

Consumer Price Inflation

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This note is produced as background briefing for the Consumer Price Inflation Statistical Bulletin. Users who require authoritative figures should use the Consumer Price Inflation Statistical Bulletin or Consumer Price Inflation Reference Tables.

SUMMARY

Consumer Prices Index (CPI)

The CPI is a measure of consumer price inflation produced to international standards and in line with European regulations. First published in 1997 as the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), the CPI is the inflation measure used in the Government's target for inflation.

The CPI is also used for purposes such as uprating pensions, wages and benefits and can aid in the understanding of inflation on family budgets. For more information see [Users and uses of consumer price inflation statistics \(2013\)](#).

The main movements for CPI in February 2016 are:

- The all items CPI is 99.8, up from 99.5 in January.
- The all items CPI annual rate is 0.3%, unchanged from last month.
- The annual rate for CPI excluding indirect taxes, CPIY, is 0.2%, unchanged from last month.
- The annual rate for CPI at constant tax rates, CPI-CT, is 0.2%, down from 0.3% last month.
- The CPI all goods index is 98.6, up from 98.5 in January.
- The CPI all goods index annual rate is -1.6%, down from -1.5% last month.
- The CPI all services index is 101.1, up from 100.7 in January.
- The CPI all services index annual rate is 2.4%, up from 2.3% last month.

CPIH

CPIH has been re-assessed to evaluate the extent to which it meets the professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and the [assessment report](#) published on 3 March 2016. The report includes a number of requirements that need to be implemented for CPIH to regain its status as a National Statistic. The actions taken to address these requirements will be reported to the UK Statistics Authority by September 2016.

CPIH is a measure of UK consumer price inflation that includes owner occupiers' housing costs (OOH). These are the costs of housing services associated with owning, maintaining and living in one's own home. OOH does not include costs such as utility bills, minor repairs and maintenance which are already included in the index.

CPIH uses an approach called rental equivalence to measure OOH. Rental equivalence uses the rent paid for an equivalent house as a proxy for the costs faced by an owner occupier. In other words this answers the question "how much would I have to pay in rent to live in a home like mine?" for an owner occupier. OOH does not seek to capture increases in house prices. Although this may be inconsistent with some users' expectations of measures of OOH, the inclusion of an

asset price and therefore capital gains would make the index less suitable for a measure of consumption. OOH currently accounts for 16.5% of the expenditure weight of CPIH. This compares with a weight of 19.5% in 2005.

Currently, the method of calculation, the population coverage and the basket of goods and services are the same as the Consumer Prices Index (CPI), with the exception of OOH. The method of deriving the weights for CPIH and the data used for these are also the same as for CPI, with the exception of OOH. This can result in some differences from the CPI.

The main movements for CPIH in February 2016 are:

- The all items CPIH is 100.1, up from 99.8 in January.
- The all items CPIH annual rate is 0.6%, unchanged from last month.
- The annual rate for CPIH excluding indirect taxes, CPIHY, is 0.6%, unchanged from last month.
- The OOH component of CPIH is 101.3, up from 101.2 in January.
- The OOH component annual rate is 2.0%, unchanged from last month.
- The CPIH all goods index is 98.7, up from 98.5 in January.
- The CPIH all goods index annual rate is -1.6%, down from -1.5% last month.
- The CPIH all services index is 101.1, up from 100.8 in January.
- The CPIH all services index annual rate is 2.2%, unchanged from last month.

Retail Prices Index (RPI) and RPIJ

In accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, the Retail Prices Index and its derivatives have been assessed against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and found not to meet the required standard for designation as National Statistics. The [full assessment report](#) can be found on the UK Statistics Authority website.

The RPI is a long-standing measure of UK inflation that has historically been used for a wide range of purposes such as the indexation of pensions, rents and index-linked gilts. For further information see [Users and uses of consumer price inflation statistics \(2013\)](#).

RPIJ is an improved variant of the Retail Prices Index which is calculated using formulae that meet international standards. The rationale for creating RPIJ was to give users a better alternative to the RPI if their needs were for a measure of inflation based on the same population, classifications, weights, etc. as the RPI. Currently, RPIJ also acts as an analytical series, in that it allows users to see the impact of using the Jevons (which meets international standards) in place of the Carli formula (which does not meet international standards) in the RPI. The use of the different formulae

at the elementary aggregate level is currently the only difference between these indices. Detailed goods and services indices for RPIJ are not produced.

The main movements for RPI and RPIJ in February 2016 are:

- The all items RPI is 260.0, up from 258.8 in January.
- The all items RPI annual rate is 1.3%, unchanged from last month.
- The all items RPIJ is 238.7, up from 238.1 in January.
- The all items RPIJ annual rate is 0.6%, down from 0.7% last month.
- The annual rate for RPIX, the all items RPI excluding mortgage interest payments (MIPs) index, is 1.4%, unchanged from last month.
- The all goods RPI is 197.0, up from 195.6 in January.
- The all goods RPI annual rate is -0.5%, down from -0.4% last month.
- The all services RPI is 355.5, up from 354.2 in January.
- The all services RPI annual rate is 2.4%, unchanged from last month.
- The annual rate for RPIY, the all items RPI excluding MIPs and indirect taxes index, is 1.4%, unchanged from last month.
- The Tax and Price Index (TPI) for February is 226.9, up from 225.8 in January.
- The TPI annual rate is 0.8%, unchanged from last month.

