Svensk FastighetsFinansiering AB (publ)

Rating Action Report

31 Jan. 2025

LONG-TERM RATING

BBB+

OUTLOOK

Stable

SHORT-TERM RATING

N3

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Svensk FastighetsFinansiering AB (publ) 'BBB+' long-term issuer rating affirmed; Outlook stable

Nordic Credit Rating (NCR) has affirmed its 'BBB+' long-term issuer rating on Sweden-based Svensk FastighetsFinansiering AB (publ) (SFF). The outlook is stable. The 'N3' short-term issuer rating has also been affirmed as has the 'BBB+' senior secured issue rating.

Rating rationale

The affirmation reflects SFF's continued stable performance in line with our expectations. Since 2022, SFF has seen a decrease in outstanding debt and corresponding collateral volume, mainly due to decreasing activity among its owner- and lender- companies. We expect this trend will change in 2025 and that its lenders will choose to partly fund themselves through SFF. As such, we now expect bond and collateral volumes to increase somewhat in 2025 and 2026, yet at a slower pace compared with our expectations one year ago. We also expect that SFF will continue to focus on improving diversification in its collateral pool.

The long-term rating reflects SFF's purpose as a financing vehicle for its owners, five of Sweden's largest real-estate companies. The rating also reflects SFF's low risk appetite, creditworthiness and continuous support provided by its owners, and the collateral available for senior secured bondholders. It is also indicative of the relatively long average remaining lease term and the high occupancy rates of the properties in SFF's pledged portfolio, as well as the stable operating environment. In addition, the rating reflects liquidity assurance provided by SFF's owners, which limits the near-term refinancing risk.

Downward pressure on property values has increased net loan-to-value (LTV), which remains high for the rating level despite a strong cash position. The rating is constrained by the high net LTV (54% as of 30 Sep. 2024), as well as the company's relatively short debt maturity profile.

Stable outlook

The stable outlook reflects our expectations of continued stable performance by both SFF's property operations and its owners. Net LTV is elevated, but we believe SFF's owners will provide sufficient collateral to ensure the financial risk profile is maintained. We expect SFF will improve diversity in its collateral pool and increase new bond issuance to refinance upcoming maturities. We also expect SFF's risk appetite to remain low, given restrictions in its medium-term note (MTN) prospectus. Furthermore, we expect SFF will remain an attractive funding source for its five owners, and that its current ownership will stay unchanged.

We could raise the rating to reflect a significant improvement in collateral pool diversity and portfolio quality, combined with a sustainable reduction in NCR-adjusted net LTV to below 45%.

We could lower the rating to reflect a failure to improve collateral pool diversity through our forecast period, or a material deterioration in creditworthiness or withdrawal of one or more of the owners. We could also lower the rating to reflect an increase in NCR-adjusted net LTV to above 55% over a protracted period.

Rating list	To	From
Long-term issuer credit rating:	BBB+	BBB+
Outlook:	Stable	Stable
Short-term issuer credit rating:	N3	N3
Senior secured issue rating:	BBB+	BBB+

Figure 1. SFF rating scorecard

Subfactors	Impact	То	From
Operating environment	20.0%	bbb-	bbb-
Market position, size and diversification	12.5%	bb+	bb+
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		а	а
Financial risk assessment	50.0%	bbb	bbb
Indicative credit assessment		bbb	bbb
Liquidity		Adequate	Adequate
ESG		Adequate	Adequate
Peer calibration		Neutral	Neutral
Stand-alone credit assessment		bbb	bbb
Support analysis		+1 notch	+1 notch
Issuer rating		BBB+	BBB+
Outlook		Stable	Stable
Short-term rating		N3	N3

Figure 2. Capital structure ratings

Seniority	То	From
Senior secured	BBB+	BBB+

Long-term issuer credit rating Type of credit rating:

Short-term issuer credit rating

Issue credit rating

Publication date: The rating was first published on 13 Feb. 2020.

Office responsible for the credit Nordic Credit Rating AS (NCR), Oslo, Norway. NCR is a registered credit rating agency under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009. rating:

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Were ESG factors a key driver behind No. the change to the credit rating or rating outlook?

the credit rating:

Methodology used when determining NCR's Corporate Rating Methodology published on 8 May 2023

NCR's Rating Principles published on 14 Feb. 2024

NCR's Group and Government Support Rating Methodology published on 14 Feb. 2024 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/

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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).

credit rating:

Materials used when determining the Annual- and quarterly reports of the rated entity, Bond prospectuses, Company presentations, Data provided by external data providers, External market reports, Meetings with management of the rated entity, Non-public information, Press reports/public information, Website

Potential conflicts of interest:

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Additional information:

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Ancillary services provided:

No ancillary services were provided.

Regulations:

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