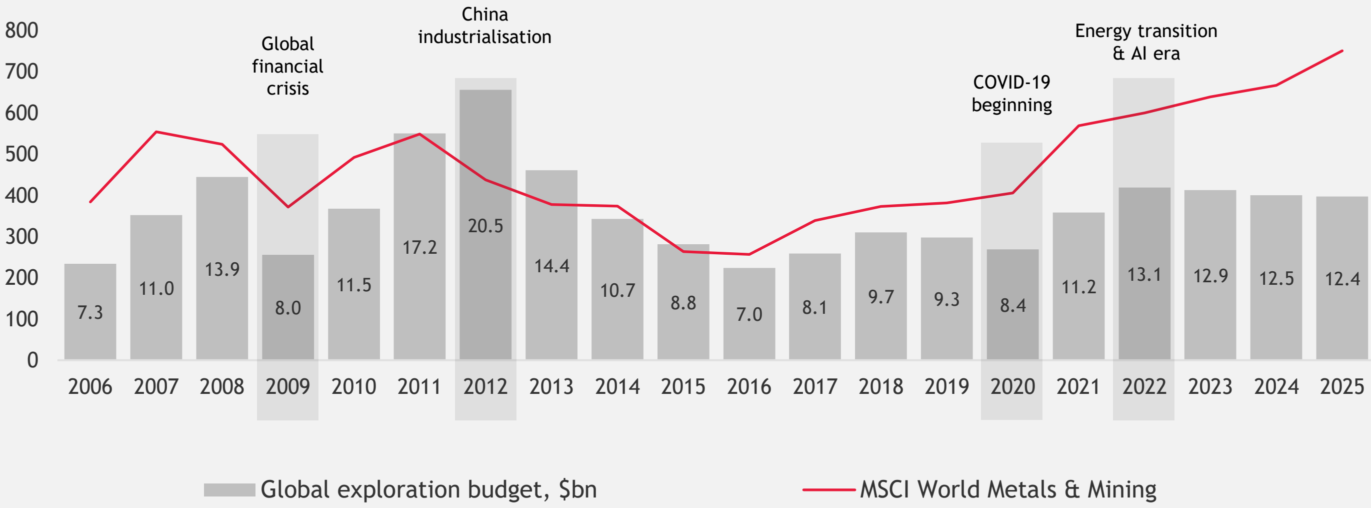
Attacks on energy infrastructure and shipping disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz in March 2026 triggered the largest oil supply shock on record.

+64% MoM	Brent price change in March 2026
~10 million bbl/day	Global supply reduction in March 2026
~35%	The Strait of Hormuz share in global seaborne crude oil trade

The closure of the Strait of Hormuz, a key export corridor, combined with long-term damage to Qatar's LNG infrastructure drove European and Asian gas prices to historic highs in March 2026.

+59% MoM	European gas price gains in March 2026
+94% MoM	Asian LNG price surge in March 2026
~20%	The Strait of Hormuz share in global LNG trade

Global exploration through the commodity cycles



Historically, mining exploration budgets have tracked metals equity performance through the commodity cycle on a delay. When equity markets peaked in 2011–2012, exploration spending continued to rise for another year to $20.5bn before collapsing to $7.0bn by 2016. Yet exploration budgets, at $12.4bn, are still 40% below the 2012 peak, reflecting chronic underinvestment.

Set against rising commodity prices, this is creating the conditions for a material supply gap and reinforcing the investment case for natural resource assets. Investors still largely view mining stocks as a short-term commodity trade rather than a long-term, through-cycle investment. Most investors confirmed that they plan to hold mining stocks for fewer than five years, focusing primarily on commodity exposure rather than company fundamentals.[4]

Source: MSCI website; S&P Global website; Cohen & Steers – Global Natural Resource Equities Commentary – [Q1 2026]; EY – How IPO candidates can navigate uncertain and selective markets – [April 2026]; World Bank – Commodity Market Outlook – [April 2026]; S&P Global – World Exploration Trends – [2026]; BCG – Great Company, Great Stocks: Miners Must Be Both – [February 2026]; Media overview

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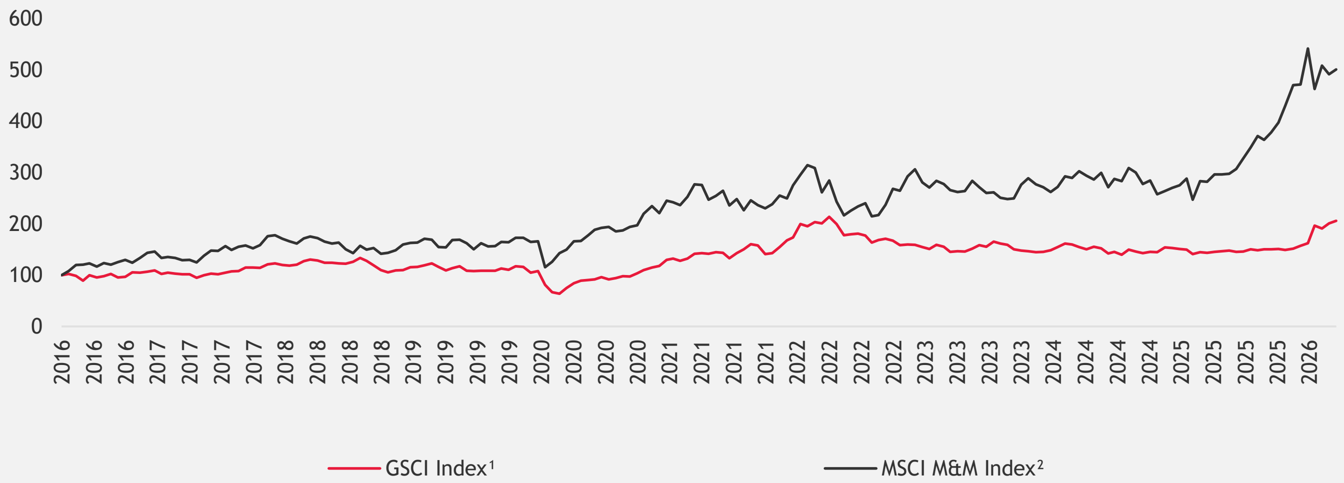
LSE position within the global NR capital markets

Rising commodity prices are improving the listing outlook for natural resources companies

Metals and minerals are no longer simply economic inputs, but critical strategic assets. Their pricing and availability is increasingly shaped by geopolitics and industrial policy as well as macroeconomic forces. Security of supply has become a defining challenge, underscored by the ongoing Middle East conflict. Miners are at the centre of the competition for critical minerals, offering investors exposure to secular demand trends driven by new technologies and a multipolar world, while persistent inflation, fiscal dominance, and long-term de-dollarisation are creating an increasingly supportive backdrop for hard assets – gold has restored its role as a reserve asset.

Commodity and metal miners index return, %



Metals & mining sector relevance for investors[3]

01

Strategic capital is flowing: the Trump administration has committed $18.6bn to critical minerals across ~60 projects, including $5bn in direct investment and $100bn in loan guarantees under the July 2025 One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

02

Stockpiling, tariffs, and export controls: China has imposed restrictions on gallium, germanium, graphite, and rare earth processing technologies. The USA is establishing a $12bn strategic critical minerals reserve (Project Vault) and the EU is developing joint stockpiles through RESourceEU.

03

Supply deficits: persistent supply shortages are expected across critical metals markets by 2035, with lithium demand forecast to increase by 307%, alongside copper (+29%), aluminium (+23%), and uranium (+29%).[4]

04

Mining equities are undervalued: according to Reuters, mining accounts for just 0.4% of global equity markets, yet assets in mining Exchange Traded Funds have more than doubled to $87.4bn, and $8.2bn inflows in Q1 2026 have reversed 2025 outflows.

Source: Baker Steel — The Competition for Critical Minerals is Heating Up — [May 2026]; World Bank — Commodity Market Outlook — [April 2026]; S&P Global — World Exploration Trends — [2026]; Media overview

Notes: (1) S&P GSCI (Goldman Sachs Commodity Index) is a global benchmark that tracks the performance of the 24 commodity markets across five physical sectors: energy, industrial metals, precious metals, agriculture, and livestock; (2) MSCI World Metals and Mining Index is composed of large and mid cap stocks across 23 developed markets countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK, and the USA; (3) According to Baker Steel Capital Managers; (4) Based on USGS, IEA, International Aluminium Institute, and Baker Steel analysis; (5) Forecast; (6) The numbers are converted from Hong Kong dollar, C$ to $ due to the average exchange rates by FRED; (7) Warsaw Stock Exchange

LSE position within the global NR capital markets

Rising commodity prices are improving the listing outlook for natural resources companies

Pricing trends for metals and minerals

Metals and minerals have emerged as the standout performers in 2026, combining structural demand from the energy transition, AI infrastructure and defence.

Al

Aluminium

The metal most affected by the Middle East conflict (7% of global seaborne trade); demand is likely to grow steadily due to electrification.

Price Q1 2026:	+13% QoQ
Price 2026 (FC)[5]:	+22% YoY

Cu

Copper

Copper is transitioning from a cyclical industrial metal to a strategic resource tied to electrification, AI and infrastructure resilience.

Price Q1 2026:	+15% QoQ
Price 2026 (FC):	+21% YoY

Ni

Nickel

Indonesia (60% of global supply) cut ore production quotas by 30% in 2026.

Price Q1 2026:	+17% QoQ
Price 2026 (FC):	+12% YoY

Li

Lithium

Global supply delays, speculative buying, robust EV and battery energy storage are driving demand. Exploration budgets fell 46% in 2025 however, and the supply pipeline for 2027 and beyond is constrained.

Price Q1 2026:	+59% QoQ

Au

Gold

There is strong speculative and safe-haven demand due to geopolitical tensions. Exploration budgets reached an all-time high of $6.2bn in 2025 (50% of all global mineral exploration spending).

Price Q1 2026:	+17% QoQ
Price 2026 (FC)[3]:	+37% YoY

Ag

Silver

This is the sixth consecutive year of physical supply deficit due to growing industrial consumption outpacing mine supply.

Price Q1 2026:	+55% QoQ
Price 2026 (FC):	+76% YoY

Pt

Platinum

Safe-haven asset due to geopolitical risks, but supply is constrained: ~70% of global production comes from South Africa, increasing sensitivity to energy costs, labour disruptions, and Rand volatility.

Price Q1 2026:	+30% QoQ
Price 2026 (FC):	+53% YoY

REE

Rare earth elements

Critical to industrial policy and geopolitics, yet highly concentrated: China controls ~60% of global REE mining and ~85% of processing capacity, creating a vulnerability unlike any other commodity market.

Price Q1 2026:	+38% QoQ
Price 2026 (FC):	+53% YoY

Commodity price volatility impact on NR listing strategies

HKEX

Zijin Gold International
(September 2025)

The company debuted on the HKSE when the gold price hit a fresh all-time high. It raised $3.2bn[6], its shares surged 60.8% by midday, lifting the market capitalisation above $38.5bn.[6] The oversubscription was 240.7x. The transaction set three simultaneous records: the largest gold mining IPO globally, the largest overseas listing by a Chinese mining company, and the second-largest IPO worldwide in 2025.

TSX WSE[7]

Lumina Metals Corp
(April 2026)

The Canadian mineral exploration and development company raised $296.0m[6] in its IPO on the TSX in April 2026, the largest Canadian mining IPO since 2021 and more than three times oversubscribed. The deal was supported by copper prices reaching a 12-year high and marked the strongest mining IPO environment since the commodity downturn of 2022.

NYSE

WhiteHawk Energy
(May 2026)

The US-based natural gas and minerals company filed for an IPO in May 2026 as the Middle East conflict sent crude prices higher, boosting the appeal of US energy assets and paving the way for more oil and gas issuers to tap the listing market. The company reported a 611.6% YoY revenue surge to $67.6m in 2025, up from $9.5m in 2024.

Source: Baker Steel — The Competition for Critical Minerals is Heating Up — [May 2026]; World Bank — Commodity Market Outlook — [April 2026]; S&P Global — World Exploration Trends — [2026]; Media overview

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LSE position within the global NR capital markets

In 2025, London combined a concentration of large NR companies with strong YoY IPO growth

According to the UK Government, the London Stock Exchange MM[1] plays a critical role in developing the domestic mining industry and mobilising financing internationally, and the AIM[2], the largest growth market in Europe, is particularly relevant for smaller critical minerals companies advancing projects to commercialisation. Ongoing capital markets reforms and the London Metal Exchange's role as the global benchmark for non-ferrous metals pricing further reinforce London's position as the major venue for natural resources financing, trading, and standard-setting.

