



HM Treasury

# Forecasts for the UK economy:

## a comparison of independent forecasts

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The next edition will be published on 21st May 2014. It will also be available on the Treasury's website: <http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/forecasts>.

## FORECASTS FOR THE UK ECONOMY

A comparison of independent forecasts, April 2014

This edition of the comparison contains 20 new forecasts, all of which were received between April 1st and April 10th 2014. The tables below summarise the average and range of independent forecasts for 2014 and 2015 and show the average of this month's new forecasts.

	Independent <sup>+</sup>				Average of new* forecasts
	Averages		April		
	April	March	Lowest	Highest	
GDP growth (per cent)	2.8	2.7	2.1	3.5	2.9
Inflation rate (Q4: per cent)					
- CPI	2.0	2.0	1.1	2.9	1.9
- RPI	2.9	2.9	2.3	3.9	2.8
LFS unemployment rate (Q4: %)	6.6	6.6	6.2	7.0	6.6
Claimant unemployment (Q4: mn)	1.11	1.13	0.95	1.50	1.08
Current account (£bn)	-58.0	-52.9	-78.0	-35.0	-61.0
PSNB (2014-15: £bn)	87.1	87.9	79.0	109.4	85.9

	Independent <sup>+</sup>				Average of new* forecasts
	Averages		April		
	April	March	Lowest	Highest	
GDP growth (per cent)	2.4	2.4	1.6	3.6	2.5
Inflation rate (Q4: per cent)					
- CPI	2.1	2.1	1.6	3.5	2.1
- RPI	3.3	3.3	2.4	4.4	3.3
LFS unemployment rate (Q4: %)	6.2	6.2	4.4	6.7	6.2
Claimant unemployment (Q4: mn)	1.02	1.03	0.78	1.40	0.98
Current account (£bn)	-53.2	-48.8	-77.6	-30.0	-55.1
PSNB (2015-16: £bn)	71.9	71.2	57.2	94.6	69.2

+ Independent averages, and the range of forecasts, are based on forecasts made in the last three months (April: 20 institutions, March: 10 institutions, February: 4 institutions).

\*Calculated from new forecasts received for the comparison this month.

Note: All the averages given are the mean and exclude non-standard entries except for house-price inflation (see notation)