CPI SUMMARY

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE IN THE CPI ANNUAL RATE

CPI COICOP DIVISIONS	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
01: Food and non-alcoholic beverages	110	103	-0.2	0.1	0.04
02: Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	43	42	-0.4	-0.6	-0.01
03: Clothing and footwear	70	71	1.3	1.3	-
04: Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	128	120	-	-0.1	-0.01
05: Furniture, household equipment and maintenance	59	59	1.4	1.7	0.02
06: Health	25	28	0.1	-	-
07: Transport	149	153	0.4	-	-0.05
08: Communication	31	32	0.9	0.8	-
09: Recreation and culture	147	148	-	-0.1	-0.01
10: Education	26	25	-	-	-
11: Restaurants and hotels	121	123	0.2	0.5	0.03
12: Miscellaneous goods and services	91	96	0.2	-	-0.02

A large upward effect came from:

- **Food and non-alcoholic beverages**, where prices overall rose by 0.1% between January and February 2016, compared with a fall of 0.2% between the same 2 months a year ago. The overall upward contribution came from a variety of product groups, most notably vegetables and milk, cheese and eggs.

Small upward effects came from:

- **Restaurants and hotels**, where prices overall rose by 0.5% between January and February this year compared with a smaller rise of 0.2% between the same months a year ago. The upward contribution came from hotel accommodation; and

- **Furniture, household equipment and maintenance**, where prices overall rose by 1.7% between January and February this year compared with a smaller rise of 1.4% a year ago.

A large downward effect came from:

- **Transport**, where prices overall were unchanged between January and February this year compared with a rise of 0.4% between the same 2 months a year ago. The largest downward effects came from road passenger transport and bicycles, where prices fell this year but rose a year ago, and second-hand cars, where prices fell by more than a year ago.

A small downward effect came from:

- **Miscellaneous goods and services**, where prices overall were little changed between January and February this year compared with a rise of 0.2% a year ago. The downward contributions came from personal care products such as toothpaste and moisturising cream.

CPI NOTABLE MOVEMENTS

All items CPI	Annual rate +0.3%, unchanged from last month Also +0.3% in January 2015 Last higher in December 2014 (+0.5%) Last lower in December 2015 (+0.2%)
All items CPI exc energy, food, alcohol and tobacco	Annual rate +1.2%, unchanged from last month Also +1.2% in November 2015 Last higher in December 2015 (+1.4%) Last lower in October 2015 (+1.1%)
All goods	Annual rate -1.6%, down from -1.5% last month Lowest since December 2015 (-2.1%)
All services	Annual rate +2.4%, up from +2.3% last month Highest since December 2015 (+2.9%)

CPI DETAILED BRIEFING

- Weights are specified as parts per 1000 in the CPI.

01 FOOD & NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
01 Food & non-alcoholic beverages	110	103	-0.2	0.1	0.04

- Largest upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **food**.

01.1 Food	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
01.1 Food	97	91	-0.3	0.1	0.04
01.1.1 Bread and cereals	16	15	0.7	0.2	-0.01
01.1.2 Meat	22	21	0.1	-0.4	-0.01
01.1.3 Fish	4	4	-0.3	1.8	0.01
01.1.4 Milk, cheese and eggs	14	12	-1.9	-0.5	0.02
01.1.5 Oils and fats	2	2	0.3	0.8	-
01.1.6 Fruit	10	9	-0.9	-	0.01
01.1.7 Vegetables including potatoes	14	13	-	2.1	0.03
01.1.8 Sugar, jam, syrups, chocolate and confectionery	12	12	-1.4	-2.5	-0.01
01.1.9 Food products not elsewhere covered	3	3	2.5	4.1	-

- Large upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **vegetables including potatoes; milk, cheese and eggs; fruit; and fish**.
- Partially offset by **sugar, jam, syrups, chocolate and confectionery; meat; and bread and cereals**.

Bread and cereals

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from dried potted snacks.
- Partially offset by a small upward contribution coming from sliced bread, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.

Meat

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for bacon.

Fish

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.

Milk, cheese and eggs

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year by less than a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from cheese spread and shop bought milk.

Fruit

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall were little changed this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from strawberries and grapes.

Vegetables including potatoes

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but were little changed a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from potato crisps and canned tomatoes.
- Partially offset by small downward contributions coming from fresh tomatoes and courgettes.

Sugar, jam, syrups, chocolate and confectionery

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, particularly for boxes and cartons of chocolates.

01.2 Non-alcoholic beverages	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
01.2 Non-alcoholic beverages	13	12	0.3	0.4	-
01.2.1 Coffee, tea and cocoa	3	3	1.3	0.1	-
01.2.2 Mineral waters, soft drinks and juices	10	9	-	0.5	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

02 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	43	42	-0.4	-0.6	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago.

02.1 Alcoholic Beverages	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
02.1 Alcoholic beverages	19	19	-1.4	-1.6	-
02.1.1 Spirits	5	5	0.9	-2.0	-0.01
02.1.2 Wine	9	9	-3.7	-2.2	0.01
02.1.3 Beer	5	5	0.3	-0.1	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- A small downward contribution came from **spirits**, where overall prices for whisky and vodka fell this year but rose a year ago.
- Offset by a small upward contribution coming from **wine**, where prices overall fell this year by less than a year ago, particularly for New World red wine and European white wine.

02.2 Tobacco	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
02.2 Tobacco	24	23	0.3	0.3	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

03 CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
03 Clothing and footwear	70	71	1.3	1.3	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

03.1 Clothing	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
03.1 Clothing	60	61	1.4	1.4	-
03.1.2 Garments	54	54	1.6	1.5	-0.01
03.1.3 Other clothing and clothing accessories	5	6	-0.7	0.5	0.01
03.1.4 Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	1	1	0.1	0.7	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- There is a small downward contribution coming from **garments**.
- Offset by a small upward contribution coming from **other clothing and clothing accessories**.

