

EUWID Price Watch UK

February 2026

| Prices in £ per tonne free delivered unless otherwise stated | February 2026 £ | February 2026 €* | January 2026 £ | February 2025 £ |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Fine paper | | | | |
| Woodfree uncoated | | | | |
| Copy paper 80 g A4 B grade | 760 - 820 | 866 - 935 | 760 - 820 | 830 - 910 |
| Copy paper 80 g A4 C grade | 710 - 790 | 809 - 901 | 710 - 790 | 790 - 880 |
| Offset sheets 80 g | 810 - 860 | 923 - 980 | 810 - 860 | 880 - 920 |
| Offset reels 80 g | 730 - 800 | 832 - 912 | 730 - 800 | 800 - 880 |
| Woodfree coated | | | | |
| Sheets, double coated, 115 g | 820 - 890 | 934 - 1,015 | 820 - 890 | 890 - 940 |
| Reels, double coated, 100 g | 770 - 820 | 878 - 935 | 770 - 820 | 800 - 860 |
| Publication paper | | | | |
| Standard newsprint 45 g | 480 - 510 | 547 - 581 | 480 - 510 | 480 - 510 |
| Standard newsprint 42.5 g | 490 - 520 | 559 - 593 | 490 - 520 | 490 - 520 |
| Standard newsprint 40 g | 500 - 530 | 570 - 604 | 500 - 530 | 500 - 530 |
| Improved newsprint 52 g, ISO 68 | 530 - 560 | 604 - 638 | 530 - 560 | 530 - 560 |
| LWC offset 60 g | 660 - 690 | 752 - 786 | 660 - 690 | 660 - 710 |
| SC offset 56 g (A) | 570 - 590 | 650 - 673 | 570 - 590 | 580 - 620 |
| Corrugated case material | | | | |
| Primary fibre corrugated case material | | | | |
| Unbleached kraftliner 175 g+, European quality | 695 - 720 | 792 - 821 | 695 - 720 | 670 - 730 |
| White-top kraftliner 140 g, European quality | 805 - 875 | 918 - 998 | 805 - 875 | 785 - 845 |
| Recycled corrugated case material | | | | |
| Recycled fluting 100 g | 505 - 575 | 576 - 656 | 505 - 575 | 505 - 555 |
| Recycled fluting 90 g | 505 - 580 | 576 - 661 | 505 - 580 | 505 - 560 |
| Recycled fluting 85 g | 515 - 590 | 587 - 673 | 515 - 590 | 515 - 570 |
| Testliner II | 525 - 595 | 599 - 678 | 525 - 595 | 525 - 575 |
| Testliner III | 505 - 575 | 576 - 656 | 505 - 575 | 505 - 555 |
| White-top testliner, grade B, 140 g | 640 - 690 | 730 - 787 | 640 - 690 | 640 - 680 |
| Cartonboard | | | | |
| GD II | 560 - 650 | 638 - 741 | 560 - 650 | 650 - 715 |
| GC II | 880 - 1,000 | 1,003 - 1,140 | 880 - 1,000 | 930 - 1,010 |

* Exchange rate as of 27 February 2026: £1 = €1.14

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The British magazine market is showing a similar pattern, with total circulation for ABC-audited magazines down 9 per cent last year. Only 10 out of 131 magazines managed to record growth.

Dwindling demand for print products is also evident in the pressures facing the printing industry. Most recently, major publisher Reach – owner of the Daily Mirror, Daily Express, Sunday Mirror and other titles – announced plans to shut two of its three remaining print sites in order to consolidate newspaper production.

UK containerboard market remains subdued in February as price hike attempts loom

Seasonally, the UK market for corrugated case material and corrugated packaging presented a quiet picture in February. Paper producers reported that sales volumes were broadly in line with expectations, but there was no sign of any tangible upturn.

Inventories along the supply chain are still de-

scribed as high. Operating rates at paper mills stand at around 80 per cent, depending on the site.

By early February at the latest, the most recent downward price adjustment in the UK had been completed. In annual contracts in particular, some customers secured reductions of up to £25/t for brown recycled corrugated case material (RCCM) in January. Others achieved decreases of slightly more than £10/t, while a number of market participants reported no discounts at all.

However, the €80/t price increase being intensively discussed on the European mainland for implementation from 1 March appears to be casting its shadow over the UK as well. In the final week of February, no substantive negotiations had yet taken place. Some producers sent out announcement letters, but follow-up talks remained limited.

Numerous converters doubt that a 1 March increase can be enforced in the UK. They point to

continued substantial inflows of competitively priced material from continental Europe. Even after taking freight costs into account, these volumes are reportedly offered at prices only marginally above continental levels. According to one observer, the UK market is thus serving as a “vent” while price hike attempts are ongoing on the Continent. As in other European markets, questions are also being raised as to whether increases of the magnitude demanded are realistically achievable.

For other grades, including brown and white-top kraftliner as well as white-top testliner, no price reductions were recorded and, at the time of going to press, no concrete increase announcements had been made on the UK market.

The situation in the UK corrugated sheet and packaging market remains unchanged. Underlying demand is described as stable but unspec-

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