

## February Market Commentary Sources

3/2 Bitcoin falls 30% in a week <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-42915437>

6/2 Bitcoin below \$6,000

<http://www.cityam.com/280119/bitcoin-price-dips-below-6000-cryptocurrency-tumble>

Global sell off

<http://www.cityam.com/280114/ftse-100-follows-asia-and-wall-street-third-day-global>

<http://www.cityam.com/280113/asian-markets-plunge-after-heavy-wall-street-losses>

### UK

1 Feb – Morrison's axes 1,500 middle managers

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-42907151>

3/2 UK Business Bank backs up Carillion contractor loans

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-42925155>

5/2 UK service sector growth slowest since September 2016

<http://www.cityam.com/280055/british-services-sector-growth-slowest-since-september-2016>

Lloyds bans Bitcoin purchases on credit cards

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-42940728>

7/2 Tesco facing £4bn equal pay claim

<http://www.cityam.com/280182/tesco-facing-record-gbp4bn-equal-pay-claim>

Lloyds makes 930 redundant

<http://www.cityam.com/280102/lloyds-bank-cuts-930-jobs-ahead-fresh-three-year-strategy>

8/2 Hedge funds take out big bets against Barclays

<http://www.cityam.com/280230/barclays-targeted-short-sellers-wake-long-hedge-fund>

9/2 £ falls as trade gap widens thanks to shrinking EU exports

<http://www.cityam.com/280336/pound-falls-uk-trade-deficit-widens-yet-again-thanks-rising>

Construction declines

<http://www.cityam.com/280334/uks-construction-sector-its-longest-losing-streak-since>

Manufacturing grows

[http://www.cityam.com/280331/british-manufacturing-growth-continues-new-post-financia](http://www.cityam.com/280331/british-manufacturing-growth-continues-new-post-financial)  
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10/2 UK trade deficit widens in December <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43002905>

12/2 SFO charges Barclays over 2008 Qatar loans

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43029731>

"Public ownership will cost nothing" <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-43014861>

Good news despite Brexit

<https://order-order.com/2018/02/12/quintuple-despitebrexit-special/>

14/2 First time buyers at 11 year high <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43043294>

Boris makes the case for Brexit <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-43045553>

21/2 Unemployment rises, wage growth accelerates

<http://www.cityam.com/280998/unemployment-rises-but-wage-growth-accelerates>

22/2 UK productivity growth strongest since 2008

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43140646>

British Gas owner to cut 4,000 jobs <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43152166>

23/2 RBS reports first profit in ten years <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43166560>

27/2 UK growth for Q4 revised downwards <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43154467>

28/2 Toys R Us and Maplins on the brink <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43219651>

## **Brexit**

5/2 May rules out 'the customs union' and 'a customs union.'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-42938672>

8/2 Regions that voted for Brexit will be worst hit

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-42977967>

Japanese car makers visit Downing Street <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-42975116>

9/2 Northern Ireland to stay in single market and customs union?

[https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/feb/09/northern-ireland-will-stay-in-single-market-after-brexit-eu-says?CMP=Share\\_AndroidApp\\_Tweet](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/feb/09/northern-ireland-will-stay-in-single-market-after-brexit-eu-says?CMP=Share_AndroidApp_Tweet) and

<http://www.cityam.com/280332/northern-ireland-stay-single-market-after-brexit-reports>

10/2 Barnier: 'transition not a given' <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-43001931>

13/2 EU member states at odds over hard line Brexit stance

<http://www.cityam.com/280444/eu-member-states-odds-over-hard-line-brexit-stance>

20/2 Dutch Government triggers plans for hard Brexit

<http://www.cityam.com/280911/brexit-latest-dutch-government-has-triggered-plans-no-deal>

22/2 Govmt wants open-ended transition period

<http://www.cityam.com/281003/leaked-document-suggests-government-plans-soften-end-date>

23/2 May unites cabinet on Brexit strategy

<http://www.cityam.com/281140/theresa-may-unites-cabinet-reach-agreement-brexit-end-state>

26/2 Labour shift on customs union <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-43186005>