Garments

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, with the main downward contributions coming from women's formal jackets and men's suits.
- Partially offset by small upward contributions coming from women's formal trousers and girls' fashion tops.

Other clothing and clothing accessories

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, particularly for ladies' scarves.

03.2 Footwear including repairs	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
03.2 Footwear including repairs	10	10	1.0	0.8	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

04 HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	128	120	-	-0.1	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **electricity, gas and other fuels**.

04.1 Actual rentals for housing	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
04.1 Actual rentals for housing	72	72	0.1	0.1	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

04.3 Regular maintenance and repair of the dwelling	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
04.3 Regular maintenance and repair of the dwelling	2	2	0.1	-0.3	-
04.3.1 Materials for maintenance and repair	1	1	0.2	-0.7	-
04.3.2 Services for maintenance and repair	1	1	0.1	0.1	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

04.4 Other services related to the dwelling	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
04.4 Other services related to the dwelling	12	11	-	-	-
04.4.1 Water supply	6	6	-	-	-
04.4.3 Sewerage collection	6	5	-	-	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

04.5 Electricity, gas and other fuels	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
04.5 Electricity, gas and other fuels	42	35	-0.2	-0.4	-0.01
04.5.1 Electricity	20	17	-	-	-
04.5.2 Gas	20	16	-0.7	-0.7	-
04.5.3 Liquid fuels	1	1	5.0	-4.2	-0.01
04.5.4 Solid fuels	1	1	-	0.1	-

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **liquid fuels**, where average prices for kerosene fell this year but rose a year ago.

05 FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05 Furniture, household equipment and maintenance	59	59	1.4	1.7	0.02

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **goods and services for routine maintenance** and **household appliances, fitting and repairs**.

05.1 Furniture, furnishings and carpets	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.1 Furniture, furnishings and carpets	21	20	2.6	2.8	-
05.1.1 Furniture and furnishings	15	16	3.7	3.3	-
05.1.2 Carpets and other floor coverings	6	4	-0.4	0.9	0.01

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- A small upward contribution came from **carpets and other floor coverings**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.

05.2 Household textiles	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.2 Household textiles	6	7	2.8	2.2	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

05.3 Household appliances, fitting and repairs	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.3 Household appliances, fitting and repairs	8	8	-0.4	0.5	0.01
05.3.1/2 Major appliances and small electric goods	7	7	-0.5	0.6	0.01
05.3.3 Repair of household appliances	1	1	0.1	0.1	-

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **major appliances and small electric goods**, where average prices for fridge/freezers rose this year but fell a year ago.

05.4 Glassware, tableware and household utensils	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.4 Glassware, tableware and household utensils	6	6	1.1	1.6	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

05.5 Tools and equipment for house and garden	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.5 Tools and equipment for house and garden	5	5	0.7	0.2	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

05.6 Goods and services for routine maintenance	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.6 Goods and services for routine maintenance	13	13	0.3	1.1	0.01
05.6.1 Non-durable household goods	5	5	0.7	2.1	0.01
05.6.2 Domestic services and household services	8	8	0.1	0.4	-

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **non-durable household goods**, where average prices for household cleaner creams/liquids rose this year by more than a year ago. Partially offset by a small downward contribution coming from bleach, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.

06 HEALTH	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
06 Health	25	28	0.1	-	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

06.1 Medical products, appliances and equipment	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
06.1 Medical products, appliances and equipment	12	13	0.1	-0.1	-
06.1.1 Pharmaceutical products	7	8	0.4	-0.1	-
06.1.2/3 Other medical and therapeutic equipment	5	5	-0.3	-0.1	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

06.2 Out-patient services	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
06.2 Out-patient services	5	7	0.1	0.1	-
06.2.1/3 Medical and paramedical services	3	4	0.1	-	-
06.2.2 Dental services	2	3	0.1	0.1	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

06.3 Hospital services	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
06.3 Hospital Services	8	8	0.1	0.1	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

07 TRANSPORT	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
07 Transport	149	153	0.4	-	-0.05

- Largest downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **purchase of vehicles** and, to a lesser extent, **transport services**.
- Partially offset by **operation of personal transport equipment**.

07.1 Purchase of vehicles	Weight	Weight	1 month	1 month	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
	2015	2016	% change	% change	
			Feb 2015	Feb 2016	
07.1 Purchase of vehicles	40	43	0.2	-0.7	-0.04
07.1.1A New cars	24	25	0.1	0.2	-
07.1.1B Second-hand cars	14	16	-0.1	-1.4	-0.02
07.1.2/3 Motorcycles and bicycles	2	2	2.6	-5.5	-0.02

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **second-hand cars** and **motorcycles and bicycles**.

Second-hand cars

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago.

Motorcycles and bicycles

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for both adult and children's bicycles.

07.2 Operation of personal transport equipment	Weight	Weight	1 month	1 month	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
	2015	2016	% change	% change	
			Feb 2015	Feb 2016	
07.2 Operation of personal transport equipment	77	73	-0.5	-0.4	0.01
07.2.1 Spare parts and accessories	6	5	0.2	-0.2	-
07.2.2 Fuels and lubricants	34	32	-1.1	-1.0	0.01
07.2.3 Maintenance and repairs	23	22	0.2	0.1	-
07.2.4 Other services	14	14	-0.3	0.2	0.01

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **other services** and **fuels and lubricants**.