13%

of the total market capitalisation of all listed mining companies worldwide is held on LSE as of November 2025

30%

of the 20 largest publicly traded mining companies are listed on LSE as of June 2026

>50%

of capital raised on the European growth markets over the past five years was raised on the AIM as of January 2026

Prominent London NR IPO cases over the last 15 years

MM | HKEX | Raised: $10bn

Glencore

Diversified mining & trading, May 2011

The IPO was supported by strong global investor demand, resulting in a high-quality, geographically diversified shareholder base. Investor appetite was driven by favourable industry fundamentals and the company's vertically integrated trading and mining model.

AIM | Raised: $202m

Yellow Cake PLC

Physical uranium, July 2018

Recovering uranium prices and growing institutional belief in nuclear energy's role in decarbonisation created the conditions for strong demand, making the IPO a direct beneficiary of a structural re-rating of the uranium investment thesis.

MM | Raised: $325m

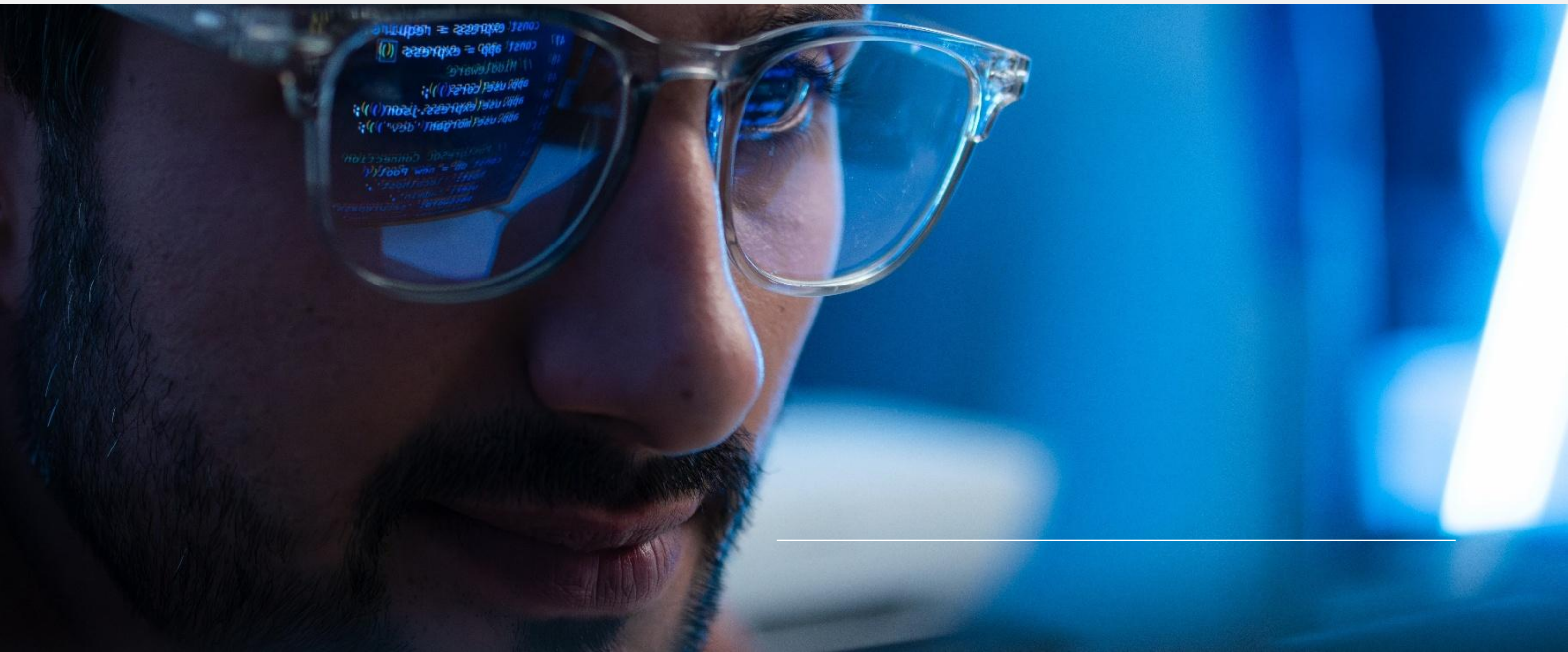
Ithaca Energy

North Sea oil & gas, November 2022

The IPO was executed at an inflection point in energy market sentiment: the Russian invasion of Ukraine had structurally repriced North Sea assets as energy security instruments rather than purely commercial ones.

Source: GOV.UK; Baker McKenzie website; Mining Beacon website; Companies websites; Hill Dickinson – Raising growth capital on AIM: why mining and oil and gas companies continue to choose London – [January 2026]; GOV.UK – Vision 2035: Critical Minerals Strategy – [January 2026]; Media overview

Notes: (1) MM – London Stock Exchange Main Market (senior market); (2) AIM – London Stock Exchange Alternative Investment Market (junior market); (3) TSX – Toronto Stock Exchange (senior market); (4) TSXV – TSX Venture Exchange (junior market); (5) The figure is not publicly available; (6) The numbers are converted from £, Canadian dollar to $ due to the average exchange rates by FRED



LSE position within the global NR capital markets

In 2025, London combined a concentration of large NR companies with strong YoY IPO growth

Comparative positioning of LSE vs TSX and ASX

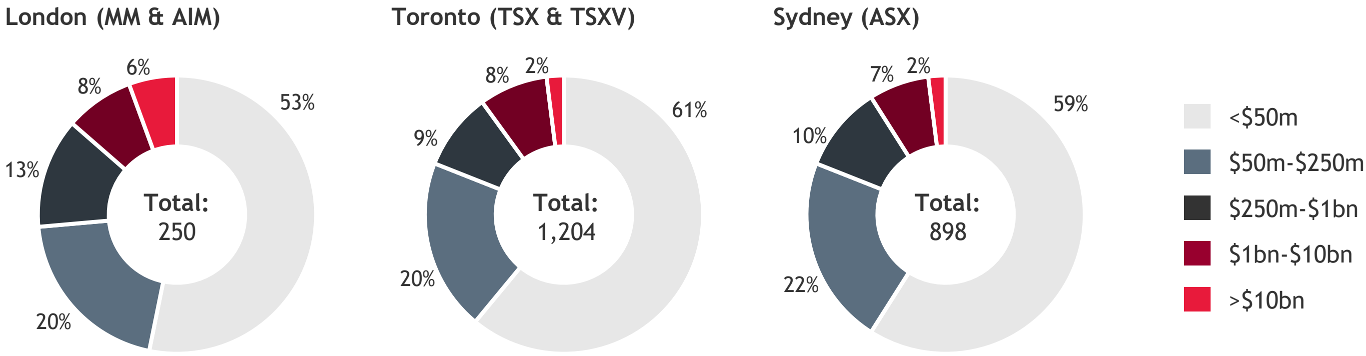
Compared with Toronto and Sydney, London has a more concentrated natural resources market focused on larger issuers. The LSE Main Market is home to larger mining and energy companies with an average market capitalisation of $13.6bn – more than 2.5x the TSX average. At the same time, AIM remains one of the world's leading funding platforms for junior miners, with an average market cap more than 2x that of TSXV, a comparable Canadian venue. Although AIM hosts fewer natural resources companies than TSXV, it stands out through its ability to support companies beyond the IPO.

Since inception, AIM has raised over $182.7bn[6] in equity capital, including $117.8bn[6] through follow-on fundraisings; around two-thirds of total capital raised has come from secondary issues. AIM issuers face lighter regulatory requirements, including no mandatory TCFD-aligned climate disclosure or UK Sustainability Reporting Standards. This makes AIM particularly attractive for exploration and development-stage companies, offering a strong track record of capital raising and a flexible regulatory environment that supports long-term growth.

	London		Toronto		Sydney
	Main Market	AIM	TSX	TSXV	ASX
# of listed companies as of Dec 2025	926 (-4.7%)	619 (-9.6%)	2,089 (+14.6%)	1,531 (-4.0%)	2,083 (-3.3%)
Total market cap ($tn[6]) as of Dec 2025	5.4 (+23.5%)	0.1 (-3.5%)	4.5 (+25.6%)	0.1 (+56.6%)	3.0 (+5.8%)
# of IPOs in 2025	9 (+28.6%)	14 (+40.0%)	2 (+100.0%)	3 (-25.0%)	35 (+20.7%)
# of NR companies as of May 2026	101	149	231	973	898
Avg. market cap ($bn[6]) of NR companies as of May 2026	13.6	0.2	5.5	0.1	0.7

NR listed companies by market capitalisation as of May 2026

The concentration of larger issuers on the LSE is also reflected in the market capitalisation profile of listed natural resources companies. Despite having the smallest company base, the LSE has a significantly higher share of large-cap ($1bn–10bn) and mega-cap (>$10bn) issuers, underscoring its role as a market for established, institutionally backed mining companies.



Source: GOV.UK; Baker McKenzie website; Mining Beacon website; Companies websites; Hill Dickinson — Raising growth capital on AIM: why mining and oil and gas companies continue to choose London — [January 2026]; GOV.UK — Vision 2035: Critical Minerals Strategy — [January 2026]; Media overview

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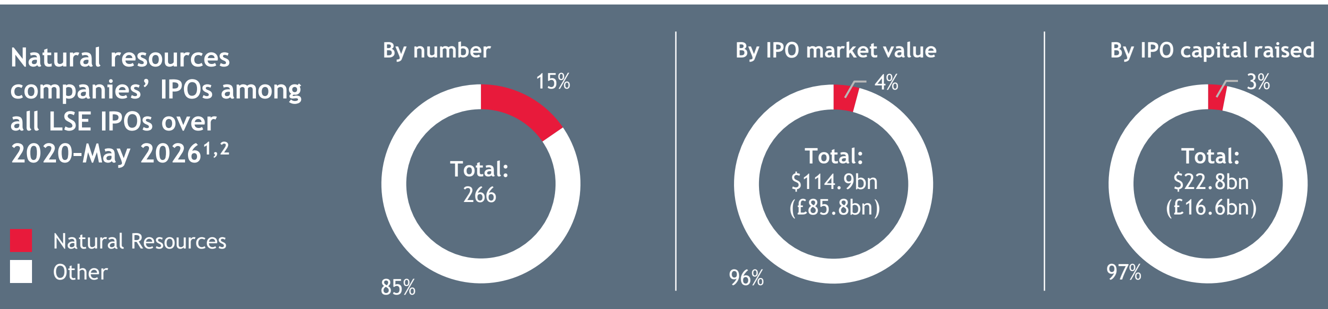
Investor appetite and performance trends in NR IPOs

Since 2020, London's NR IPO activity has been dominated by smaller growth-stage issuers

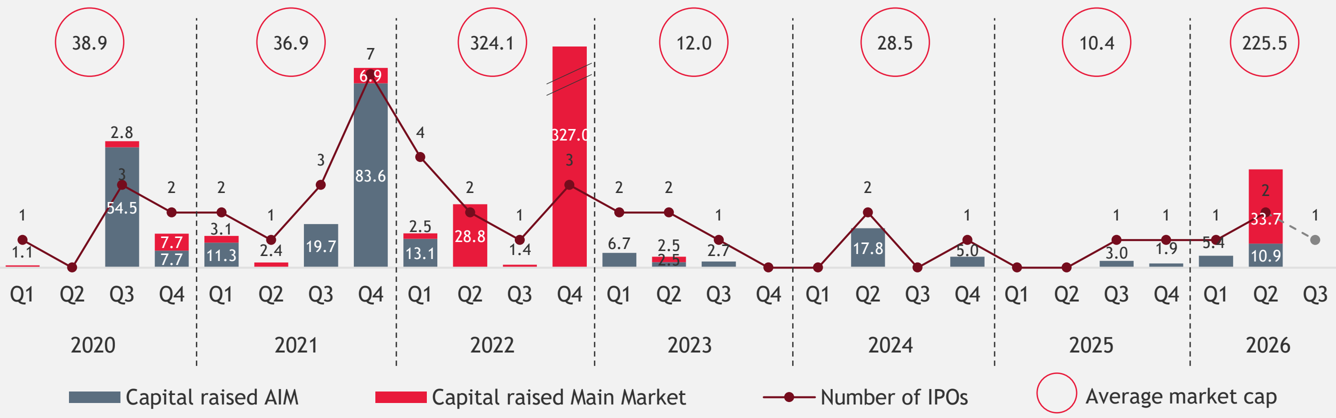
Since 2020, the mining sector has entered a new investment cycle, driven by growing demand for critical minerals and years of constrained supply following a decade of underinvestment in exploration. Against this backdrop, natural resources companies have remained an important component of London's IPO market, despite the broader slowdown in UK equity capital markets. Between 2020 and the end of May 2026, the London Stock Exchange recorded 266 IPOs, of which 41 were natural resources companies. These included 32 industrial metals and mining, six oil, gas, and coal, and three precious metals and mining companies.