**Table 1 - 2014: Growth in GDP and its components (% change)**

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		GDP	Private consumption	Government consumption	Fixed investment	Change in inventories contribution (% of GDP)	Domestic demand	Total exports	Total imports	Net trade contribution (% of GDP)	Output gap (as % of potential GDP)
<b>City forecasters</b>											
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Dec	2.7	1.8	0.0	8.6	0.3	-	-	-	0.0	-
Barclays Capital	Apr *	2.7	1.7	0.7	9.6	-0.1	2.6	6.1	5.7	0.0	-1.3
Capital Economics	Apr *	3.0	2.5	0.7	8.5	0.0	2.8	2.5	2.0	0.1	-
Citigroup	Apr *	3.5	3.2	2.1	11.2	0.0	3.7	1.5	2.5	-0.3	-
Commerzbank	Apr *	2.9	2.0	1.0	7.5	0.0	2.5	2.5	1.4	0.3	-0.8
Credit Suisse	Apr *	3.0	2.4	1.5	9.7	-0.1	3.0	3.0	2.8	0.0	-
Daiwa Capital Markets	Mar	2.9	1.9	1.2	3.2	0.4	2.5	1.5	1.8	-0.1	-
Deutsche Bank	Jan	2.7	2.0	0.3	7.9	0.0	2.5	3.4	3.0	0.1	-
Fathom Consulting	Apr *	3.2	3.4	1.1	5.5	-0.3	3.1	3.0	1.4	0.4	-0.8
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	3.0	2.2	1.7	7.5	-0.1	2.7	3.5	3.0	0.1	-3.1
HSBC	Apr *	2.9	2.2	0.3	9.0	0.4	3.1	1.6	2.0	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	3.0	2.4	1.0	8.2	0.0	2.8	6.5	5.8	0.2	-
Lombard Street	Sep	2.3	1.5	-0.9	10.5	0.1	-	2.7	3.3	-0.2	-4.3
Morgan Stanley	Mar	2.5	1.6	0.8	8.1	0.3	2.4	3.1	3.2	-0.1	-
Nomura	Apr *	2.7	2.1	1.0	8.8	-0.1	2.7	3.6	3.6	-0.1	-1.0
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	2.9	2.2	1.0	6.9	-	2.5	4.6	3.3	0.4	-
Santander GBM	Mar	2.8	2.0	1.6	5.8	0.1	2.5	2.0	2.9	-0.3	-
Schroders Investment Management	Apr *	2.6	1.9	2.6	7.7	-0.4	2.4	5.1	3.6	0.4	-1.2
Scotiabank	Mar	2.5	2.2	1.6	8.0	0.0	2.9	0.7	1.5	-0.3	-1.0
Societe Generale	Mar	2.7	2.0	-1.2	7.5	0.4	2.4	2.9	1.7	0.4	-
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	3.2	3.0	0.8	9.9	-	3.1	4.2	3.2	0.3	-
UBS	Feb	2.5	2.3	0.8	6.2	0.2	2.7	2.0	3.5	-0.5	-
<b>Non-City forecasters</b>											
British Chambers of Commerce	Mar	2.8	2.4	1.6	6.1	0.3	2.2	2.4	2.3	0.1	-1.8
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	2.6	2.5	2.4	4.7	0.3	2.5	5.8	6.8	0.2	-
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	2.6	2.1	0.4	7.2	0.8	2.5	3.0	2.5	0.1	-
CBI	Feb	2.6	2.3	0.7	7.0	-0.3	2.3	3.6	2.6	0.3	-
CEBR	Apr *	3.0	2.2	0.0	10.3	0.6	3.3	4.5	5.5	-0.4	-
Economic Perspectives	Feb	2.1	2.3	-0.1	5.7	-0.5	1.7	0.2	-0.5	0.2	-
Experian Economics	Apr *	2.6	2.1	0.6	8.4	0.3	2.9	1.9	2.8	-0.3	-
EIU	Mar	2.8	2.9	0.8	8.5	-0.4	3.0	3.2	3.3	-0.1	-
IHS Global Insight	Apr *	2.8	2.4	0.4	8.1	-	2.7	4.4	4.0	0.1	-
ITEM Club	Apr *	2.9	2.3	1.2	9.0	0.6	3.0	5.3	5.5	-0.1	-
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	2.6	1.5 c	-3.5 m	9.0 d	-	-	-	-	-	-
NIESR	Feb	2.5	3.4	0.6	8.9	-0.3	3.2	3.1	6.2	-1.1	-
Oxford Economics	Apr *	3.0	2.4	0.9	8.6	0.0	2.9	3.2	2.7	0.1	-3.9
EC	Mar	2.5	2.4	0.5	6.5	-0.1	2.6 f	2.9	2.6	0.0	-0.9
OECD	Nov	2.4	1.8	-0.7	6.4	0.2	2.1	4.4	3.5	0.2	-
IMF	Apr *	2.9	-	-	14.9 a	-	-	2.2	1.9	-	-1.7
<b>Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>											
Independent		2.8	2.3	0.9	7.7	0.1	2.7	3.2	3.1	0.0	-1.6
New (marked *)		2.9	2.4	1.1	8.4	0.1	2.9	3.7	3.5	0.1	-1.7
City		2.9	2.3	1.1	7.8	0.0	2.8	3.2	2.9	0.1	-1.3
<b>Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>											
Highest		3.5	3.4	2.6	11.2	0.8	3.7	6.5	6.8	0.4	-0.8
Lowest		2.1	1.6	-1.2	3.2	-0.5	1.7	0.2	-0.5	-1.1	-3.9
Median		2.8	2.3	0.8	8.0	0.0	2.7	3.0	2.8	0.1	-1.2
<b>OBR</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-1.4</b>