Fuels and lubricants

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year by less than a year ago.
- The average price of petrol across the month, as recorded for the CPI, fell by 0.4 pence per litre between January and February 2016 to stand at 101.4 pence per litre.
- Last year, the average price of petrol fell by 1.3 pence per litre between January and February 2015 to stand at 107.0 pence per litre.
- Partially offset by a small downward contribution coming from diesel, where the average

price fell by 2.4 pence per litre between January and February 2016 to stand at 101.1 pence per litre, compared with a fall of 1.1 pence per litre a year earlier to stand at 114.5 pence per litre.

Other services

- Small upward effect.
- Average charges for self drive car hire rose this year but fell a year ago.

07.3 Transport services	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
07.3 Transport services	32	37	2.6	1.6	-0.02
07.3.1 Passenger transport by railway	12	13	1.7	0.6	-0.01
07.3.2 Passenger transport by road	12	12	1.9	-0.4	-0.03
07.3.3 Passenger transport by air	6	8	5.3	5.6	0.01
07.3.4 Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	2	4	3.0	2.1	-

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **passenger transport by road** and **passenger transport by railway**.
- Partially offset by **passenger transport by air**.

Passenger transport by railway

- Small downward effect.
- Average charges for international rail journeys rose this year by less than a year ago.

Passenger transport by road

- Small downward effect.
- Average coach fares fell this year but rose a year ago.

Passenger transport by air

- Small upward effect.
- Average air fares rose this year by more than a year ago.

08 COMMUNICATION	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
08 Communication	31	32	0.9	0.8	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

08.1 Postal services	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
08.1 Postal services	2	2	-	-	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

08.2/3 Telephone equipment and services	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
08.2/3 Telephone equipment and services	29	30	0.9	0.8	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

09 RECREATION AND CULTURE	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09 Recreation and culture	147	148	-	-0.1	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **other recreational items, gardens and pets; audio-visual equipment and related products; and books, newspapers and stationery.**
- Partially offset by **recreational and cultural services.**

09.1 Audio-visual equipment and related products	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.1 Audio-visual equipment and related products	23	18	0.4	-	-0.01
09.1.1 Equipment for the reception and reproduction of sound and pictures	5	5	-	1.4	0.01
09.1.2 Photographic, cinematographic and optical equipment	3	2	2.3	0.4	-0.01
09.1.3 Data processing equipment	9	7	-2.4	-2.8	-
09.1.4 Recording media	5	3	4.8	3.6	-0.01
09.1.5 Repair of audio-visual equipment and related products	1	1	-	-	-

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **recording media and photographic, cinematographic and optical equipment.**

- Partially offset by **equipment for the reception and reproduction of sound and pictures**.

Equipment for the reception and reproduction of sound and pictures

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but were little changed a year ago.

Photographic, cinematographic and optical equipment

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, particularly for compact digital cameras.

Recording media

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from DVDs.

09.2 Other major durables for recreation and culture	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.2.1/2 Major durables for in/outdoor recreation	10	12	-	-	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

09.3 Other recreational items, gardens and pets	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.3 Other recreational items, gardens and pets	36	35	-0.6	-0.9	-0.01
09.3.1 Games, toys and hobbies	21	20	-1.2	-1.7	-0.01
09.3.2 Equipment for sport and open-air recreation	4	3	-1.0	-0.3	-
09.3.3 Gardens, plants and flowers	4	4	0.7	2.3	0.01
09.3.4/5 Pets, related products and services	7	8	0.7	-0.6	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **games, toys and hobbies**; and **pets, related products and services**.
- Partially offset by **gardens, plants and flowers**.

Games, toys and hobbies

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, particularly for computer games.

- Partially offset by small upward contributions coming from board games, preschool activity toys, model road vehicles, construction toys and children's craft kits.

Gardens, plants and flowers

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago.

Pets, related products and services

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for dry dog food.

09.4 Recreational and cultural services	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.4 Recreational and cultural services	31	33	-0.3	0.4	0.02
09.4.1 Recreational and sporting services	8	10	-	0.3	-
09.4.2 Cultural services	23	23	-0.4	0.4	0.02

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **cultural services**, where average admission charges for live music events rose this year but fell a year ago.

09.5 Books, newspapers and stationery	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.5 Books, newspapers and stationery	14	14	0.8	0.4	-0.01
09.5.1 Books	4	4	0.5	-0.3	-
09.5.2 Newspapers and periodicals	5	5	0.6	1.6	0.01
09.5.3/4 Misc. printed matter, stationery, drawing materials	5	5	1.3	-0.1	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **miscellaneous printed matter, stationery and drawing materials**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.
- Partially offset by **newspapers and periodicals**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago.

09.6 Package holidays	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.6 Package holidays	33	36	-	-0.1	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

10 EDUCATION	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
10 Education	26	25	-	-	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

11 RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
11 Restaurants and hotels	121	123	0.2	0.5	0.03

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **accommodation services**.

11.1 Catering services	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
11.1 Catering services	100	101	0.2	0.2	-
11.1.1 Restaurants and cafes	91	93	0.3	0.2	-
11.1.2 Canteens	9	8	-	0.1	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

11.2 Accommodation services	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
11.2 Accommodation services	21	22	0.2	1.9	0.04

- Large upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Charges overall rose this year by more than a year ago, particularly for overnight hotel

accommodation.

12 MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12 Misc. goods and services	91	96	0.2	-	-0.02

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **personal care**.