Of these, 23 companies listed on AIM, and 18 listed on the International and UK Main Markets. Natural resources players raised a combined \$665.6m (£521.3m) at IPO and had an aggregated admission market cap of approximately \$4.8bn (£3.8bn), featuring disproportionately among new listings. Activity concentrated mainly in small- and mid-cap exploration and development companies. AIM continued to play a central role, offering access to public capital for earlier-stage issuers with projects in mining-friendly jurisdictions like Australia, Canada, Africa, and Latin America.

Natural resources companies' IPOs among all LSE IPOs over 2020-May 2026[1,2]



LSE NR IPOs dynamics over 2020 - May 2026, \$m[2]



H1 2025 was one of the weakest periods for London IPO activity in decades, with only around \$210m (£160m) raised from five IPOs across the market. No natural resources IPOs were completed as investor appetite remained and London faced broader challenges, including lower equity valuations and subdued institutional demand. The largest NR transaction since 2020 was the IPO of Ithaca Energy PLC, a UK North Sea oil and gas operator and producer, in November 2022. Ithaca's IPO priced at the bottom of the expected range, giving the company an initial valuation of \$2.8bn and raising \$324.7m. Since the start of 2026, three NR companies have completed IPOs: Meridian Mining PLC, a mining development company focused on gold and copper assets in Brazil; Rift Helium PLC, a primary helium exploration and development company focused on Tanzania; and Halo Minerals PLC, a copper development company focused on extracting critical minerals from legacy mining waste. As of June 2026, Barrick Mining, one of the world's leading Canadian gold miners, was reportedly weighing a London listing for its African business as it negotiated a potential sale.

Source: LSE New issues and IPOs database (as of 31 May 2026); LSE website; Companies' websites; BDO analysis; Media overview

Notes: (1) For the purposes of the analysis, only companies directly involved in the exploration, development, or acquisition of natural resources assets were included. Equipment manufacturers and mining services providers were excluded from the sample. The analysis considers only new listings and excludes transfers between market segments, as well as International Offerings (GDR); (2) The numbers are converted from £ to \$ due to the average exchange rates by FRED; (3) Only cases where the degree of oversubscription was explicitly disclosed were selected

Investor appetite and performance trends in NR IPOs

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Oversubscription levels of LSE NR IPOs and selected cases[3]

Since 2020, **10 out of 41** natural resources IPOs were oversubscribed. Oversubscription was typically concentrated in companies with stronger relevance, like critical minerals, battery metals, helium, and high-quality gold-copper assets.

2.9x

Helix Exploration

In April 2024, Helix Exploration, a company focused on helium exploration and development projects in the USA, received a strong response to its IPO, with investors indicating a willingness to invest $28.1m, significantly above the targeted raise of $9.6m. The demand came from institutions, family offices, and high-net-worth individuals.

1.6x

Cornish Metals

In February 2021, Cornish Metals, an exploration and development company focused on copper, tin, and lithium mining projects in the USA, which had undertaken a restructuring to 're-domicile' the group from Canada to the UK, raised $11.3m following an oversubscribed placing among institutional investors, significantly above the original target of $6.9m.

1.5x

Pulsar Helium

In October 2024, Pulsar Helium, a primary helium company with assets in Minnesota, USA, and Greenland, completed a heavily oversubscribed fundraising ahead of its AIM admission. The company raised $6.4m, with investor demand exceeding the amount offered by more than 50%, reflecting strong interest from both new and existing shareholders.

Source: LSE New issues and IPOs database (as of 31 May 2026); LSE website; Companies' websites; BDO analysis; Media overview

Notes: (1) For the purposes of the analysis, only companies directly involved in the exploration, development, or acquisition of natural resources assets were included. Equipment manufacturers and mining services providers were excluded from the sample. The analysis considers only new listings and excludes transfers between market segments, as well as International Offerings (GDR); (2) The numbers are converted from £ to $ due to the average exchange rates by FRED; (3) Only cases where the degree of oversubscription was explicitly disclosed were selected

While London's natural resources IPO market has remained muted since 2020, recent evidence points to encouraging green shoots rather than a full-scale recovery. The absence of NR IPOs in 2025 reflected wider weakness across UK capital markets, yet activity resumed in 2026 with successful admissions across gold, copper and helium-focused issuers. Importantly, investor demand has been concentrated in companies aligned to structural themes such as critical minerals, energy security and resource scarcity, rather than speculative commodity exposure alone.

Oversubscription data reinforces this trend. Transactions linked to high-conviction investment themes and credible development pathways have attracted strong institutional support, demonstrating that capital remains available for quality issuers with compelling equity stories. This reflects a broader shift in the London market, where the number of listed natural resources companies has reduced, but the average size and maturity of issuers has increased.

For prospective IPO candidates, the message is clear: London's market is open, but increasingly selective. Companies that combine attractive commodity exposure with strong governance, clear development milestones and IPO readiness are best placed to access capital and benefit from improving investor sentiment. As market reforms reduce friction in the listing process, these early signs of recovery could support a strengthening NR IPO pipeline over the medium term.

Well before an IPO, investors, NOMADs, sponsors and regulators will scrutinise the quality of financial reporting, governance arrangements and the robustness of internal controls. During the transaction, auditors play a key role in providing credibility over historical financial information, supporting working capital and financial reporting processes, and helping management address areas that may attract investor focus. However, the most successful issuers view the audit process as extending beyond admission. Following listing, companies must meet heightened reporting expectations, manage ongoing market disclosures and often support repeat fundraising activity. Establishing strong financial controls, governance and reporting disciplines early can therefore improve IPO execution, enhance investor confidence and position companies to access follow-on capital as they progress through the project lifecycle.

Adam Barallon
Director – Natural Resources & Energy

Investor appetite and performance trends in NR IPOs

Natural resources IPO pipeline in London led by base and precious metals

There have been favourable market conditions for NR companies since 2020. The energy transition, critical minerals supply shortages, rising demand for copper, strong gold prices, increasing demand for helium from the medical and high-tech manufacturing sectors, energy security concerns, inflation hedging, and a supportive commodity price outlook have all bolstered values in the sector.

Commodity exposure of LSE NR IPO issuers during 2020 - May 2026[1,2]

By region

Type of activity	Commodity/Region	Europe	North America	Africa	Asia & Australia	South America
Resource exploration & development	Base metals (copper, lead, zinc, iron ore)	5	5	3	4	2
	Precious metals (gold, silver)	4	5	3	3	2
	Battery metals (cobalt, nickel, graphite, lithium, vanadium)	4	2	4	3	1
	Specialty metals (tantalum, niobium, tin, tungsten)	3	1	3	2	0
	Rare earth elements	1	0	2	2	0
	Helium	0	3	2	0	0
	Uranium	0	1	0	2	0
	Oil and gas	2	0	0	0	1
	Coal	0	1	0	0	0
Resource recycling & recovery	Base metals	0	0	0	0	1
	Battery metals	1	0	0	0	0

By year

Type of activity	Commodity/ Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 YTD
Resource exploration & development	Base metals (copper, lead, zinc, iron ore)	3	5	4	4	0	2	1
	Precious metals (gold, silver)	2	4	5	3	0	2	1
	Battery metals (cobalt, nickel, graphite, lithium, vanadium)	2	3	5	2	1	1	0
	Specialty metals (tantalum, niobium, tin, tungsten)	1	3	4	1	0	0	0
	Rare earth elements	2	0	0	0	2	0	1
	Helium	1	0	1	1	1	1	0
	Uranium	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
	Oil and gas	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
	Coal	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Resource recycling & recovery	Base metals	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Battery metals	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

IPO activity was led by base metals, particularly copper (17 IPOs), as well as gold (15 IPOs), with projects concentrated in Europe (the Nordic countries, Greenland, and the UK), the USA, Canada and Australia. Demand for development capital is also emerging in Africa, reflecting its growing importance as a battery metals region. Oil and gas assets were primarily concentrated in the North Sea and the Colombian Basin. Australian projects featured prominently across base metals, precious metals, battery metals and uranium, although many larger Australian resource companies continue to favour domestic exchanges. Only one metallurgical coal company, Bens Creek Group PLC, pursued an IPO during the period, highlighting the sector's limited appeal to public market investors.[3]

Source: LSE New issues and IPOs database (as of 31 May 2026); LSE Further issues database (as of 31 May 2026); LSE website; Investegate website; Companies' websites; Mining IQ — Investor Sentiment Insights — [2026]; BDO analysis; Media overview

Notes: (1) The analysis covered 41 natural resources IPOs admitted to the LSE between 2020 and May 2026, with the following admission tickers: 1SN, AEXG, ARV, ASP, ATN, AXL, BEN, BHL, CCZ, CLA, CMRS, CRTM, CTL, CUSN, EGT, FCM, FDR, FMET, FRG, GMET, GROC, GSCU, HALO, HAMA, HE1, HEX, ITH, KEN, MET1, MNO, ORCA, PALM, PLSR, REE, RHR, RIFT, TGR, TM1, TUN, UMR, and URAH; (2) The heatmap shows the commodity and geographic exposure of natural resources companies at the time of IPO. Each score represents the presence of a commodity-region combination within an IPO issuer's asset portfolio. Companies with exposure to multiple commodities and/or regions contribute to multiple categories; (3) The company was delisted from AIM on 24 June 2024 following a planned liquidation and administration process; (4) According to Mining IQ's 2026 Investor Sentiment Insights survey of institutional and retail mining investors conducted during November and December 2025, n=125; (5) The numbers are converted from £ to $ due to the average exchange rates by FRED

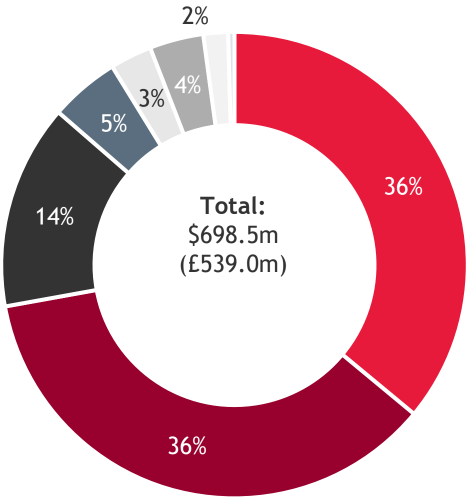
Investor appetite and performance trends in NR IPOs

Natural resources IPO pipeline in London led by base and precious metals

Role of institutional investors and specialist funds in supporting issuers and providing liquidity

Institutional investors and specialist funds play a central role in supporting London-listed natural resources issuers. Their importance is particularly high for junior miners and exploration-stage companies, which often lack operating cash flow and require repeated equity funding to move projects through drilling, resource definition, feasibility, permitting and development. Mining investor sentiment is strong for 2026, with 58.3% investors forecasting additional gains and 90% planning to maintain or increase their mining investments.[4]

Follow-on capital fundraising by LSE NR companies listed during 2020–May 20265



	# of issues
Private placement	12
Public institutional placement	85
Public institutional placement + subscription	24
Public institutional placement + subscription + retail offer	1
Public institutional placement + retail offer	2
Subscription	21
Subscription + retail offer	3
Retail offer	5

Among the recent cases of institutional investors and specialist funds participating in follow-on fundraisings were Helium One Global, which raised $8.2m through a direct subscription by Cynosure Capital in 2024; Cornish Metals, which secured $73.9m in 2025 with backing from Vision Blue Resources and the National Wealth Fund; Fulcrum Metals, which obtained an $8.1m funding package from Yorkville Advisors in 2026; and Tungsten West, where Lansdowne Partners committed to invest at least $10m in the company's 2026 placing.

