

## Background

Please confirm you have read and understood this important background information.

Yes, I have read and understood the information on this page.

## About you

### 1 What is your name?

Name:

### 2 What is your email address?

Email:

### 3 What is your organisation?

Organisation:

National Assembly for Wales

## Section one: Measuring prices across the economy

### 1 Should ONS identify a main measure of price change across the economy?

Yes

Why? Please provide comments.:

It is important to have a main measure.

### 2 If you answered 'yes' to question 1a, then what should this measure be?

the CPIH, as recommended in the Johnson review. The CPIH includes owner-occupiers' housing costs. It does not currently hold the National statistics designation (although its reassessment is due to commence shortly). The index is a UK measure, designed by ONS to meet UK needs.

Why? Please provide comments.:

It is important to have a measure tailored to show how changes in prices are impacting on people in the UK.

It is still crucial to have the CPI so international comparisons can be made.

### 3. Should its production be governed by legislation?

Yes

Why? Please provide comments.:

No strong views here. There is a need for a system to be in place so that the measure is strong and robust but can be flexible to changes in how consumers access goods and services.

## Section two: Measuring consumer price inflation for different household types

### 4 Should ONS seek to measure changes in prices as experienced by different households?

Yes

Why? How often? Please provide comments.:

It is important not to have too many indicators that obscure the overall picture. However, it would be useful to have indices that would help us to see whether differing people are experiencing different inflation rates. This would be helpful at looking at the impact of policy changes such as welfare reform on different groups. Also, if there is a potential to look at inflation in different UK countries this would be of interest. There is not a need to calculate such information more frequently than once a year at most.

### 5 If yes, how should ONS seek to do so?

Not Answered

**Why? Please provide comments.:**

No strong views here. Research and views should make an evidence based conclusion to ensure that the approach gives the best reflection of how prices for consumers are changing.

**Section three: The RPI**

**6 Do you use the following indices? (Please select those that you use)**

RPIJ

**If yes, for what purposes? Please provide comments.:**

We try not to use the RPI indicators at all. Although we still get asked periodically to make comparisons to the "RPI".

**7 Do you agree that the following indices should be discontinued? (Please select those that you suggest should be discontinued)**

RPIJ, Tax and price Index, RPIY, RPI pensioner indices, Component indices of the RPI, Any other RPI index

**Why? Please provide comments.:**

For our purposes, it would avoid confusion if all RPI related indices were discontinued. Though due to their use by Government and regulators this could be difficult.

**8 Do you have any views on what 'freezing' changes to the RPI should mean in practice?**

No

**Why? Please provide comments.:**

**Section four: Evolving consumer price statistics**

**9 Are the priorities identified by ONS in its forward work plan appropriate?**

Not Answered

**Why? Please provide comments.:**

No comments here.

**10 Should ONS include council tax in the CPIH?**

Yes

**Why? Please provide comments.:**

In principal yes, as represents a sizeable part of household costs, but thought should be given to how this would work in practice.

Changes are based on local decisions, which could add complications.

Also, consideration needs to be given to the fact that devolution has led to considerably different policies being implemented in England, Wales, N Ireland and Scotland.

**Additional information**

**Do you have any further comments relevant to this consultation?**

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**User satisfaction**

**Overall, how satisfied were you with this online consultation service today?**

Very satisfied

**Please tell us if there are any specific areas for improvement, or if you have any other comments.:**

Pretty easy to complete.