**Table 2 - 2014: Growth in prices and monetary indicators (% change)**

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		CPI (Q4)	RPI (Q4)	RPIX (Q4)	Average earnings	Sterling index (Q4) (Jan 2005=100)	Official Bank rate (Q4, %)	Oil price (Brent, \$/bbl)	M4 xOFC Growth	House price inflation (Q4)
<b>City forecasters</b>										
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Dec	2.3	3.1	-	-	-	0.50	-	-	-
Barclays Capital	Apr *	1.6	2.7	-	1.7	-	0.50	-	-	7.3 y
Capital Economics	Apr *	1.1	2.3	2.6	2.0	85.5	0.50	90.0	3.0	8.0 y
Citigroup	Apr *	1.6	3.1	-	2.2	-	0.54	-	-	- k
Commerzbank	Apr *	1.9	2.7	2.7	2.8	86.9	0.50	107.2	-	6.3 y
Credit Suisse	Apr *	2.1	3.1	3.2	-	-	0.50	-	-	-
Daiwa Capital Markets	Mar	1.9	-	-	-	-	0.50	-	-	-
Deutsche Bank	Jan	2.1	2.7	-	3.0	84.5	0.50	106.3	4.0	6.5 k
Fathom Consulting	Apr *	2.9	3.4	3.4	4.0	-	0.50	109.0	-	17.0 z
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	1.7	2.9	-	2.0	85.0	0.50	103.0	3.3 k	-
HSBC	Apr *	2.3	3.3	-	2.3	-	0.50	-	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	2.0	2.8	2.9	2.6	-	0.50	110.0	-	9.0 x
Lombard Street	Sep	2.2	2.5	-	3.6	78.0	0.50	100.0	3.9	5.0 k
Morgan Stanley	Mar	2.2	3.0	-	2.1	-	0.50	-	-	-
Nomura	Apr *	2.0	3.0	3.0	1.9	-	0.75	-	-	5.5 z
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	1.6	2.8	2.8	2.1	85.0	0.50	106.0	-	-
Santander GBM	Mar	2.2	3.0	2.8	2.1	-	0.75	-	-	-
Schroders Investment Management	Apr *	2.7	3.3	3.5	2.2	-	0.50	-	-	8.7 x
Scotiabank	Mar	1.7	2.8	3.5	2.4	-	0.50	-	-	8.5 y
Societe Generale	Mar	2.8	3.5	-	1.7	-	0.50	108.0	-	15.0 x
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	2.2	-	-	-	-	0.50	108.0	-	-
UBS	Feb	2.2	2.9	-	1.5	-	0.50	-	-	7.2 x
<b>Non-City forecasters</b>										
British Chambers of Commerce	Mar	2.0	2.7	2.6	2.2	-	0.50	108.0	-	6.8 x
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	1.5	2.4	2.7	2.3	86.1	0.80	107.8	4.7	9.5 z
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	2.4 h	3.1 h	-	3.5	96.0 k	0.50 h	108.5	-	-
CBI	Feb	2.1	2.9	2.9	2.8	83.8	0.50	104.3	-	6.1 z
CEBR	Apr *	1.9	2.6	2.7	2.0	86.6	0.50	103.0	-	7.0 kz
Economic Perspectives	Feb	2.8	3.4	3.2	2.2	82.0	1.00	115.0	10.0	8.0 x
Experian Economics	Apr *	1.7	2.5	2.4	2.0	89.0	0.50	101.3	-	7.6 z
EIU	Mar	2.2	-	-	2.2	-	0.50	105.5	-	-
IHS Global Insight	Apr *	2.0	2.8	2.8	2.3	-	0.50	106.7	-	8.2 x
ITEM Club	Apr *	1.6	2.7	2.7	1.7	83.0	0.50	108.5	1.9	7.2 z
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	2.4	-	3.0	1.6	83.4	-	-	-	-
NIESR	Feb	2.4	3.9	3.1	1.0 j	88.0 k	0.50	103.2 n	-	6.3 hz
Oxford Economics	Apr *	1.5	2.7	2.6	2.4	85.7	0.50	104.0	-	7.0 z
EC	Mar	2.0 h	-	-	2.1 jw	-	-	104.1	-	-
OECD	Nov	2.4 h	-	-	-	-	0.50 h	-	-	-
IMF	Apr *	1.9 k	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>										
Independent		2.0	2.9	2.9	2.2	85.2	0.54	105.9	4.9	8.3
New (marked *)		1.9	2.8	2.9	2.3	85.9	0.53	105.0	3.2	8.3
City		2.0	3.0	3.0	2.2	85.6	0.53	105.1	3.0	9.2
<b>Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>										
Highest		2.9	3.9	3.5	4.0	89.0	1.00	115.0	10.0	17.0
Lowest		1.1	2.3	2.4	1.5	82.0	0.50	90.0	1.9	5.5
Median		2.0	2.9	2.8	2.2	85.3	0.50	106.9	3.9	7.5
<b>OBR</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>86.1</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>107.5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9.0 z</b>

Table 3 - 2014: Growth in other selected variables (% change)

