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#### **Editor's Note**

As we round off a complex and eventful spring, this month's newsletter captures the shifting terrain UK business appraisers are learning to navigate. From tentative signs of economic recovery and sectoral divergences in PMI data to the revival of trade links with both the U.S. and EU, macro-level forces continue to inform valuation assumptions across industries.

Legal clarity from the Hope Capital case reinforces the importance of tightly defined scopes in valuation engagements, while headline M&A activity—such as RedBird's acquisition of the Telegraph—highlights how digital strategy and regulatory oversight are increasingly baked into asset values. With venture capital regaining momentum and post-Brexit defence cooperation expanding, fresh opportunities are emerging in both traditional sectors and more speculative frontiers.

with precision, perspective, and just enough sanity to survive Q2.



Mike Blake, Editor

#### **News**



# UK Business Activity Steadies as Services Offset Manufacturing Strain

PMI data shows broader resilience despite deepening factory slowdown and cost pressures.

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# US-UK Trade Accord Targets Strategic Sectors Over Tariffs

Focus shifts to AI, data, and critical minerals over tariffs. **Read more** 



## Starmer Pitches UK–EU Reset as Mutual Gain

Labour leader frames new deal as practical, stable, and good for business.

**Read more** 



# Hope Capital Case Reinforces Scope Clarity in Valuation Engagements

Court ruling highlights the risk of assumptions made outside clearly defined instructions.

**Read more** 



Fintech and Al drive strong inflows despite broader market caution.

**Read more** 



# RedBird to Acquire The Telegraph in \$500M Deal

Acquisition underscores investor interest in legacy media with digital growth potential.

**Read more** 

#### **Events**



## Dates for your diary

29 May 2025, Expert or Adversary? Navigating the Role of the Valuation Witness in UK Courts - with Fiona Hotston Moore, Virtual

11 June 2025, <u>How Is Al Changing Valuation? - with</u>
<u>Greg Endicott,</u> Virtual

18 September <u>2025 ICAEW Valuation Conference 2025</u> Virtual

19-21 October 2025, <u>ASA International Conference</u>, (<u>Puerto Rico, US</u>), In-person and Virtual

27 October 2025, <u>International Valuation Standards</u>
<u>Council Annual General Meeting</u>, In-person

4 November 2025, <u>IPAV 2025 European Valuation</u> Conference & Trade Exhibition (Dublin)

14 November 2025, <u>BVIUK: 3rd Annual Conference in</u> <u>Business Valuation</u>. (London, In-person only)

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