

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 individual

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.:

There can be no such thing as a correct index but one single index will avoid the possibility of index shopping such as the scandal of CPI for pensions but RPI for rail fares.

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

Other (please provide details).

Why? Please provide comments.:

Household Inflation Index as proposed by the RSS for the reasons given by Peter Diggle in his letter to John Pullinger dated 6 February 2015.

3. Should its production be governed by legislation?

No

Why? Please provide comments.:

Legislation is too ponderous.

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 priority is to produce a Household Inflation Index.

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

Using a payments-based approach.

Why? Please provide comments.:

A payments-based approach best reflects pensioners' expenditure.

Section three: The RPI

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

Any other RPI index

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

My pension fund trustees have a policy objective to return to the payment of RPI increases as quickly and prudently as possible. RPI increases were promised to members of my pension scheme in 1984 whilst the company, then in government control, was being prepared for privatisation.

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

Why? Please provide comments.:

I am not qualified to respond except to note that the RPI is used by many organisations - even the Bank of England pension scheme uses it - so the deliberate destruction of its off-shoots is to be deplored.

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

Yes

Why? Please provide comments.:

The RPI should not be frozen but maintained in good order. It is used by many organisations and its integrity must be retained in the same way that old airliners are maintained to a high standard.

Section four: Evolving consumer price statistics

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

No

Why? Please provide comments.:

We need an index, for example a Household Inflation Index, which better measures our inflation. In the meantime work should concentrate on reducing the "formula effect" difference between RPI and CPI

10 Should ONS include council tax in the CPIH?

Yes

Why? Please provide comments.:

Council Tax does not depend on income, so it should be included in CPIH.

Additional information

Do you have any further comments relevant to this consultation?

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

Honesty and the impartiality of official statistics is at the core of good government. The change from RPI to CPI which has MPs parroting that the government thinks that CPI is a better measure of inflation demonstrates the danger of partisan statistical advice.

User satisfaction

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

Satisfied

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