

## **Daily Stock Market Review – 19 February 2018**

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### **MSE Equity Price Index halts 4-day positive streak**

The **MSE Equity Price Index** trended lower for the first time in five trading sessions as it slumped by 0.55% to 4,457.164 points, largely driven by the drops in the share prices of IHI (-2.4%) and Farsons (-3.4%) which outweighed the gains in MPC (+0.8%) and MaltaPost (+2.1%). Meanwhile, four other equities closed the day unchanged.

Tomorrow, **HSBC Bank Malta plc** will kick-start the 2017 earnings reporting season. The directors of the bank will also be considering the declaration of a final dividend. The equity closed unchanged at the €1.82 level today on volumes totalling 7,527 shares.

Within the same segment, **Bank of Valletta plc** maintained the €1.81 level across 14,212 shares. BOV's insurance associate – **Mapfre Middlesea plc** – also ended unchanged at the €1.85 level albeit on trivial volumes.

**RS2 Software plc** held on to the €1.31 level after recovering from its 16-month low of €1.30 (-0.8%). A total of 24,000 changed hands.

**Trident Estates plc** was the most actively traded equity today as it shed 3.5% to the €1.91 level on volumes totalling 62,688 shares (representing 39% of the total value of equities traded).

Amongst the large companies by market capitalisation, IHI, GO and MIA all posted declines today. **International Hotel Investments plc** lost 2.4% to the €0.605 level albeit on trivial volumes.

**GO plc** (5,600 shares) and **Malta International Airport plc** (18,000 shares) retreated by 0.6% and 0.4% to €3.54 and €4.94 respectively. The airport operator is scheduled to reveal its 2017 financial results next Wednesday.

**PG plc** and **Simonds Farsons Cisk plc** also performed negatively today albeit on insignificant volumes. PG moved back to the €1.36 level (-2.2%) whilst Farsons dropped by 3.4% to a ten-month low of €7.20.

In contrast, **MaltaPost plc** surged by 2.1% to regain the €1.95 level on a single deal of just 3,029 shares.

Also on light volumes, **Malta Properties Company plc** climbed 0.8% to the €0.486 level across 5,344 shares.

The **RF MGS Index** added to last Friday's gains of 0.15% as it advanced by a further 0.18% to 1,109.817 points today amid a quiet for international bond markets.



*Stock markets are volatile and subject to fluctuations which cannot be reasonably foreseen. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results.*