12.1 Personal care	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12.1 Personal care	30	31	-0.3	-0.8	-0.02
12.1.1 Hairdressing and personal grooming establishments	7	8	0.2	-0.1	-
12.1.2/3 Appliances and products for personal care	23	23	-0.4	-1.0	-0.02

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **appliances and products for personal care**, where prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, with the main downward contributions coming from toothpaste and facial moisturiser. Partially offset by small upward contributions coming from deodorant and mascara.

12.3 Personal effects not elsewhere covered	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12.3 Personal effects not elsewhere covered	14	16	1.4	1.2	-
12.3.1 Jewellery, clocks and watches	9	9	0.4	0.2	-
12.3.2 Other personal effects	5	7	3.3	2.4	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

12.4 Social protection	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12.4 Social protection	13	16	0.4	0.2	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

12.5 Insurance	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12.5 Insurance	10	9	0.7	0.7	-
12.5.2 House contents insurance	2	2	0.9	-0.3	-
12.5.3 Health insurance	3	3	-	-	-
12.5.4 Transport insurance	5	4	1.0	1.8	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

12.6 Financial services not elsewhere covered	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12.6 Financial services not elsewhere covered	12	12	-0.3	-0.2	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

12.7 Other services not elsewhere covered	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12.7 Other services not elsewhere covered	12	12	0.2	0.2	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

RPI SUMMARY

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE IN THE RPI ANNUAL RATE

GROUPS	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
FOOD	109	102	-0.1	0.2	0.03
CATERING	47	47	0.2	0.2	-
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS	56	57	-0.4	-0.4	-
TOBACCO	27	25	0.3	0.3	-
HOUSING	263	266	0.1	0.1	-
FUEL AND LIGHT	45	41	-0.1	-0.5	-0.01
HOUSEHOLD GOODS	59	62	2.7	2.5	-
HOUSEHOLD SERVICES	65	67	0.7	0.4	-0.02
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	42	41	4.7	4.3	-0.02
PERSONAL GOODS AND SERVICES	41	42	0.5	0.3	-0.01
MOTORING EXPENDITURE	115	117	-0.3	-0.1	0.01
FARES AND OTHER TRAVEL COSTS	25	26	2.6	1.9	-0.01
LEISURE GOODS	28	29	0.7	0.9	0.01
LEISURE SERVICES	78	78	0.1	0.3	0.01

RPI NOTABLE MOVEMENTS

All items RPI	Annual rate +1.3%, unchanged from last month Last higher in December 2014 (+1.6%) Last lower in December 2015 (+1.2%)
All items RPI exc MIPS (RPIX)	Annual rate +1.4%, unchanged from last month Last higher in December 2014 (+1.7%) Last lower in December 2015 (+1.3%)
All items RPI exc MIPS and indirect taxes (RPIY)	Annual rate +1.4%, unchanged from last month Last higher in December 2014 (+1.8%) Last lower in December 2015 (+1.1%)
Clothing and footwear	Annual rate +6.5%, down from +7.0% last month Lowest since December 2014 (+6.4%)
Motoring expenditure	Annual rate -0.4%, up from -0.5% last month Highest since July 2014 (+0.1%)
Fares and other travel	Annual rate +0.9%, down from +1.6% last month Also +0.9% in April 2015 Last lower in March 2014 (+0.8%)
Leisure goods	Annual rate -0.7%, up from -0.9% last month Also -0.7% in December 2015, November 2015 and October 2015 Last higher in January 2015 (+0.6%)
All goods	Annual rate -0.5%, down from -0.4% last month Lowest since December 2015 (-1.2%)
All services	Annual rate +2.4%, unchanged from last month Last higher in December 2015 (+2.9%) Last lower in November 2015 (+2.3%)
Petrol and oil	Annual rate -7.4%, up from -7.8% last month Highest since November 2014 (-5.7%)

RPI DETAILED BRIEFING

In accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, the Retail Prices Index and its derivatives have been assessed against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and found not to meet the required standard for designation as National Statistics. A consultation was carried out in March 2013 on whether to maintain this detailed RPI briefing and, based on views received, it was decided to continue with its publication.

- Weights are specified as parts per 1000 in the RPI.

FOOD	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
FOOD	109	102	-0.1	0.2	0.03

- Largest upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **non-seasonal food**.
- Partially offset by **seasonal food**.

Seasonal Food	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
SEASONAL FOOD	18	18	0.9	0.1	-0.01
Home killed lamb	1	1	0.9	2.3	-
Fresh fish	2	2	2.6	2.1	-
Eggs	1	1	-2.2	-0.7	-
Unprocessed potatoes	2	1	0.5	-	-
Other fresh vegetables	6	6	2.5	-0.7	-0.02
Fresh fruit	6	7	-0.9	-0.2	-

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **other fresh vegetables**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for courgettes and tomatoes.