Source: LSE New issues and IPOs database (as of 31 May 2026); LSE Further issues database (as of 31 May 2026); LSE website; Investegate website; Companies' websites; Mining IQ — Investor Sentiment Insights — [2026]; BDO analysis; Media overview

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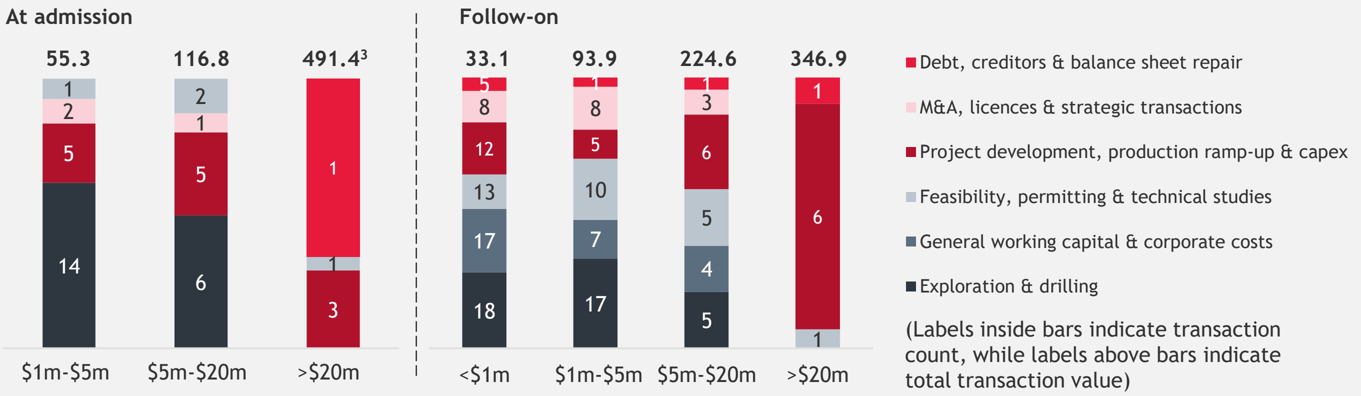
Investor appetite and performance trends in NR IPOs

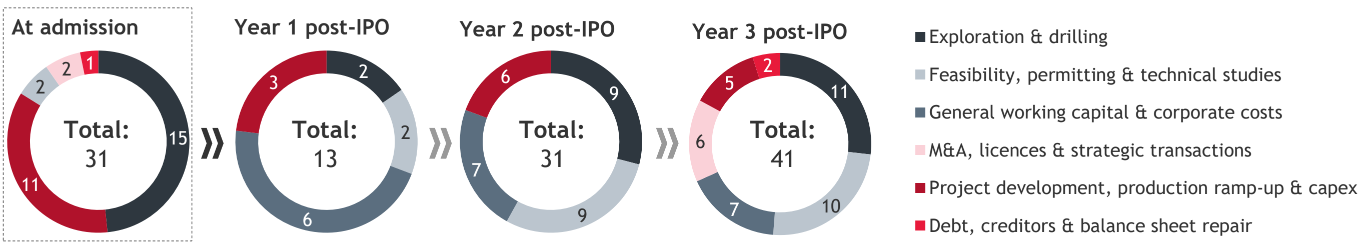
Follow-on fundraising becomes more strategic as NR projects move towards development

Follow-on funding is a key differentiator of LSE for natural resources issuers. With approximately two-thirds of capital raised on AIM coming from secondary issues, the market provides companies with repeat access to capital after admission without requiring a full re-listing. This is particularly important for natural resources players, where projects require staged funding as they progress from exploration to development and production. Among natural resources companies that listed on the London Stock Exchange between 2020 and May 2026, 85% returned to the market for follow-on funding at least once, while 73% completed two or more capital raises.

Value of fundraising activity of 2020 – May 2026 issuers by purpose and transaction size, $m[1,2]



Follow-on fundraising lifecycle of 2020 – May 2023 LSE NR IPOs by years since IPO, number of issues[4]



Post-IPO fundraising is generally larger and more strategic as natural resources issuers move through the project lifecycle and expand into new projects. At admission, capital was primarily directed towards exploration and drilling, particularly in smaller $1m-$20m transactions, as many issuers listed before their assets were fully defined or de-risked. Once admitted, companies typically returned to the market to fund the next stages of development, with follow-on activity rising from 13 issues in Year 1 to 31 in Year 2 and 41 in Year 3 across 2020-2023 issuers. As projects advanced, the funding mix broadened towards feasibility studies, working capital, M&A, project development and balance sheet repair. For example, Aterian PLC[5] completed four follow-on rounds in the first three years after admission, initially for exploration and drilling and later for project development, working capital, and balance sheet purposes, as its asset base expanded across copper and base metals in Morocco, mineral trading platform in Rwanda, and copper-silver and lithium assets in Botswana. Meanwhile, Artemis Resources Ltd showed a different dynamics, with all six follow-on transactions during 2023-2024 supporting continued drilling across its Australian gold, copper, and lithium portfolio.

Source: LSE New issues and IPOs database (as of 31 May 2026); LSE Further issues database (as of 31 May 2026); FT website; Bloomberg website; LSE website; Investegate website; Companies' websites; BDO analysis based on LSE New issues and IPOs database; Media overview

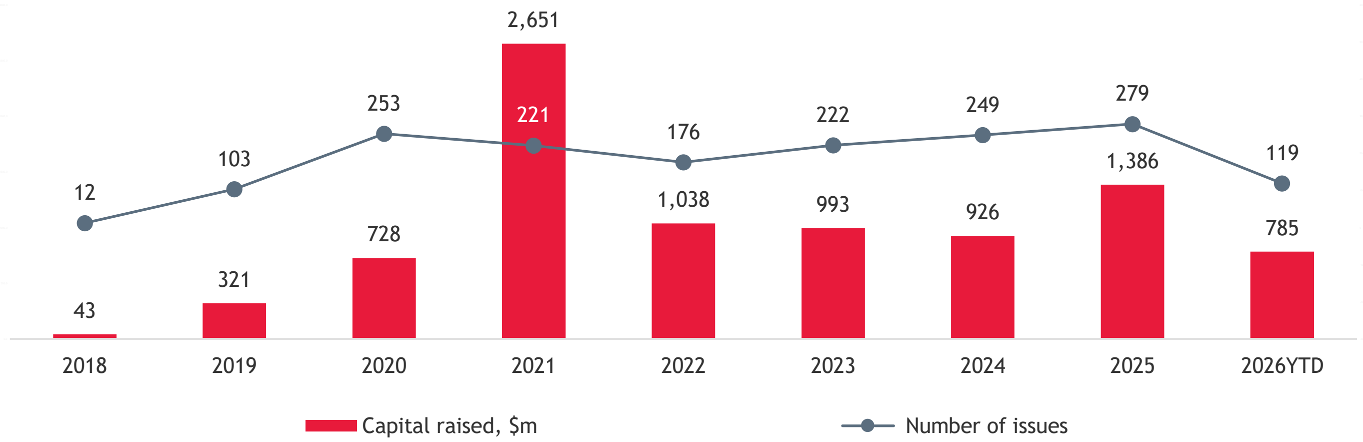
Notes: (1) The analysis was based on a sample of 153 follow-on capital raising transactions by 35 natural resources companies that completed IPOs between 2020 and May 2026. Capital reorganisation transactions, including consolidations and sub-divisions, as well as exercises of options, exercises of warrants and vendor-related transactions, were excluded from the analysis. Each transaction was mapped by the stated use of fundraising proceeds, with transactions involving multiple purposes classified according to the principal intended use; (2) The numbers are converted from £ to $ due to the average exchange rates by FRED; (3) An outstanding issue within the debt, creditors & balance sheet repair category is Ithaca Energy's 2022 IPO, where part of the proceeds was used to repay existing shareholder debt and establish a more independent capital allocation policy; (4) The analysis was based on a sample of 105 follow-on capital raising transactions by natural resources companies that completed IPOs between 2020 and May 2023. These transactions were then mapped by the stated use of fundraising proceeds; (5) Previous name: Eastinco Mining and Exploration PLC; (6) Based on LSE Further issues database as of 31 May 2026

Investor appetite and performance trends in NR IPOs

Follow-on fundraising becomes more strategic as NR projects move towards development

Despite structural pressure on the general UK equity market, driven by a shrinking domestic institutional investor base, natural resources segment showed a positive results in 2025. Secondary capital peaked in 2021 at $2.7bn (£1.9bn), supported by strong commodity markets and high investor risk appetite, before normalising to around $0.9bn-$1.4bn (£0.7bn-£1.1bn) annually in 2022-2025. Deal count remained resilient, rising from 176 in 2022 to 279 in 2025 as companies continued to access the market frequently, even as average transaction size became smaller than at the 2021 peak. The investor optimism regarding London as the potential way for investors to diversify away from US markets amid changing economic and political conditions could further reinforce this trend.

All LSE NR companies' follow-on fundraising activity[2,6]



Source: LSE New issues and IPOs database (as of 31 May 2026); LSE Further issues database (as of 31 May 2026); FT website; Bloomberg website; LSE website; Investegate website; Companies' websites; BDO analysis based on LSE New issues and IPOs database; Media overview

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The LSE remains the leading market for high quality, natural resources companies. The recent decline in the number of natural resources companies on the LSE has been a case of survival of the fittest - those companies able to present a strong investment case have enjoyed continued access to continued capital through follow-on fundraising and debt markets, which has in turn rewarded investors with double digit growth.

With the LSE providing investors access to a very wide variety or commodities and geographies, and being underpinned by a strong governance and expertise, I am increasingly optimistic about the future of natural resources companies on the LSE.

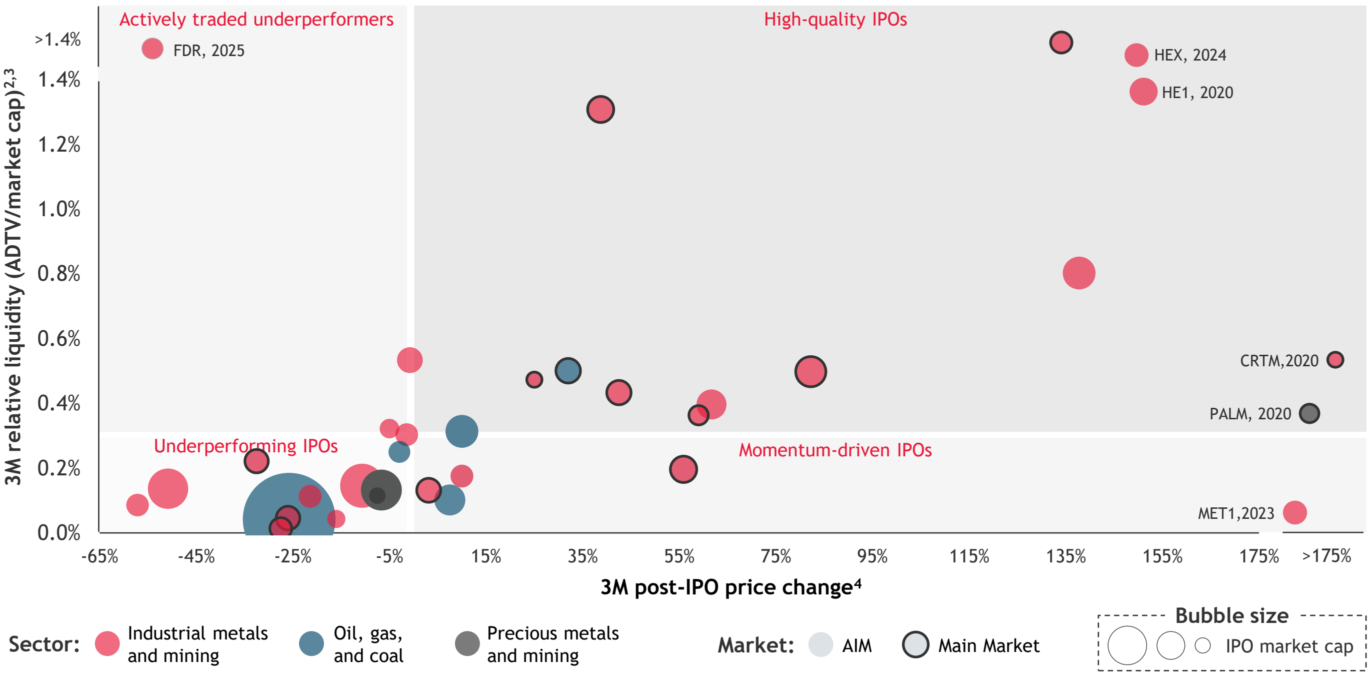
Natural resources are fundamental to the global economy. With shifts to increasing geopolitical tension, AI driving energy and commodity demand, and the impact of green tensions, both resource scarcity and desire for resource security of supply make a very positive market outlook is positive for the sector. With the LSE providing quality companies access to capital and investors comfort over the governance and reporting of the companies listed on it, I expect both minors with growth aspirations and majors looking to consolidate and strengthen their positions will perform positively in the foreseeable future.

Pete Acloque
Partner – Natural Resources & Energy

Investor appetite and performance trends in NR IPOs

More than a half of recent natural resources LSE IPOs delivered strong aftermarket performance

LSE NR post-IPO performance over 2020-2025[1]



Aftermarket performance among natural resources companies listed on AIM and the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange between 2020 and 2026 was mixed. However, approximately 54% and 51% of issuers generated positive three month and six month returns, respectively, while also exhibiting above-median trading liquidity. AIM-listed issuers generally outperformed – approximately 60% of AIM IPOs recorded share price appreciation during the first three months following admission, and a median three month return of 55.9%. Across the full sample, average daily trading activity during the first three months post-IPO amounted to approximately $149.8k. Mid-cap issuers ($25m–$100m market capitalisation at IPO) generated some of the strongest percentage gains (+71.9% median) and exhibited the highest levels of trading liquidity (0.45% median), while small-cap and micro-cap (<$25m) IPOs generally delivered more muted aftermarket returns.