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		Real household disposable income	Employment growth	LFS Unemployment rate (Q4)	Claimant unemployment (Q4, millions)	Manufacturing output	World trade in goods and services	Current account (£bn)	Size of APF purchases (£bn)	PSNB (£bn 2014-15)
<b>City forecasters</b>										
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Dec	-	-	7.1	-	3.7	-	-29.0	375.0	85.0
Barclays Capital	Apr *	1.7	1.7	6.6	1.31	2.6	-	-53.7	-	79.0
Capital Economics	Apr *	3.0	1.7	6.9	1.20	3.5	3.4	-60.0	375.0	90.0 ac
Citigroup	Apr *	2.5	1.8	6.2	-	-	-	-47.7	375.0	83.5
Commerzbank	Apr *	0.7	2.1	6.9	1.02	2.5	4.3	-61.8	-	79.0
Credit Suisse	Apr *	-	-	6.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Daiwa Capital Markets	Mar	-	-	6.5	-	-	-	-	375.0	-
Deutsche Bank	Jan	1.7	-	7.2	-	2.6	-	-58.0	375.0	80.0
Fathom Consulting	Apr *	3.0	-	6.2	0.95	-	-	-65.0	-	-
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	-	1.8 h	6.8	1.07	2.8	-	-61.0	-	90.0
HSBC	Apr *	-	-	6.8	-	3.2	-	-68.0	375.0	79.0
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	2.0	1.3	6.3	1.05	3.0	-	-55.0	375.0	85.0
Lombard Street	Sep	1.1	-0.1	8.2	-	-	-	-53.8	425.0	85.0
Morgan Stanley	Mar	1.2	1.4	-	-	3.0	-	-	375.0	99.9
Nomura	Apr *	-	1.8	6.4	-	1.8	-	-62.7	-	83.6
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	2.0	2.1	6.7	1.00	2.3	4.5	-44.0	375.0	88.0
Santander GBM	Mar	-	2.0	6.4	1.03	2.0	-	-68.0	375.0	82.0
Schroders Investment Management	Apr *	-	1.5	7.0	1.10	2.8	-	-54.0	375.0	86.0
Scotiabank	Mar	-	1.5	6.3	1.04	2.5	-	-50.0	375.0	-
Societe Generale	Mar	-	1.9	6.2	0.97	2.0	-	-47.6	375.0	82.0
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	-	-	6.3	-	-	-	-	-	86.0
UBS	Feb	-	-	6.9	1.30	-	-	-52.0	-	80.0
<b>Non-City forecasters</b>										
British Chambers of Commerce	Mar	-	-	6.6	-	2.0	4.2	-49.0	375.0	-
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	2.7	1.8	6.8	1.07	1.3	9.6	-67.2	375.0	97.0 k
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	1.5	0.2	-	1.40 h	2.7	3.3 k	-	-	-
CBI	Feb	1.9	1.0	6.7	1.15	3.4	-	-51.3	-	92.6 ac
CEBR	Apr *	1.5	1.6	6.6	1.10	2.8	5.2	-78.0	375.0	94.0
Economic Perspectives	Feb	-0.5	0.5	6.5	1.50	2.2	6.0	-35.0	375.0	105.0 ac
Experian Economics	Apr *	1.8	1.5	6.7	1.05	3.4	-	-58.9	-	102.7
EIU	Mar	2.4	1.1	6.7	-	1.0	-	-55.5	375.0	83.6
IHS Global Insight	Apr *	1.9	2.2	6.7	1.05	2.9	-	-53.1	375.0	85.8
ITEM Club	Apr *	2.2	1.6	6.5	1.05	4.1	4.3	-70.0	-	81.0
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	-	-	-	1.30	-	-	-62.9	-	109.4
NIESR	Feb	2.0	1.9	6.6	2.18 hp	-	5.3	-58.0	-	90.2
Oxford Economics	Apr *	2.2	1.7	6.7	1.08	2.9	4.4	-76.3	375.0	86.1
EC	Mar	-	1.3	6.8 h	-	-	-	-3.3 a	-	-5.1 a,ab
OECD	Nov	3.6 k	1.0	7.5 h	-	-	-	-68 k	-	-5.9 k
IMF	Apr *	-	1.6	6.9 h	-	-	-	-77.1 k	-	-90.0 h
<b>Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>										
Independent		1.9	1.5	6.6	1.11	2.6	5.1	-58.0	375.0	87.1
New (marked *)		2.1	1.7	6.6	1.08	2.8	5.1	-61.0	375.0	85.9
City		2.0	1.7	6.5	1.09	2.6	4.1	-56.7	375.0	84.5
<b>Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>										
Highest		3.0	2.2	7.0	1.50	4.1	9.6	-35.0	375.0	109.4
Lowest		-0.5	0.2	6.2	0.95	1.0	3.4	-78.0	375.0	79.0
Median		2.0	1.6	6.6	1.07	2.8	4.4	-58.0	375.0	85.4
<b>OBR</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>-39.7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>83.9</b>

