

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:

PRIVATE

Section one: Measuring prices across the economy

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

No

Why? Please provide comments.:

The UK economy is incredibly diverse, both in terms of prices charged regionally, differences in prices paid depending on the means of purchase and incentives offered by retailers. There is also tremendous diversity in the goods and services consumed by different demographic and socio-economic groups. Academic theories, such as substitution or qualitative adjustment are often not observed in actual consumption patterns.

The main purpose of statistics is not international comparisons, but rather for domestic use. Simple arguing "international accepted best practice" is not an appropriate reason to use a given approach or methodology.

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

Other (please provide details).

Why? Please provide comments.:

If a single measure were to be used, RPI is the most suitable.

3. Should its production be governed by legislation?

No

Why? Please provide comments.:

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.:

The main job of the ONS Price Research section should be to collect and publish information on prices as widely as possible, allowing users to combine such information as they feel most appropriate.

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

Using a payments-based approach.

Why? Please provide comments.:

The current estimation of the cost of financial services, including insurance, is sharply at odds with the actual experiences of many householders and lacks common sense.

Insurance premiums are paid by all but claims against losses are received by few, therefore simply looking at the net figure gives a very misleading impression of the cost incurred by the majority.

Section three: The RPI

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

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

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

These series are used for assessing the underlying inflation evolution of the UK economy, accepting that their information content differs from the CPI indices. Some series are used in wage and other contractual settlements.

The loss of transparency will fuel suspicions that the CPI statistics are being manipulated in the interests of reducing government payments.

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

Why? Please provide comments.:

All series should be continued in the interests of transparency.

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?

No

Why? Please provide comments.:

10 Should ONS include council tax in the CPIH?

Yes

Why? Please provide comments.:

Why should council tax, a non-discretionary administered cost of housing not be included? It defies logic.

Additional information

Do you have any further comments relevant to this consultation?

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

no

User satisfaction

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

Neither satisfied or dissatisfied

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