Non-Seasonal Food	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
NON-SEASONAL FOOD	91	84	-0.3	0.2	0.04
Bread	4	4	-0.2	2.1	0.01
Cereals	4	4	0.1	1.3	-
Biscuits and cakes	7	6	0.3	-1.7	-0.01
Beef	4	4	0.5	1.2	-
Imported lamb	1	1	-	0.5	-
Pork	1	1	1.4	-1.0	-
Bacon	2	1	0.8	-2.8	-
Poultry	4	4	-0.6	-0.2	-
Other meat	7	6	-0.2	-0.4	-
Processed fish	2	2	-2.5	3.9	0.01
Butter	1	1	1.6	-0.5	-
Oils and fats	1	1	-0.3	1.4	-
Cheese	4	3	-3.7	1.5	0.02
Milk, fresh	3	3	-1.3	0.2	-
Milk products	4	4	-0.9	-3.3	-0.01
Tea	1	1	1.0	1.5	-
Soft drinks	10	9	0.2	0.7	-
Sugar and preserves	1	1	-1.2	1.1	-
Sweets and chocolates	11	11	-1.2	-2.6	-0.02
Potato products	3	2	-5.4	5.7	0.03
Processed vegetables	2	2	0.6	5.1	0.01
Processed fruit	2	1	0.3	0.8	-
Other foods	11	10	2.2	1.6	-0.01
Coffee and other hot drinks	1	2	1.2	-1.0	-

- Large upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
 - **Potato products, cheese, bread and processed fish**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago; with the main upward contributions coming from potato crisps, cheese spread, sliced bread, canned tuna and frozen chips; and
 - **Processed vegetables**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago, with the main upward contribution coming from canned tomatoes.
- Partially offset by:
 - **Sweets and chocolates and milk products**, where prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, particularly for boxes and cartons of chocolates;
 - **Biscuits and cakes**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from whole sponge cakes; and
 - **Other foods**, where prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from dried potted snacks. Partially offset by a small upward contribution coming from mayonnaise, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago.

CATERING	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
CATERING	47	47	0.2	0.2	-
Restaurant meals	28	28	0.2	0.2	-
Canteen meals	3	3	-0.1	-	-
Take-away meals and snacks	16	16	0.3	0.2	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

ALCOHOLIC DRINKS	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS	56	57	-0.4	-0.4	-
Beer on sales	19	19	0.4	0.3	-
Beer off sales	5	5	0.1	0.2	-
Wines and spirits on sales	18	19	0.2	0.3	-
Wines and spirits off sales	14	14	-2.2	-2.4	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

TOBACCO	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
TOBACCO	27	25	0.3	0.3	-
Cigarettes	23	21	0.4	0.3	-
Other tobacco products	4	4	0.2	0.1	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

HOUSING	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
HOUSING	263	266	0.1	0.1	-
Rent	84	83	0.1	0.1	-
Mortgage interest payments	29	28	-0.1	-0.1	-
Council tax and rates	40	40	-	-	-
Water and other charges	14	13	-	-	-
Repairs and maintenance charges	9	9	0.1	0.1	-
DIY materials	8	7	0.4	-	-
Dwelling insurance and ground rent	6	6	-0.2	0.3	-
House depreciation	73	80	0.3	0.3	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

FUEL AND LIGHT	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
FUEL AND LIGHT	45	41	-0.1	-0.5	-0.01
Coal and solid fuels	1	1	-	0.1	-
Electricity	21	20	-	-	-
Gas	21	18	-0.7	-0.7	-
Oil and other fuels	2	2	4.4	-3.4	-0.02

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **oil and other fuels**, where average prices for kerosene fell this year but rose a year ago.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
HOUSEHOLD GOODS	59	62	2.7	2.5	-
Furniture	22	25	5.3	4.3	-0.01
Furnishings	9	8	1.6	2.5	0.01
Electrical appliances	5	7	-0.1	2.8	0.02
Other household equipment	4	4	2.7	1.3	-0.01
Household consumables	12	11	0.8	0.8	-
Pet care	7	7	0.8	-0.7	-0.01

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- There are small downward contributions coming from:
 - **Furniture** and **other household equipment**, where prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, particularly for lounge furniture; and
 - **Pet care**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for dry dog food.
- Offset by upward contributions coming from:
 - **Electrical appliances**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, particularly for kettles; and
 - **Furnishings**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago.

HOUSEHOLD SERVICES	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
HOUSEHOLD SERVICES	65	67	0.7	0.4	-0.02
Domestic services	13	14	0.3	0.3	-
Fees and subscriptions	26	27	0.5	0.3	-
Postage	1	1	-	-	-
Telephone charges	25	25	1.2	0.7	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **telephone charges**, where average fees rose this year by less than a year ago.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	42	41	4.7	4.3	-0.02
Men's outerwear	8	9	1.9	2.2	-
Women's outerwear	16	15	9.2	7.8	-0.03
Children's outerwear	5	4	1.1	1.7	-
Other clothing	5	5	1.4	1.8	-
Footwear	8	8	3.1	2.6	-

- Largest downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **women's outerwear**, where prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, with the main downward contributions coming from jackets, casual trousers, sports tops and blouses/shirts.

PERSONAL GOODS & SERVICES	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
PERSONAL GOODS & SERVICES	41	42	0.5	0.3	-0.01
Personal articles	10	12	2.0	2.1	0.01
Chemists' goods	17	15	-	-0.9	-0.01
Personal services	14	15	0.1	-	-

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **chemists' goods**, where prices overall fell this year but were little changed a year ago, with the main downward contributions coming from toothpaste and facial moisturiser.
- Partially offset by **personal articles**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago.

MOTORING EXPENDITURE	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
MOTORING EXPENDITURE	115	117	-0.3	-0.1	0.01
Purchase of motor vehicles	42	45	-	-0.7	-0.03
Maintenance of motor vehicles	16	16	0.2	0.1	-
Petrol and oil	35	33	-1.4	-1.0	0.02
Vehicle tax and insurance	22	23	0.8	2.0	0.03

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
 - **Vehicle tax and insurance**, where average premiums for car insurance rose this year by more than a year ago; and
 - **Petrol and oil**, where prices overall fell this year by less than a year ago. The price of petrol, as recorded for the RPI, fell by 0.4 pence per litre between January and February 2016, to stand at 101.5 pence per litre, compared with a fall of 1.6 pence per litre last year to stand at 107.3 pence per litre. Partially offset by a small downward contribution coming from diesel, where prices fell by 2.2 pence per litre, to stand at 101.2 pence per litre in February 2016, compared with a fall of 1.5 pence per litre last year to stand at 114.7 pence per litre.
- Partially offset by **purchase of motor vehicles**, where prices overall fell this year but were little changed a year ago with the main downward contribution coming from second-hand cars.