Source: LSE Further issues database (as of 31 May 2026); LSE website; Companies' websites; BDO analysis; Media overview

Notes: (1) The analysis covered 35 natural resources companies that completed IPOs between 2020 and November 2025, excluding those that were subsequently delisted; (2) 3M and 6M stands for three-month and six-month, respectively; (3) Average Daily Traded Volume (ADTV) means the average number of shares traded per day over a selected period; (4) Refers to the change in share price three months after the IPO compared to the IPO issue price

Investor appetite and performance trends in NR IPOs

More than a half of recent natural resources LSE IPOs delivered strong aftermarket performance

Strong aftermarket performance among LSE NR IPOs selected cases

European Green Transition

Following its April 2024 IPO, the company's share price rose by **42.5%** over the first three months of trading, while maintaining relative liquidity of 0.4%. This performance was driven by investor interest in energy-transition themes, progress at the company's REE project in Sweden, and its strategy of acquiring revenue-generating green assets.

Cleantech Lithium

Following its March 2022 IPO, CleanTech Lithium's price rose **by 61.7% and 224.0%** after three and six months of trading, respectively. The re-rating was driven by exceptionally favourable lithium market conditions during 2022, as investors sought exposure to battery metals amid growing EV adoption and concerns over future lithium supply.

First Class Metals

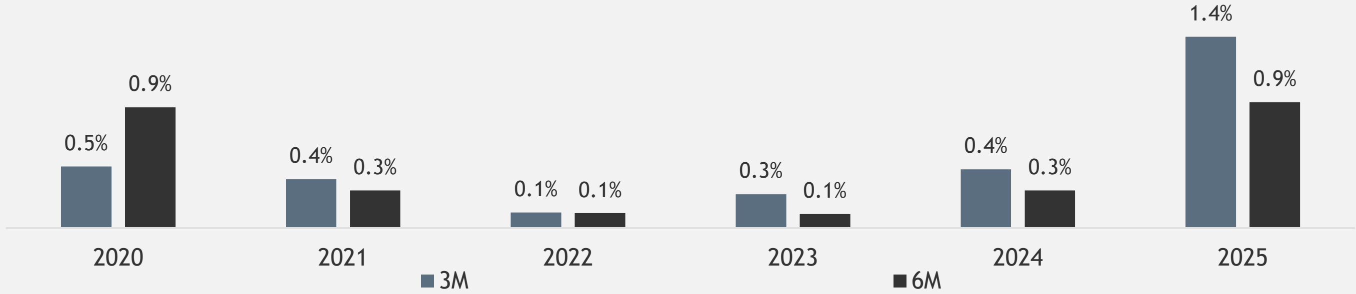
First Class Metals' share price rose by **59.0%** over the first three months of trading after July 2022 IPO. The performance was supported by investor interest in the company's exploration progress reported shortly after the admission, including the launch of field programmes and target generation activities across its gold and battery metals assets.

Richmond Hill Resources

Richmond Hill Resources' share price rose by **130%** over the first six months after its October 2025 AIM admission, driven by company's repositioning from a copper-focused issuer into a broader Canadian gold and copper platform. It later added Martello Gold Project in Ontario and raised $0.8m at 3.5c, above the 1.3c admission price.

3M and 6M relative liquidity by IPO year

Relative liquidity benchmarks have improved in the latest IPO cohorts, particularly in the first three months after the admission. Following weak post-admission liquidity among 2022-2023 IPOs, three-month relative liquidity increased to 0.4% for the 2024 cohort and 1.4% for the 2025 cohort, indicating stronger early aftermarket trading in recent listings.



Source: LSE Further issues database (as of 31 May 2026); LSE website; Companies' websites; BDO analysis; Media overview

Notes: (1) The analysis covered 35 natural resources companies that completed IPOs between 2020 and November 2025, excluding those that were subsequently delisted; (2) 3M and 6M stands for three-month and six-month, respectively; (3) Average Daily Traded Volume (ADTV) means the average number of shares traded per day over a selected period; (4) Refers to the change in share price three months after the IPO compared to the IPO issue price

Investor appetite and performance trends in NR IPOs

LSE offers depth of sector expertise, credibility of governance, and access to global capital

In 2025, the London Stock Exchange raised $2.7bn (£2.1bn) across 23 IPOs, up 179% YoY from $994.0m (£777.7m) across 18 issuers in 2024, recording its strongest performance since 2021. The market also attracted several global multi-billion-dollar companies for international listings, the largest of which reached a market capitalisation of more than $19bn in December 2025[1], while FTSE 100 reached record highs. Together, these trends point to renewed momentum in London's capital markets and a gradual recovery in its appeal as a listing venue. The UK market remains the third-largest in the world by capital raised year to date and is seeing the most dynamic set of reforms.

Reasons of choosing LSE as an IPO venue for natural resources companies

Scale of capital raised

London raised £32.8bn through 509 IPOs and follow-on transactions between 2025 and April 2026, with FO fundraisings accounting for 89% of proceeds. There were nearly twice as many transactions as the next most active European exchange, Nasdaq OMX Stockholm.[1]

Depth of specialist ecosystem

London's NR IPO ecosystem is supported by a deep pool of specialist investors and advisers (NOMADs[2]), with at least ten dedicated mining, oil and gas or broader NR teams employing over 30 analysts and corporate finance professionals.

Regulatory flexibility

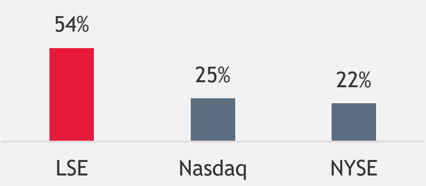
AIM's regulatory framework is designed for growth companies and is generally less prescriptive than that of the ASX or TSX. This flexibility allows earlier stage businesses to raise capital efficiently and respond quickly to project and market developments.

Indices inclusion pathways

London provides a clear progression route from the AIM to the Main Market and, for larger issuers, into FTSE indices. Pan African Resources'[3] move from AIM to the Main Market in 2025 enabled subsequent FTSE 250 inclusion, broadening access to index-tracking funds and passive capital.

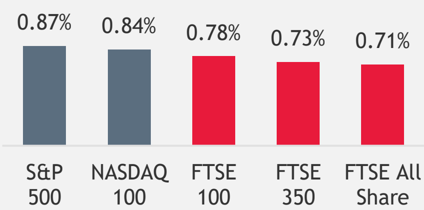
London's competitive advantages as a capital raising venue

% of IPOs returning to raise capital compared to global peers, 2021 – April 2026



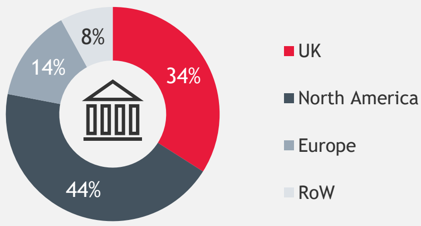
Although London ranks third behind the ASX and TSX by total follow-on capital raised over the past 10 years, it remains a leading venue for repeat fundraising, with 54% of 2021 – April 2026 IPOs returning to the market for additional capital.

LSE liquidity in 2025 compared to global peers[4]



When measured on a free-float-adjusted basis and across the broader UK market, rather than solely trading on the London Stock Exchange, UK equity market liquidity is broadly comparable to that of major US exchanges, at almost 0.8%.

London's institutional investor base as of the end of 2025



A London listing provides access to a broad pool of international capital, which accounts for 66% of institutional ownership in the FTSE All-Share, including 44% from North America and 14% from Europe.

Source: FT website; Reuters website; LSE – London Markets Update 4th Edition 2026 – [April 2026]; Hill Dickinson – Raising growth capital on AIM: why mining and oil and gas companies continue to choose London – [January 2026]; Media overview

Notes: (1) The numbers are converted from £ to $ due to the average exchange rates by FRED; (2) AIM Nominated Advisers are corporate finance advisers approved by the London Stock Exchange to act in this capacity; (3) Pan African Resources, a mid-tier gold producer with operations in South Africa and Australia, transferred from AIM to the London Stock Exchange's Main Market in October 2025; (4) Average daily free-float adjusted turnover ratio by index, 2025 full year; (5) Targeted Funding Disclosures

Investor appetite and performance trends in NR IPOs

LSE offers depth of sector expertise, credibility of governance, and access to global capital

Recent developments in London Stock Exchange regulatory framework

January 2024

The UK Corporate Governance Code introduced Provision 29, making material controls evidence more important for Main Market issuers and AIM companies voluntarily adopting the Code.

July 2024

New Financial Conduct Authority Listing Rules simplified the Main Market structure, replacing Premium and Standard segments with one commercial companies' category.

November 2025

A temporary three-year stamp duty relief was introduced for newly listed companies in the 2025 Autumn Budget, supporting investor participation and improving IPO attractiveness.

January 2026

Public Offers and Admissions to Trading Regulations replaced older UK prospectus rules with a more flexible regime, improving routes for London IPOs.

January 2026

The secondary issuance prospectus threshold increased to 75%, making follow-on fundraising easier and more efficient for capital-intensive NR companies after admission.

April 2026

The Financial Conduct Authority proposed removing the seven-day IPO research delay, potentially shortening London IPO execution windows and reducing exposure to market volatility.

August 2026

On 5 August 2026, the LSE published AIM Notice 64 (revised AIM Rules), confirming implementation of the June proposals following supportive consultation feedback. The new rules took effect immediately. Key changes included:

- Allowing incorporation by reference and removing the working-capital statement from admission documents and replacing it with disclosures on capital resources, financial commitments, and expected fundraising needs over the next 12 months
- Permitting UK GAAP for UK companies and local GAAP for EEA companies, reducing mandatory IFRS conversions
- Introducing the Express Market and dual-market admission routes for faster AIM admission of overseas companies
- Permitting special voting shares and more company-specific governance arrangements, while replacing mandatory 'comply or explain' against a recognised governance code with disclosure across five key governance areas
- Relaxing M&A rules, including raising the substantial-transaction threshold from 10% to 25%
- Maintaining regulatory and NOMAD oversight while reinforcing investor responsibility under the AIM's 'buyer-beware' model.

The LSE's recent reforms reflect a gradual shift in regulatory priorities. Provision 29 in 2024 targeted governance, and the 2025 and 2026 changes cover secondary issuance, stamp duty relief, and AIM admission changes. The AIM reforms lower the cost and complexity of joining and operating on AIM, while giving growth and founder-led companies greater flexibility to raise capital, execute transactions, and tailor governance structures.

Source: FT website; Reuters website; LSE – London Markets Update 4th Edition 2026 – [April 2026]; Hill Dickinson – Raising growth capital on AIM: why mining and oil and gas companies continue to choose London – [January 2026]; LSE – AIM Notice 64 – [August 2026]; Media overview

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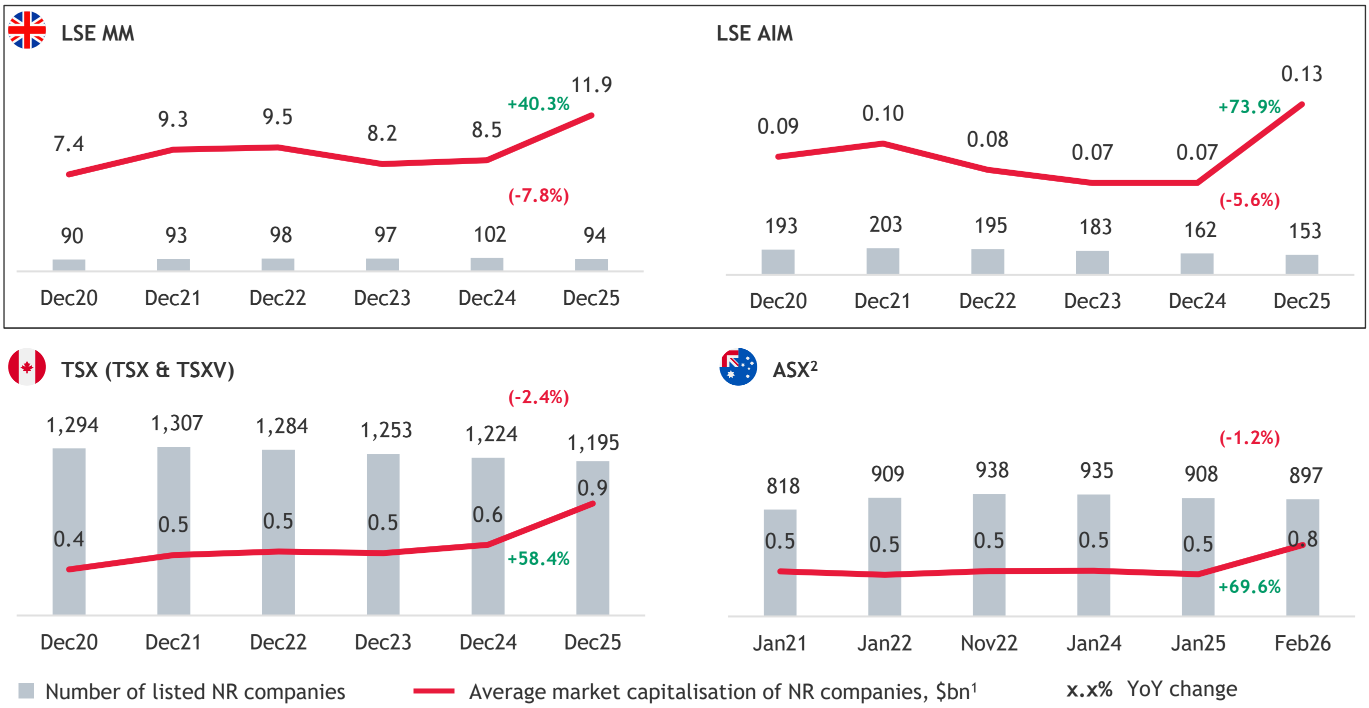
Investor appetite and performance trends in NR IPOs

