

Rating Action Report

25 Oct. 2023

Platzer Fastigheter Holding AB (publ)

LONG-TERM RATING

BBB-

OUTLOOK

Negative

SHORT-TERM RATING

N4

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Platzer Fastigheter Holding AB (publ) outlook revised to negative; 'BBB-' long-term issuer rating affirmed

Nordic Credit Rating said today that it had revised its outlook on Sweden-based commercial property manager Platzer Fastigheter Holding AB (publ) to negative from stable. At the same time, the 'BBB-' long-term and 'N4' short-term issuer ratings were affirmed. The 'BB+' senior unsecured issue rating was also affirmed.

Rating rationale

The outlook revision reflects our expectation that Platzer's financial metrics are likely to weaken and remain at weaker levels than we previously projected. Our revised base case sees Platzer's interest coverage ratio (ICR) below our rating driver of 2.5x and remaining in the 2.2x–2.4x range over our forecast period through 2025, unless mitigating action is taken. The company's reported 12-month rolling ICR was 2.3x as of 30 Sep. 2023. We also project that net loan to value (LTV) will rise towards our rating trigger levels of 50% (48.7% as of 30 Sep 2023). The outlook revision reflects this elevated financial risk, but also accounts for the uncertainty regarding external factors such as market rates and yield requirements, as well as the potential for the company to take mitigating actions to support financial metrics.

Negative outlook

We believe that the challenging market conditions with elevated financing costs and yield adjustments will continue to pressure Platzer's financial metrics, although the finalisation of projects and contract indexations will contribute positively to cash flow and EBITDA. We also believe the company will remain selective regarding new projects and will complete its current development projects without substantial cost overruns or delays. Furthermore, we do not believe that vacancies will increase substantially, despite a weaker economy.

We could lower the rating to reflect EBITDA/net interest below 2.5x or net LTV above 50% over a protracted period, deteriorating market fundamentals that adversely affect occupancy and/or profitability, or to reflect increased exposure to and risk-taking in development projects.

We could revise the outlook to stable to reflect stable credit metrics, with EBITDA/net interest above 2.5x and net LTV below 50% over a protracted period, or to reflect efforts and a commitment to deleverage.

Related publications

(i) The Swedish real estate sector– waiting for sunshine after the rain, 27 Sep. 2023.
(ii) Decoding Swedish real estate in an uncertain market environment, 29 Aug. 2023.
(iii) Platzer Fastigheter Holding AB (publ) 'BBB-' long-term issuer rating affirmed; Outlook stable, 9 Jun. 2023.

Rating list	То	From
Long-term issuer credit rating:	BBB-	BBB-
Outlook:	Negative	Stable
Short-term issuer credit rating:	N4	N4
Senior unsecured issue rating:	BB+	BB+

Figure 1. Platzer rating scorecard

Subfactors	Impact	То	From
Operating environment	20.0%	bbb-	bbb-
Market position, size and diversification	12.5%	bbb-	bbb-
Portfolio assessment	12.5%	bbb-	bbb-
Operating efficiency	5.0%	bbb+	bbb+
Business risk assessment	50.0%	bbb-	bbb-
Ratio analysis		bb+	bb+
Risk appetite		bb+	bb+
Financial risk assessment	50.0%	bb+	bb+
Indicative credit assessment		bbb-	bbb-
Liquidity		Adequate	Adequate
ESG		Adequate	Adequate
Peer calibration		Neutral	Neutral
Stand-alone credit assessment		bbb-	bbb-
Support analysis		Neutral	Neutral
Issuer rating		BBB-	BBB-
Outlook		Negative	Stable
Short-term rating		N4	N4

Figure 2. Capital structure ratings

Seniority	То	From
Senior unsecured	BB+	BB+

Long-term issuer credit rating Short-term issuer credit rating Issue credit rating
The rating was first published on 28 Jun. 2021.
Nordic Credit Rating AS (NCR), Oslo, Norway. NCR is a registered credit rating agency under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009.
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NCR's Corporate Rating Methodology published on 8 May 2023 NCR's Rating Principles published on 24 May 2022 NCR's Group and Government Support Rating Methodology published on 18 Feb. 2022 The methodology and principles documents provide analytical guidance to NCR's rating activities including but not limited to, assumptions, parameters, cash flow analysis, and stress-testing. NCR's methodologies and principles can be found on our website nordiccreditrating.com/ governance/policies. The historical default rates of entities and securities rated by NCR will be viewed on the central platform (CEREP) of the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA).
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No ancillary services were provided.
This rating was issued and disclosed under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009.
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