FARES AND OTHER TRAVEL COSTS	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
FARES AND OTHER TRAVEL COSTS	25	26	2.6	1.9	-0.01
Rail fares	7	7	1.4	0.5	-0.01
Bus and coach fares	3	3	3.1	-0.7	-0.01
Other travel costs	15	16	3.1	3.0	-

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
 - **Bus and coach fares**, where average coach fares fell this year but rose a year ago; and
 - **Rail fares**, where average charges for international rail journeys rose this year by less than a year ago.

LEISURE GOODS	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
LEISURE GOODS	28	29	0.7	0.9	0.01
Audio-visual equipment	7	7	-	1.5	0.01
CDs and tapes	2	2	5.4	2.4	-0.01
Toys, photographic and sports goods	8	9	0.4	0.1	-
Books and newspapers	6	6	1.5	1.2	-
Gardening products	5	5	0.6	2.8	0.01

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
 - **Audio-visual equipment**, where prices overall rose this year but were little changed a year ago, with the main upward contribution coming from PC peripherals; and
 - **Gardening products**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago.
- Partially offset by **CDs and tapes**, where prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago.

LEISURE SERVICES	Weight 2015	Weight 2016	1 month % change Feb 2015	1 month % change Feb 2016	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
LEISURE SERVICES	78	78	0.1	0.3	0.01
TV licence and rentals	12	12	-	-	-
Entertainment and other recreation	15	16	0.1	0.7	0.01
Foreign holidays	41	40	-	-0.1	-
UK holidays	10	10	0.4	1.2	0.01

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **entertainment and other recreation** and **UK holidays**, where average charges rose this year by more than a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from overnight hotel accommodation and admission charges to live music events.

RECONCILIATION OF CPI AND RPI

(Table 5 of the Consumer Price Inflation Reference Tables)

This table identifies the main factors contributing to the differences between the unrounded inflation rates for the CPI and the RPI. These differences are broken down into: mortgage interest payments, other housing components excluded from the CPI, other differences in the coverage of goods and services, and the formula effect. The final column titled 'other differences including weights' is derived as a residual.

The difference between the CPI and RPI unrounded annual rates in February 2016 was -1.01 percentage points, narrowing from -1.02 percentage points in January 2016.

The only factor contributing to the narrowing was:

- **Other differences including weights**, which decreased the RPI 12-month rate relative to the CPI 12-month rate by 0.01 percentage points between January and February 2016. The effect came mainly from clothing and footwear. This was partially offset by coach fares and insurance.

RPI MISCELLANEOUS DATA

Selected Average Prices

Description		December 2015	January 2016	February 2016
Petrol per litre	Diesel	£1.08	£1.03	£1.01
	Petrol	£1.04	£1.02	£1.01
Alcohol pub prices	Draught bitter (pint)	£2.99	£2.98	£2.97
	Draught lager (pint)	£3.48	£3.48	£3.44
	Whisky (per nip)	£2.65	£2.65	£2.65
Cigarettes	Per 20 king size	£9.07	£9.08	£9.08

Average prices are as recorded for the RPI.

Changes in Mortgage Interest Rates

This table gives an estimate of the contribution that changes in the average mortgage interest rate (MI) make to the 1-month percentage change in the RPI.

Month	1-month % change in the RPI	Approx. change in average MI rate	Approx. contribution to the 1-month % change in the RPI
February 2015	+0.5	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
March 2015	+0.2	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
April 2015	+0.4	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
May 2015	+0.2	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
June 2015	+0.2	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
July 2015	-0.1	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
August 2015	+0.5	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
September 2015	-0.1	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
October 2015	0.0	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
November 2015	+0.1	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
December 2015	+0.3	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
January 2016	-0.7	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
February 2016	+0.5	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points

NB: A one percentage point change in the average mortgage interest rate contributes approx. 0.9 percentage points to the 1-month percentage change in the RPI.

OUTLOOK

The outlook is a summary of seasonal trends, selected news cuttings and other sources of information. It gives some indication of expected changes to the annual rate of the CPI and RPI in the next few months.

FOOD

Seasonal Food

- Seasonal food prices have tended to fall in March of recent years and are typically dependent on weather conditions both in the UK and around the world.

Monthly % change for CPI seasonal food index			
Year	January	February	March
2010	-0.2	1.8	0.2
2011	-1.1	0.6	-2.0
2012	-1.6	1.2	-0.2
2013	0.1	1.6	-0.7
2014	0.1	-0.4	-0.5
2015	-1.1	-0.3	-0.4
2016	-1.1	1.3	

- Seasonal food prices in the RPI tend to show a similar movement.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO

- As announced at Budget 2016, the following alcohol duty rates will increase in line with inflation (based on RPI): sparkling cider and perry exceeding 5.5% alcohol by volume (abv) but less than 8.5% abv; all wine and made-wine rates at or below 22% abv. The duty rates on beer, spirits, wine and made wine exceeding 22% abv, still cider and perry, and sparkling cider and perry of a strength not exceeding 5.5% abv have been frozen.
- As announced at the 2016 Budget, duty rates on tobacco products will increase by 2% above the RPI rate of inflation on all tobacco duty rates each year until the end of the next Parliament. Budget 2016 also announced that hand-rolling tobacco duty would rise by an additional 3% above this to 5% above retail price inflation.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

- With the exception of last year, prices for clothing and footwear have tended to rise in March due to continued recoveries following the January sales.