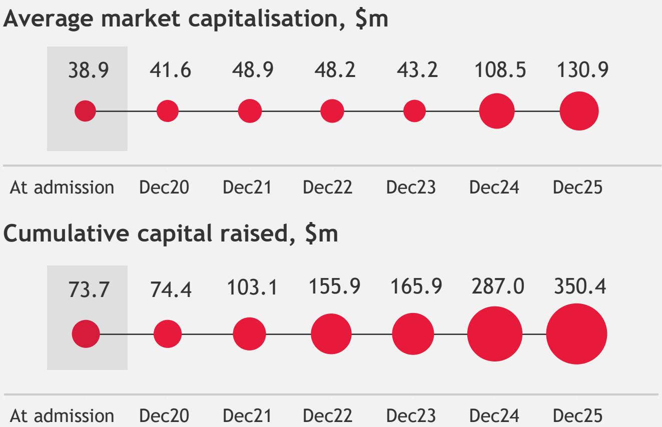
London combines large-cap mining market with a leading platform for junior issuers

Across the major stock exchanges, average market capitalisation of NR companies increased in 2025 despite declining issuer numbers, indicating a shift towards larger, more mature listed companies. Over the past five years, London consistently maintained a higher average market capitalisation than comparable peers: LSE MM reached $11.9bn and AIM $0.13bn, versus $0.9bn on TSX and $0.8bn on ASX[1], with AIM posting the strongest growth of all venues at +73.9% YoY. This growth appears to be less driven by large new listings and more by companies maturing on the exchange through repeated follow-on funding and progression from AIM to the MM.

Number of NR companies and their average market capitalisation across major stock exchanges



Average market capitalisation and cumulative capital raised of the 2020 LSE NR IPO cohort[1,3]



The long-term growth trajectory of the 2020 LSE NR IPO cohort illustrates London's ability to support companies beyond their initial listing. In 2020, six NR companies completed IPOs on the LSE with an average market cap of $38.9m and total IPO proceeds of $73.7m. By December 2025, their average market cap had increased to $130.9m, representing growth of 236.5%. During the same period, these companies completed a combined 30 follow-on fundraisings, increasing cumulative capital gained by 375.5% to $350.4m. By comparison, the average market cap of the 2020 TSX NR IPO cohort (5 companies) increased by 167.3% over the same period. Therefore, London remains the IPO destination for junior NR companies with strong growth potential. While the LSE's governance and disclosure requirements used to be generally more demanding than those of comparable markets, the evidence suggests that, for the right companies, these standards support long-term success and continued access to public capital.

Source: LSE website; TSX website; ASX website; Market Index website; Media overview

Notes: (1) The numbers are converted from £, C$, and A$ to $ due to the average exchange rates by FRED; (2) ASX periods reflect the closest available reporting dates, due to limited data; (3) The analysis included the following companies: AMRQ (formerly AEXG), NFM (formerly CCZ), HE1, PALM, and TGR

IPO readiness imperative

IPO success in the long-term is defined by degree of preparation

Favourable commodity markets may become the driver for NR companies to enter IPO before setting up the proper reporting, governance and operating discipline that is required for listing. Strong demand, commodity momentum or an oversubscribed book can facilitate the transaction, but the long-term success is largely dependent on proper IPO readiness. The underestimation of the preparation to the IPO can lead to repricing, execution delays and valuation discounts shortly after the admission.

IPO readiness checklist for natural resources companies by workstream

Financial reporting readiness
- Three years audited IFRS financials
- FPPP[1]/financial reporting procedures
- CapEx/OpEx model with sensitivities
- Reserves transparency and accuracy
- Working-capital statement supported by robust model.

Operational readiness
- Bankable and preliminary feasibility study
- Management team with NR sector track record
- ESG-linked operational KPI framework
- Asset development plan and production timeline.

Governance readiness
- Appropriate independent board and committees for Main Market
- Audit, Remuneration and Risk committees established
- Documented risk register and risk appetite
- Board with NR/capital markets experience.

Provision 29 compliance
- Material financial, operational, compliance and reporting controls, including TCFD[2]-related controls, identified
- Risk management and internal control framework monitored and reviewed annually
- Board effectiveness declaration, including material failures and remediation actions.

ESG & Sustainability readiness
- GHG baseline, Scope 1 and 2, with Scope 3 pathway
- Social licence and community engagement documentation
- Biodiversity and EIA for greenfield assets
- Transition narrative for hydrocarbons or critical minerals.

Equity story development
- Differentiated investment thesis vs peer set
- Commodity exposure narrative and market outlook
- NAV/NPV bridge and valuation methodology
- Clear growth pathway and resource optionality.

Investor relations readiness
- Investor presentation and roadshow narrative
- MAR-compliant inside information and continuous disclosure policy
- Nominated broker/IR adviser appointed.

Legal & Regulatory readiness
- Prospectus draft or filing-ready document
- Legal DD complete, including title, licences and royalties
- JORC[3]/NI 43-101[4]/ Competent Person's Report
- FCA[5]/AIM[6] pathway clear and listing-rules compliance.

OQ Exploration and Production SAOG, Oman, Muscat Stock Exchange

In October 2024, an Omani upstream oil and gas operator focused on exploration and production assets, completed an oversubscribed IPO, but shares fell after listing as investors reassessed valuation and market exposure.

$1.07[7]	2.4x	(-8.2%)
Final IPO share price	Oversubscribed	First day close

Source: LSEG website; FCA website; ICMM website; Muscat website; BDO website; Joint Ore Reserves Committee – JORC Code 2012 – [2012]; SLR Consulting – Competent Person's Report & Technical Due Diligence Guide – [2025]; GRI – Mining Sector Standard 14 – [2024]; Sustainalytics – Mining & Decarbonisation – [2022]; Jamaani & Alidarous – Mitigating IPO withdrawal probability through voluntary sustainability reporting: a global analysis – [2025]; VALMIN Committee – VALMIN Code 2015 – [2015]; CIM – CIMVAL Code 2019 – [2019]; Cleverley et al. – Green Versus Gray Initial Public Offerings – [2019]; Ropes & Gray – Dual-track IPOs – [2017]; Media overview

Notes: (1) Financial Position and Prospects Procedures; (2) Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures; (3) Joint Ore Reserves Committee; (4) National Instrument 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects; (5) Financial Conduct Authority; (6) Alternative Investment Market; (7) The numbers are converted from Omani rial to $ due to the average rate by the Omanian Central Bank in 2024

IPO readiness imperative

IPO success in the long-term is defined by degree of preparation

The risks of premature IPOs

Risk vector	Consequences	Mitigation
Valuation drag	Oversupply can price the IPO against distressed peers, creating a discount that could persist after listing	Stress-test valuation at trough, mid-cycle and peak multiples before launching
Execution delays	FCA review, diligence gaps and complex multi-country assets can lengthen the process and expose the IPO to window closure	Start sponsor, technical, legal and permitting diligence 18+ months before IPO
Governance scrutiny	Investors scrutinise board maturity, audit quality and related-party risks, especially for frontier-market assets	Appoint credible independent directors and test governance readiness
Commodity-cycle misalignment	Weak commodity timing can lock in depressed valuation benchmarks for years	Use independent asset valuations and launch only when cycle evidence supports pricing
IPO withdrawal/ reputational damage	Withdrawal signals weak demand and can damage future fundraising credibility	Run a dual-track IPO/M&A process and set a pre-approved valuation floor

For NR issuers, mistiming a listing can have lasting consequences because commodity-linked valuations are anchored to prevailing market conditions at admission. If a company comes to market before its asset base, governance framework and reporting capabilities are prepared, investors typically reflect that uncertainty through lower valuation multiples, higher risk discounts and weaker demand. The result often leads to a lower benchmark for future trading performance and capital raising.

Source: LSEG website; FCA website; ICMM website; Muscat website; BDO website; Joint Ore Reserves Committee – JORC Code 2012 – [2012]; SLR Consulting – Competent Person's Report & Technical Due Diligence Guide – [2025]; GRI – Mining Sector Standard 14 – [2024]; Sustainalytics – Mining & Decarbonisation – [2022]; Jamaani & Alidarous – Mitigating IPO withdrawal probability through voluntary sustainability reporting: a global analysis – [2025]; VALMIN Committee – VALMIN Code 2015 – [2015]; CIM – CIMVAL Code 2019 – [2019]; Cleverley et al. – Green Versus Gray Initial Public Offerings – [2019]; Ropes & Gray – Dual-track IPOs – [2017]; Media overview

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Understanding how to execute a successful IPO and navigating the process to becoming a public company can be challenging to even the most seasoned management teams. To ultimately achieve a successful flotation on the LSE, companies should prepare well in advance. Market sentiment can change rapidly, and it is important that companies are ready to take advantage of an optimal IPO window when it arises.

The LSE's recent reforms to the AIM Rules for Companies came into effect on 5 August 2026, with a view to reducing the regulatory burden associated with AIM admissions.

Notable changes include the potential allowance of UK GAAP financial reporting rather than IFRS. Other local GAAPs may also be permitted where IFRS equivalency is demonstrated. Typically, the most successful IPOs are of companies that have prepared effectively and are already acting as though they were a public company ahead of flotation.

Ryan Biscomb
Director – Transaction Services

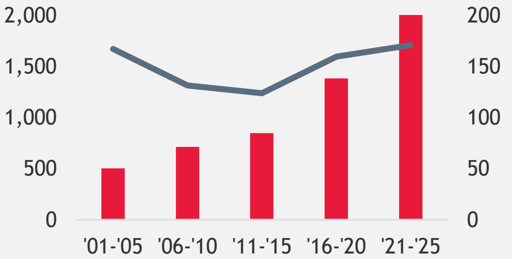
IPO readiness imperative

Higher reporting expectations

Over the past 20 years, the AIM admission for mining companies has become more evidence-heavy. The exchange has not fundamentally changed its role, but the information expected from issuers has increased as investors, Nominated Advisers, and regulators placed more weight on risk, governance, technical support, and ESG. Tracked disclosure terminology grew more than fourfold over the 20-year period, with risk management topics rising sharply following global financial crisis, governance becoming more formalised after the AIM Rule 26 changes in 2018[1], and newer critical-minerals projects requiring more detailed technical explanation than many conventional metals admissions. ESG disclosure also increased over the period and is likely to remain important as UK sustainability and climate-related reporting expectations continue to tighten.

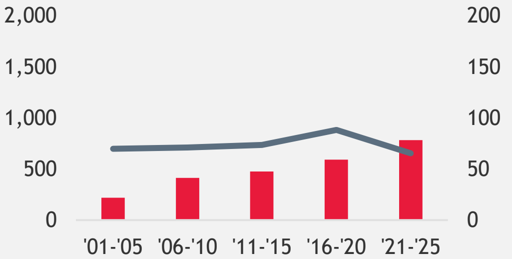
Disclosure intensity in admission documents for exploration and development-stage metals & strategic minerals companies, 2001-2025[2]

Technical disclosure



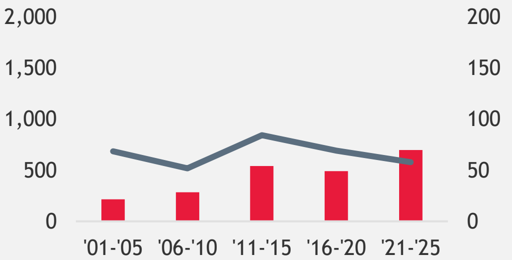
Mining admissions depend on evidence around licenses, CPRs[3], drilling, resources, geology, permitting, and project economics. Technical disclosure intensity was broadly stable, increasing by only 2.3% between 2001-2005 and 2021-2025, while absolute technical content expanded as documents became longer and projects became more complex. In Metals One and Bradda Head, technical disclosure required detailed explanations of JORC[4] classification, metallurgical assumptions and lithium methodology, reflecting the greater complexity of the assets.