## Europe

2/2 German strikes over work/life balance

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-42887425>

5/2 Big challenges ahead for France

<https://www.politico.eu/article/emmanuel-macron-growth-french-economic-fanfare-belies-challenges-ahead/>

7/2 Merkel and Soc Dems reach a deal

<http://www.cityam.com/280187/angela-merkels-conservatives-and-social-democrats-reach>

9/2 Merkel clings on to personal power

<https://www.conservativehome.com/thetorydiary/2018/02/there-is-danger-now-in-germany-of-a-weak-centrist-government-with-extremists-flourishing-on-both-sides.html>

14/2 EU growth rate at 10 year high (not saying a lot)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43055887>

27/2 Should EU worry about Italian election?

<http://www.cityam.com/281284/italy-means-eu-should-investors-worried-election>

## US

1 Feb – Apple, Amazon, Google – the race to a trillion dollars

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-42901143>

2/2 Alphabet mixed results - bottom line doesn't impress

<http://www.cityam.com/279933/alphabet-delivers-mixed-quarter-bottom-line-fails-impress>

Apple sales rise despite unit falls

<http://www.cityam.com/279931/less-more-apple-beats-expectations-but-unit-sales-fall>

Bezos hails Alexa technology

<http://www.cityam.com/279932/amazon-shares-rise-after-delivering-big-beat-expectations>

Alexa can now tell you a joke. Well, yes. That depends on your definition of a joke.

Is Facebook future proof?

<http://www.cityam.com/279941/debate-light-falling-user-time-facebook-futureproof>

3/2 Chevron and Exxon Mobil both miss forecasts but benefit from 'Trump Bump'

<http://www.cityam.com/279977/chevron-and-exxon-mobil-miss-earnings-forecasts-but-get>

Sharp fall in Dow Jones – disappointing earnings from major companies

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-42921623>

But good news on jobs and wages – wage growth best for 8 years

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-42921615>

8/2 Tesla reports record loss but says outlook is positive

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-42980841>

9/2 US Government shuts down for a 2<sup>nd</sup> time this year  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-42999286>

10/2 Amazon plans shipping expansion – whacks FedEx and UPS  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43008428>

15/2 Consumer inflation up in the US in January  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43057242>

17/2 Wall Street best week for 5 years?  
<http://www.cityam.com/280777/us-stock-markets-open-up-best-week-since-2013-horizon>

23/2 Kylie Jenner tweet hammers Snapchat <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43163544>

26/2 Buffet says Trump tax reform has given his company \$29bn tax boost  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-43183737>

Trump approval rating passes 50%  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5423759/Trump-breaks-50-approval-time-8-months.html>

27/2 Comcast makes \$22.1bn bid for Sky  
<http://www.cityam.com/281309/comcast-has-made-gbp221bn-bid-sky>

Fed confidence about US economy grows <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43148881>

28/2 Amazon buys doorbell company for \$1bn  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43217601>

Trump to run again in 2020  
<https://news.sky.com/story/president-trump-to-run-for-re-election-in-2020-11269888>

## **Far East**

2/2 Alibaba sales jump after record Singles Day  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-42913514>

6/2 Why is Asia buying more jets and bombs?  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/business-42945133/singapore-airshow-why-is-asia-spending-big-on-defence>

18/2 Japan hikes state pension age to 70  
<http://www.cityam.com/280796/state-pension-japan-combats-greying-population-hiking>

20/2 HSBC makes \$17bn but misses expectations  
<http://www.cityam.com/280910/hsbc-share-price-falls-after-misses-expectations-heres>

27/2 China cracks down on Grey Rhinos <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43207506>  
Sounds like a rugby league team on a bad day

28/2 Xi to rule for ever  
<https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2018/02/china-xi-jinping/554231/>

## **Emerging Markets**

15/2 Indian bank hit by \$1.8bn fraud case <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43068039>

20/2 Telegram raises \$850m through cryptocurrency

<http://www.cityam.com/280809/telegram-ico-whatsapp-rival-raises-850m-token-pre-sale>

## **And finally**

12/2 Bitcoin mining eating Iceland energy supplies

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-43030677>

20/2 KFC runs out of chicken <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43124259>

Nation rocked by chicken chaos <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-43124259>

Empty bucket