

press release

22 July 2011

United Utilities performs for income investors

- United Utilities' efficiency initiatives perform well
- Total dividend for 2011 is 30p per share
- The Share Centre continues to recommend investors 'hold' United Utilities

As United Utilities report trading in line with expectations Graham Spooner, investment adviser at The Share Centre, explains what this means for investors.

"United Utilities has announced sound progress for the period to 21 July with revenues increasing by 4.5% due to the regulated price increase. However inflationary cost pressures have offset this increase. The company is confident that it has a good financial position and expects to continue to progress well despite ongoing cost pressures.

"The sector is known to suit income seeking investors and although the dividend is down 12.5% on the previous year to 30p per share, they will be pleased to see the company plans to continue to pay a dividend 2% above inflation rates.

"United Utilities' efficiency initiatives are performing well and the outlook for the company is positive as it continues to focus on its water business and improve operational performance. The sector has been given a boost by recent corporate activity as Northumbrian Water is currently subject to a takeover offer. The interest generated on the back of this bid has helped to establish valuations in the sector and therefore we continue to recommend investors 'hold' United Utilities for now."

---Ends---

Note to editors:

The Share Centre is now on Facebook and Twitter.



Join us on Facebook



Follow us on Twitter

For further information please contact:

The Share Centre

Rebecca Kempzell

PR Executive

01296 439 426

Rebecca.kempzell@share.co.uk

Stephanie Reynolds

PR Manager

01296 439 256

Stephanie.reynolds@share.co.uk

Lansons Communications

Inez de Koning / Lisa Grando / Sarah Waterson

0207 294 3623 / 0207 294 3669 / 0207 294 3649

inezd@lansons.com / Lisag@lansons.com / SarahW@lansons.com

To view all our press releases and more from our investment advisers please go to blog.share.com

Risk Warnings:

Investing in general, and the products and services mentioned above may not be suitable for all: if in doubt, individuals should seek independent financial advice. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back their original investment. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

The bases and levels of taxation relating to ISAs, CTFs and SIPP's are subject to change and the value of these tax allowances may depend upon the circumstances of the individual.

About The Share Centre:

The Share Centre was established in 1990 to provide value-for-money share services for private investors. Its range of services includes buying and selling shares (by Internet, telephone and post) and a comprehensive share administration and safe custody service. Tax-efficient investment 'wrappers' including ISAs, CTFs and SIPP's are also available.

The Share Centre's Advice team provides comment on market sectors, individual shares and funds on www.share.com. Access is available to customers and registered users of the site. Registration is free. To understand how our Advice team arrive at their views please read our [Investment Research Policy](#). The Share Centre blog is also available at <http://blog.share.com>.

In addition, account customers can receive individual telephone advice on UK-listed shares and on funds traded via the CoFunds trading platform.

The Share Centre Limited is a member of the London Stock Exchange and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority under reference 146768.

Registered in England No. 2461949. Registered office: Oxford House, Oxford Road, Aylesbury,
Bucks. HP21 8SZ.