Governance disclosure



Governance disclosure expanded after AIM Rule 26 made recognised governance-code disclosure a standard admission requirement, but later became more diluted as technical, ESG and risk sections expanded faster. Governance disclosure intensity peaked in 2016-2020 and then fell by 25.9% in 2021-2025, pointing to standardisation. Metals One and First Development Resources follow this pattern: both include detailed governance sections, but the content is largely standard admission disclosure rather than a distinctive part of the investment case.

Financial disclosure



Financial disclosure became the most prominent after the global financial crisis, when working capital, going concern and funding runway turned into central investors' concerns in a weaker mining market. By 2021-2025, financial disclosure intensity had fallen by 31.3% from the 2011-2015 peak and was 15.4% below 2001-2005, as the main evidential weight shifted towards technical, risk and ESG sections. For GreenRoc Mining and First Development Resources, financial disclosure mainly framed the asset case through use of proceeds, development budgets and commodity assumptions, rather than leading the investment case.

Average thematic terms mentioned to the section in the Admission Documents (left axis)
Average thematic terms mentioned in the Admission Documents per 10K words (right axis)

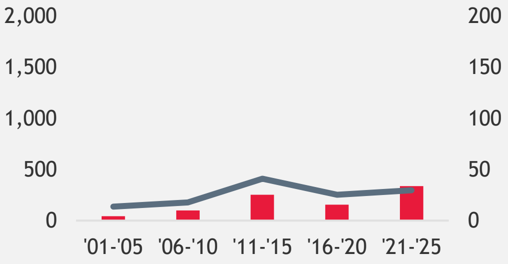
Source: LSE website; Office for National Statistics website; Companies' admission documents; BDO analysis; Media overview

Notes: (1) Requires AIM companies to publish key investor information, including the recognised corporate governance code applied and explanations of non-compliance; (2) The analysis uses a sample of 20 junior AIM-listed precious, base, battery, and strategic metals & minerals companies (EMED, THR, AAU, RRR, STI, HZM, KEFI, NMG, GWMO, CEN, SULA, KOD, JAN, ERIS, ATM, AURA, BHL, GROC, MET1, and FDR), with four companies selected in each five-year period from 2001-2005 to 2021-2025. The selected companies had opening market capitalisation of approximately $3m-$35m, converted according to average annual rate by FRED. Their Admission Documents were assessed through keyword counts in absolute terms and normalised as mentions per 10,000 words, across risk, governance, technical, financial, and ESG disclosure; (3) Competent Person's Report; (4) Joint Ore Reserves Committee

IPO readiness imperative

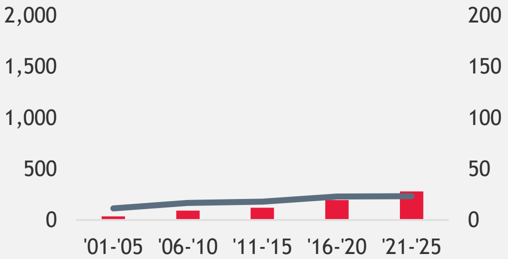
Higher reporting expectations

Risk disclosure



Risk disclosure rose sharply after the global financial crisis and then settled at a higher baseline, reflecting stronger scrutiny of funding, going concern, commodity prices, licences and project execution. By 2021-2025, risk disclosure intensity was 117.3% above 2001-2005, but 27.5% below the 2011-2015 peak. Bradda Head shows this newer profile through lithium demand uncertainty, BLM land status, federal permitting and water rights, and GreenRoc's more focused Greenland graphite asset required less risk language.

ESG disclosure



ESG disclosure has shown the clearest long-term increase, driven by responsible investment, climate expectations and greater scrutiny of environmental impact, communities and safety. ESG disclosure intensity was 104.6% above 2001-2005, but only 1.2% above 2016-2020, suggesting that ESG has shifted from a rapidly expanding standalone topic to a more embedded part of disclosure documents. For GreenRoc and Bradda Head, consultation requirements, sensitive landscapes, water use, biodiversity and permitting obligations were directly linked to project delivery risk.

Average thematic terms mentioned to the section in the Admission Documents (left axis)

Average thematic terms mentioned in the Admission Documents per 10K words (right axis)

Source: LSE website; Office for National Statistics website; Companies' admission documents; BDO analysis; Media overview

Notes: (1) Requires AIM companies to publish key investor information, including the recognised corporate governance code applied and explanations of non-compliance; (2) The analysis uses a sample of 20 junior AIM-listed precious, base, battery, and strategic metals & minerals companies (EMED, THR, AAU, RRR, STI, HZM, KEFI, NMG, GWMO, CEN, SULA, KOD, JAN, ERIS, ATM, AURA, BHL, GROC, MET1, and FDR), with four companies selected in each five-year period from 2001-2005 to 2021-2025. The selected companies had opening market capitalisation of approximately $3m-$35m, converted according to average annual rate by FRED. Their Admission Documents were assessed through keyword counts in absolute terms and normalised as mentions per 10,000 words, across risk, governance, technical, financial, and ESG disclosure; (3) Competent Person's Report; (4) Joint Ore Reserves Committee

Regulation continues to evolve rapidly, with a growing focus on providing investors with decision-useful information. As the financial and operational risks and opportunities associated with sustainability matters, particularly climate change, become increasingly evident, robust reporting on how these are identified, assessed, and managed is essential. This is particularly relevant to the natural resources sector, given the global footprint of its operations and the scale and complexity of its supply chains and supporting infrastructure.

The UK Sustainability Reporting Standards ('UK SRS'), which will replace TCFD-aligned requirements, are expected to introduce phased reporting requirements from 1 January 2027.

UK SRS requires disclosure of financially material sustainability-related risks and opportunities across short-, medium- and long-term time horizons. The information is expected to be subject to the same level of rigour and reliability as financial reporting, placing greater emphasis on the maturity of reporting processes, systems, controls and ESG data. Strengthening these capabilities is therefore a key priority for many companies.

The introduction of ISSA 5000, a new global sustainability assurance standard, represents a further significant development. Specifically designed for assurance over sustainability information, including reporting under standards such as UK SRS, ISSA 5000 is expected to see rapid adoption following its effective date of 16 December 2026.

While the UK has not yet mandated assurance over sustainability reporting, limited assurance over material sustainability information is already becoming established practice among UK listed companies. Assurance adoption is particularly high in the natural resources sector, reflecting the sector's significant exposure to, and reliance on, sustainability-related matters.

Fiona Davis
Partner – Risk Advisory Services

IPO readiness imperative

Provision 29 and ESG scrutiny are raising IPO readiness expectations for UK companies

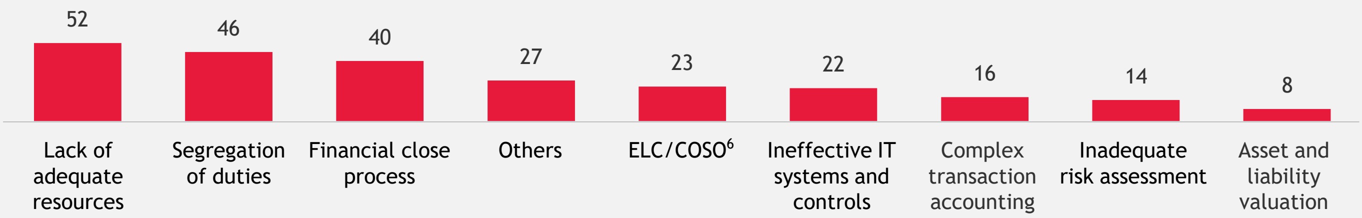
For natural resources companies targeting London admission, Provision 29 compliance, ESG disclosure quality and investor readiness should be treated as one integrated preparation agenda. Effective financial reporting controls reinforce governance standards, while credible climate and ESG disclosures support the investment case. Leading IPO prospects build these elements together through a single readiness process covering control frameworks, ESG maturity, technical assumptions, and investor-facing materials.

Provision 29 is a part of the UKCGC[1] 2024, which requires boards to report on the effectiveness of material financial, operational, reporting and compliance controls. The first disclosure will be made after the company completes its first financial year beginning on or after 1 January 2026; 31 December year-end companies will report for the first time in 2027. It applies to companies following the UKCGC, including listed commercial companies and closed-ended investment funds, and to AIM companies that adopt the UKCGC.

Provision 29 implementation roadmap: positioning of the Top-10 London-listed NR companies by stage as of the end of 2025[2,3]

Phase 1			Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
Link material controls to risks, reporting duties, owners and review cadence	Set testing coverage, attestation frequency, thresholds and closure rules	Align first-line, second-line and internal audit coverage	Test priority controls, fix issues and track retesting	Test draft wording and evidence pack with the audit committee	State monitoring, declaration, and ineffective controls and actions
Antofagasta, BP, Harbour Energy, Glencore			**Anglo American**	**Ithaca, Fresnillo, Shell**	**Rio Tinto, Endeavour Mining**

Top control areas driving material weakness disclosures in S-1 and S-4 filings in the USA, Q1 2025, as a number of material weakness disclosures[4,5]



The UK capital market has not reached the first full Provision 29 declaration cycle, so local evidence on disclosed control weaknesses remains limited. Regulation S-K Item 3087 provides a useful US reference point, as it requires management to assess internal control over financial reporting and disclose any material weakness identified. The evidence refers to S-1 and S-4 filers[5], meaning IPO/public offering candidates and companies entering public markets through merger, exchange offer or de-SPAC[8] transactions. It is a clear indication of how finance capacity gaps, fragmented systems and unclear control ownership can become visible once a company enters public-market reporting. For the UK natural resources IPO candidates, Provision 29 therefore belongs in pre-listing readiness, particularly where asset value depends on controlled assumptions around impairment, reserves, project costs, tax, and going-concern assessment.

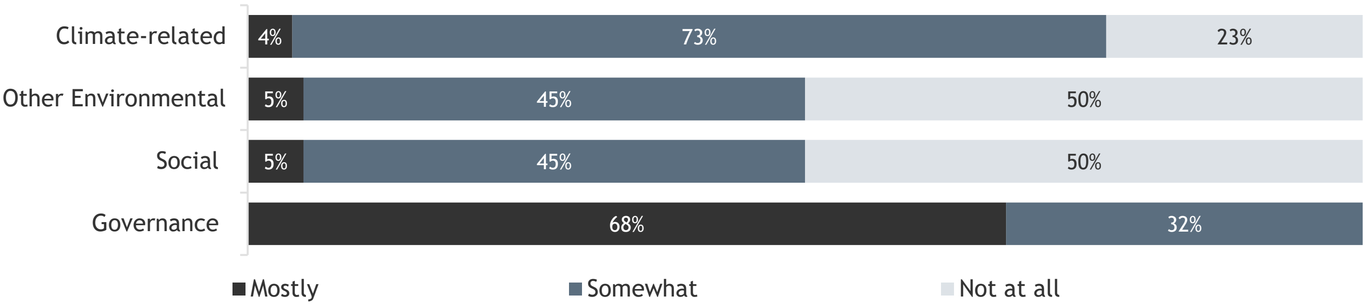
Source: Companies' 2025 annual reports; Diligent website; Stout — IPO Prep & Material Weakness Landmines From Recent S-1 & S-4 Filings — [2025]; Stanford GSB/Hoover Institution/Rock Center/MSCI Sustainability Institute — Institutional Investor Survey on Sustainability — [2024]; Media overview

Notes: (1) UK Corporate Governance Code; (2) Based on the available info in the companies' annual reports in 2025; (3) Based on Diligent's practical guide to board declarations under Provision 29; (4) According to the analysis of SEC S-1 and S-4 filings conducted by Stout in Q1 2025, n≈500; (5) S-1 is the standard IPO registration form, also used for other public securities registrations, S-4 is used for mergers, exchange offers or de-SPAC transactions; (6) Entity-level controls/Committee of Sponsoring Organisations of the Treadway Commission; (7) US regulation that requires public companies to assess and disclose the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting; (8) Transaction through which a Special Purpose Acquisition Company takes a private company public; (9) According to the survey of institutional investment firms and asset managers conducted by Stanford GSB in fall 2023, n=47

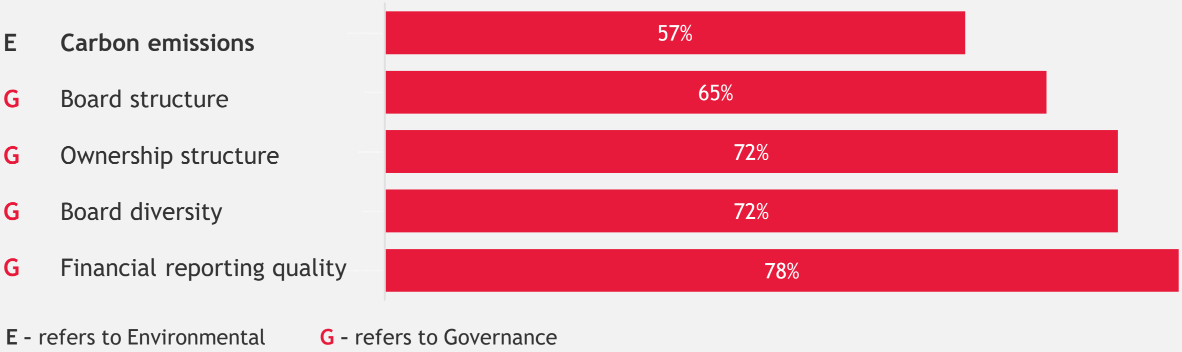
IPO readiness imperative

Provision 29 and ESG scrutiny are raising IPO readiness expectations for UK companies

Extent to which ESG risks are reflected in investment valuations in Europe, 2024[9]



Top-5 ESG factors explicitly considered by global institutional investors, 2024[9]



Top-5 ESG factors explicitly considered by global institutional investors, 2024[9]

95% Investment emissions analysis

81% Renewables/ transition investment

76% Climate risk impact quantification

76% Climate disclosure compliance

76% Climate engagement

Regulatory compliance sets the minimum threshold for London admission, but investor scrutiny determines whether the transaction can attract a credible institutional book. Governance quality ranks as the most important ESG factor for many institutional investors, with board structure, ownership transparency and financial reporting quality forming part of the investment filter. Climate risk adds a second valuation dimension. If emissions exposure, rehabilitation liabilities, biodiversity impact or transition risk are weakly disclosed, these issues can reappear after admission through valuation pressure, higher cost of capital or share-price volatility. For natural resources companies, the depth of disclosure is a test of whether management can evidence the assumptions behind the asset base and the equity story.