Monthly % change for CPI clothing and footwear index			
Year	January	February	March
2010	-5.7	2.0	1.8
2011	-5.9	3.6	1.1
2012	-4.9	2.9	2.2
2013	-5.4	2.0	2.4
2014	-5.4	1.1	1.8
2015	-3.7	1.3	-0.1
2016	-3.1	1.3	

- The clothing and footwear group in the RPI exhibits a similar seasonal pattern.

ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS

- ScottishPower has announced a reduction in its standard domestic gas prices by an average of 5.4%, effective from 15 March 2016. (scottishpower.com 2 February 2016)
- British Gas is reducing gas prices by 5.1% on all current tariffs, with effect from 16 March 2016. (britishgas.co.uk 11 February 2016)
- EDF Energy has announced a 5% cut to its standard gas price effective from 24 March 2016. (media.edfenergy.com 11 February 2016)
- npower has announced an average 5.2% or £32 average annual reduction to its standard domestic gas tariff. This will be effective from Monday 28 March 2016. (npowermediacentre.com 8 February 2016)
- SSE will reduce domestic gas prices on its standard tariff by an average of 5.3%, effective from 29 March 2016. (sse.com 28 January 2016)

FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- Prices tend to rise in March due to continued recoveries following the January sales.

Monthly % change for CPI furniture, household equipment and maintenance index			
Year	January	February	March
2010	-3.1	1.1	1.6
2011	-1.9	1.4	1.7
2012	-2.2	1.5	1.3
2013	-2.3	1.5	0.8
2014	-3.1	2.4	0.3
2015	-2.5	1.4	0.4
2016	-2.4	1.7	

- The household goods group in the RPI exhibits a similar seasonal pattern.

HEALTH**Prescription Charges**

- The Department of Health has announced that NHS prescription charges for England will rise by 20 pence to £8.40 from 1 April 2016. (www.gov.uk 11 March 2016)

NHS Dental Charges

- The Department of Health has announced that NHS dental charges for England will rise from £18.80 to £19.70 for Band 1, from £51.30 to £53.90 for Band 2 and from £222.50 to £233.70 for Band 3 from 1 April 2016. (www.gov.uk 11 March 2016)

TRANSPORT**Fuels and Lubricants**

- Crude oil prices have fallen from earlier 2016 highs following concerns over a supply glut. U.S. energy firms added one oil rig after 12 weeks of cuts, for the first time since December. The addition, coming after oil rigs had fallen by two-thirds over the past year to 2009 lows, showed the fall in crude drilling stabilising after a 50 percent price rally since February. U.S. crude fell 40 cents, or 1.0 percent, to \$39.04 a barrel. Previously the market had climbed to \$41.20 a barrel, its highest since early December, before losing ground to settle down nearly 2 percent at \$39.44. Brent crude's front-month contract was down 12 cents at \$41.08. (uk.reuters.com 21 March 2016)
- When considering the price of petrol between February and March 2016, it may be useful to note that the average price of petrol rose by 3.8 pence per litre between February and March 2015, standing at 110.8 pence per litre as measured in the CPI.
- A 1 pence change on average in the cost of a litre of motor fuel contributes approximately 0.03 percentage points to the 1-month change in the CPI.

Vehicle Excise Duty (VED)

- The March 2016 Budget announced that VED rates will increase in line with the Retail Prices Index for cars, vans, and motorcycles, with effect from 1 April 2016.

Passenger Transport by Air

- Air fares have tended to rise in March of recent years.

Monthly % change for CPI air fares index			
Year	January	February	March
2010	-28.4	1.7	7.7
2011	-30.9	2.1	2.1
2012	-28.4	-1.6	4.4
2013	-20.5	9.2	5.3
2014	-18.5	3.3	1.9
2015	-17.1	5.3	2.7
2016	-35.8	5.6	

- The air fares index used in the RPI is the same as that used in the CPI, and is included in the **other travel costs** section.

COMMUNICATION

Postal Services

- Royal Mail has announced that from 29 March 2016, the prices of a First Class stamp and a Second Class stamp will rise by 1p to 64p and 55p respectively. (royalmailgroup.com 19 February 2016)

HOUSING (RPI)

Mortgage interest payments (MIPs)

- The Bank of England Bank Rate remained unchanged at 0.5% on Thursday 17 March 2016.
- The change in average mortgage interest rates recorded in the RPI was -0.02% between February and March 2015. The Bank of England Bank Rate remained unchanged at 0.5% in February 2015.
- A one percentage point change in the average mortgage interest rate contributes approximately 0.9 percentage points to the 1-month percentage change in the RPI.

Council Tax

- The Scottish Government announced that the council tax freeze will continue until April 2017. (news.scotland.gov.uk 2 March 2016)
- The Northern Ireland Executive announced that in the 2016-17 rating year, there will be an increase of 1.7% for the domestic regional rates. (northernireland.gov.uk 23 February 2016)
- The recorded increase for council tax and rates in the RPI last April was 1.1%.

Social Housing Rents

- The Summer 2015 Budget announced that rents for social housing would decrease by 1%

each year for next four years, starting in April 2016.

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