Source: Companies' 2025 annual reports; Diligent website; Stout — IPO Prep & Material Weakness Landmines From Recent S-1 & S-4 Filings — [2025]; Stanford GSB/Hoover Institution/Rock Center/MSCI Sustainability Institute — Institutional Investor Survey on Sustainability — [2024]; Media overview

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Strategic considerations and outlook

LSE IPO activity is set to improve, but access to capital will depend on credible governance

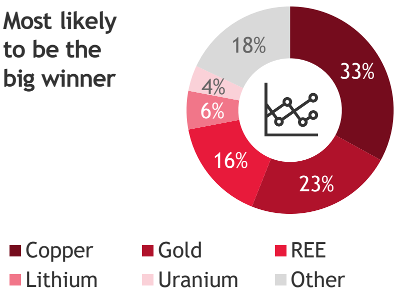
Mining investors' sentiment has moved from cautious to constructive, with more than 80% of investors reporting that 2025 performance met or exceeded their expectations, and forward projections for 2026 remain broadly positive across the sector.[1] That sentiment is occurring against a capital shift that is relevant for NR issuers targeting London or other European venues, as institutional investors are actively reducing or capping US equity exposure and maintaining or growing allocations to European and Asia-Pacific markets. However, European institutional capital is concentrating around governance quality. For natural resources companies this means the governance infrastructure must be credible before investor engagement begins.

The main priority for global mining & metals firms responding to market trends in 2026, % of respondents[2]

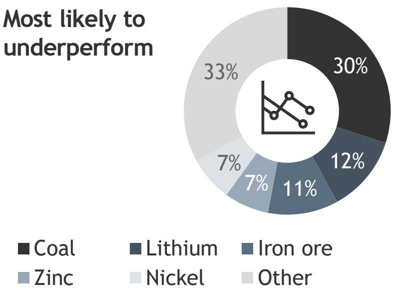
24%	Mitigating geopolitical risks
23%	Securing critical minerals access
20%	Productivity gains
15%	Securing support for projects
8%	Capital discipline and dividends
5%	ESG and decarbonisation
3%	Managing supply chains/labour

Expected commodities performance in 2026, % of respondents[2]

Most likely to be the big winner



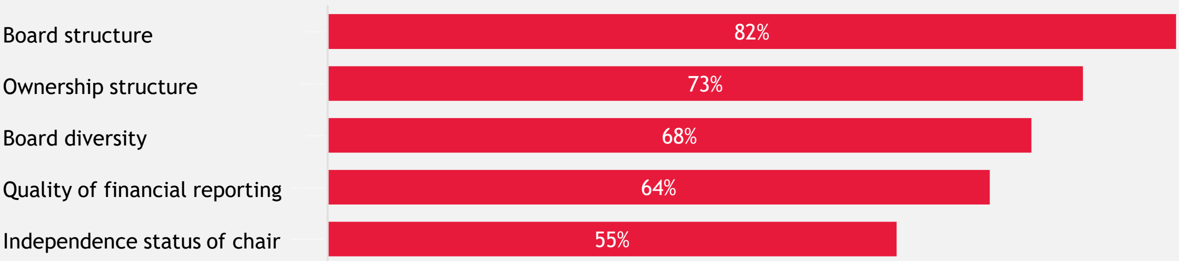
Most likely to underperform



The sector is entering a period where minerals access and political risk management have displaced operational performance as the primary strategic concern. Nearly half of industry respondents are prioritising variables that sit outside management control. The commodity outlook reflects the same conditions; copper and gold are being driven by geopolitical stockpiling and central bank demand, while lithium, nickel and coal face demand erosion.

Capital market investors apply a different evaluation framework to NR issuers than operational management priorities would suggest. The market in 2026 is open to credible issuers, but access to capital remains selective. Investors are more likely to support companies with assets linked to clear market themes, stronger governance and more developed reporting infrastructure. European institutional investors place the greatest weight on governance, with two thirds ranking it as the main ESG factor, ahead of environmental factors at 28% and social factors at 5%[3]. For natural resources companies targeting London, this increases scrutiny of board structure, ownership transparency and climate-risk disclosure during investor engagement. Regulatory pressure is also increasing, as the UK Corporate Governance Code will require boards to assess material internal controls from 2026 onward. As a result, gaps in governance, controls or reporting can affect valuation, investor confidence and IPO execution.

Top governance factors considered in investment decisions in Europe, 2024[3]



Source: Diligent website; Mining IQ – Investor Sentiment Insights – [2026]; White & Case – Mining & Metals 2026 Survey – [December 2025 - January 2026]; McKinsey & Company – At the threshold of a new era in commodity trading – [March 2026]; Stanford GSB/ Hoover Institution/Rock Center/MSCI Sustainability Institute – Institutional Investor Survey on Sustainability – [2024]; Media overview

Notes: (1) According to Mining IQ's 2026 Investor Sentiment Insights survey of institutional and retail mining investors conducted during November and December 2025, n=125; (2) Global survey among decision makers in the mining & metals sector conducted in December 2025 - January 2026, n=136; (3) According to the survey of institutional investment firms and asset managers conducted by Stanford GSB in fall 2023, n=47; (4) Based on Diligent's practical guide to board declarations under Provision 29; (5) Internal Control over Financial Reporting; (6) Ad hoc 2nd/3rd line assurance means non-routine control review or testing by risk, compliance, control, and internal audit teams

Strategic considerations and outlook

LSE IPO activity is set to improve, but access to capital will depend on credible governance

Provision 29 internal control maturity curve[4]

	Undefined	Developing	Developed	Integrated	Optimised
Scope & materiality	No process	ICFR[4]-focused, inconsistent	Group-level process	Integrated, repeatable framework	Adapts quickly to change
Internal controls	Ad hoc ICFR[5] only	Documenting and testing ICFR	Monitoring all material controls	Linked to strategy, risks and controls	Results inform strategy
Assurance/ effectiveness	External audit only	Ad hoc 2nd/3rd line assurance[6]	Annual management attestation	Assurance across all three lines	Real-time reporting and actions

Provision 29 turns internal control maturity into a listing-readiness issue rather than a compliance task. Companies that still rely on narrow ICFR testing may struggle to support a board-level declaration, because the new expectation reaches across financial, operational, reporting and compliance controls. For natural resources issuers, this creates a practical gap between having controls documented and being able to prove that material risks are consistently identified, tested, owned and remediated across the group. Establishing a repeatable assurance model before IPO preparation intensifies helps address control weaknesses at the management stage, limiting their impact on investor scrutiny, governance oversight, and valuation outcomes.

Source: Diligent website; Mining IQ — Investor Sentiment Insights — [2026]; White & Case — Mining & Metals 2026 Survey — [December 2025 - January 2026]; McKinsey & Company — At the threshold of a new era in commodity trading — [March 2026]; Stanford GSB/ Hoover Institution/Rock Center/MSCI Sustainability Institute — Institutional Investor Survey on Sustainability — [2024]; Media overview

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Tax is a critical part of IPO readiness for natural resources companies, where operations, assets, financing and investors are often spread across multiple jurisdictions. A London listing does not, by itself, determine where a group is taxed, but the pre-IPO structure must support the equity story, future funding requirements and the intended return of capital to shareholders. This requires early consideration of the location and tax residence of the listed parent, the ownership of licences and operating assets, withholding taxes, access to treaty benefits and the tax consequences of any pre-IPO restructuring.

For natural resources groups, tax can have a material impact on project economics and valuation. Fiscal regimes may combine corporate income tax with royalties, production-sharing arrangements, resource rent taxes, state participation and customs or indirect taxes. The availability of losses, capital allowances and incentives, together with the treatment of exploration, development, rehabilitation and decommissioning expenditure, should be reflected robustly in forecasts and valuation models. Transfer pricing, cross-border financing and permanent establishment risks also require careful management, particularly where functions, personnel and decision-making are distributed across the group. For larger groups, Pillar Two may create additional compliance obligations and affect the expected effective tax rate.

Investors, sponsors, NOMADs and reporting accountants will expect the historic tax position to withstand due diligence and the prospectus or admission document to explain material tax risks clearly. Uncertain tax positions, incomplete filings, weak supporting documentation or structures that are inconsistent with operational substance can delay execution, create valuation discounts and undermine confidence. The strongest IPO candidates therefore address tax well before launch by validating tax residence and governance, reviewing material jurisdictions and exposures, aligning structures with commercial substance, and establishing controls capable of supporting public-company reporting. Done properly, tax readiness protects value, strengthens the investment proposition and provides a sustainable platform for acquisitions, follow-on fundraising and international growth after admission.

Joe Thorpe
Director - Natrual Resources & Energy

Glossary

ADTV	Average daily traded volume
AI	Artificial intelligence
AIM	LSE Alternative Investment Market
AMEX	American Stock Exchange
ASX	Australian Securities Exchange
bbl/day	Barrels per day
BLM	US Bureau of Land Management
CapEx	Capital expenditure
CIM	Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy, and Petroleum
CIMVAL	CIM Valuation Standards and Guidelines
COSO	Committee of Sponsoring Organisations of the Treadway Commission
CPR	Competent Person's Report
DD	Due diligence
EIA	Environmental impact assessment
ELC	Entity-level controls
EMEIA	Europe, the Middle East, India, and Africa
ESG	Environmental, social, and governance
EU	European Union
EV	Electric vehicle
FCA	Financial Conduct Authority
FO	Follow-on fundraising
FPPP	Financial Position and Prospects Procedures
FRED	Federal Reserve Economic Data
FTSE	Financial Times Stock Exchange
GDR	Global depositary receipt
GHG	Greenhouse gases
GRI	Global Reporting Initiative
HKEX	Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing
HKSE	Hong Kong Stock Exchange
ICFR	Internal control over financial reporting
ICMM	International Council on Mining and Metals
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards
IPO	Initial public offering
IR	Investor relations
JORC	Joint Ore Reserves Committee
KPI	Key performance indicator
LNG	Liquefied natural gas
LSE	London Stock Exchange
M&A	Mergers and acquisitions
MAR	Market Abuse Regulation
MM	Main Market
MoM	Month-on-month
MSCI M&M	Morgan Stanley Capital International Metals & Mining Index
NASDAQ	National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations
NAV	Net asset value
NOMAD	Nominated Adviser
NPV	Net present value
NR	Natural resources
NYSE	New York Stock Exchange
OpEx	Operating expenditure
OSE	Oslo Stock Exchange
QoQ	Quarter-on-quarter
RoW	Rest of world
S&P	Standard & Poor's
S&P GSCI	Standard & Poor's Goldman Sachs Commodity Index
SEC	US Securities and Exchange Commission
SPAC	Special purpose acquisition company
TCFD	Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures
TFD	Targeted Funding Disclosures
TSX	Toronto Stock Exchange
TSXV	TSX Venture Exchange
UKCGC	UK Corporate Governance Code
UK GAAP	United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
WSE	Warsaw Stock Exchange
YoY	Year-on-year
YTD	Year-to-date

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