**Table 4 - 2015: Growth in GDP and its components (% change)**

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		GDP	Private consumption	Government consumption	Fixed investment	Change in inventories contribution (% of GDP)	Domestic demand	Total exports	Total imports	Net trade contribution (% of GDP)	Output Gap (as % of potential GDP)
<b>City forecasters</b>											
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barclays Capital	Apr *	2.5	2.0	-0.4	9.0	0.0	2.5	5.0	4.8	0.0	-0.7
Capital Economics	Apr *	3.0	2.5	0.0	7.0	0.0	2.5	3.5	2.0	0.5	-
Citigroup	Apr *	3.6	3.7	0.0	14.3	-0.1	4.2	5.0	7.4	-0.8	-
Commerzbank	Apr *	2.5	2.8	-0.5	5.6	-0.1	2.4	3.9	3.5	0.1	-0.5
Credit Suisse	Apr *	2.5	2.4	0.3	8.4	-0.6	2.2	5.9	4.7	0.3	-
Daiwa Capital Markets	Mar	2.1	1.5	0.4	3.2	0.0	2.1	3.6	3.4	0.0	-
Deutsche Bank	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fathom Consulting	Apr *	2.4	3.4	0.6	2.3	-0.1	2.7	1.8	2.4	-0.2	1.8
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	2.7	2.5	1.6	5.7	0.1	2.8	2.4	3.0	-0.2	-2.7
HSBC	Apr *	2.5	2.3	-0.7	7.4	-0.1	2.3	2.7	2.0	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	2.8	2.7	0.8	5.7	-0.1	2.6	7.8	7.1	0.2	-
Lombard Street	Sep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morgan Stanley	Mar	2.2	1.8	-0.1	4.6	0.1	1.8	4.9	4.0	0.2	-
Nomura	Apr *	2.1	2.0	0.0	9.0	-0.1	2.5	3.0	4.2	-0.5	-0.5
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	2.2	2.0	-0.3	4.7	-	1.9	4.7	3.3	0.3	-
Santander GBM	Mar	2.3	2.1	0.8	4.0	0.1	2.1	5.3	4.7	0.1	-
Schroders Investment Management	Apr *	2.1	2.2	0.9	5.9	-0.1	2.4	4.9	4.6	0.1	-1.0
Scotiabank	Mar	2.0	1.7	0.7	5.2	-0.1	1.9	1.9	2.3	-0.2	-0.5
Societe Generale	Mar	2.5	2.1	-2.9	5.5	0.2	1.7	5.9	3.5	0.7	-
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	2.8	2.9	1.0	7.4	-	2.9	3.2	3.5	-0.1	-
UBS	Feb	2.5	2.5	0.7	6.0	0.0	2.5	2.9	2.9	-0.1	-
<b>Non-City forecasters</b>											
British Chambers of Commerce	Mar	2.5	2.5	1.0	4.2	0.2	2.3	4.5	3.7	0.2	-1.8
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	2.2	3.1	0.0	3.2	0.4	2.5	6.9	7.5	-0.4	-
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	2.2	2.1	-0.5	5.5	0.7	1.9	4.1	3.3	0.2	-
CBI	Feb	2.5	2.0	-0.5	7.3	0.0	2.2	4.7	3.7	0.3	-
CEBR	Apr *	2.1	2.2	-0.5	8.9	-0.8	1.8	5.2	4.2	0.2	-
Economic Perspectives	Feb	1.6	1.0	-0.5	4.8	-0.2	0.9	1.6	-0.3	0.6	-
Experian Economics	Apr *	2.5	2.6	-0.6	7.0	-0.1	2.4	5.6	5.1	0.1	-
EIU	Mar	2.2	2.4	1.3	4.5	-0.1	2.3	3.6	3.9	-0.2	-
IHS Global Insight	Apr *	2.6	2.7	-0.1	6.2	-	2.4	5.5	4.7	0.2	-
ITEM Club	Apr *	2.3	2.2	-0.5	8.3	0.5	2.5	5.9	6.2	-0.2	-
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	2.4	1.5 c	2.3 m	7.0 d	-	-	-	-	-	-
NIESR	Feb	2.1	2.3	-0.5	7.6	0.0	2.5	7.7	8.4	-0.4	-
Oxford Economics	Apr *	2.5	2.2	-0.3	6.4	-0.1	2.2	4.1	3.1	0.3	-3.5
EC	Mar	2.4	2.2	0.4	7.1	-0.1	2.5 f	3.7	3.3	0.1	0.2
OECD	Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IMF	Apr *	2.5	-	-	15.3 a	-	-	3.5	2.9	-	-1.1
<b>Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>											
Independent		2.4	2.3	0.1	6.3	0.0	2.3	4.4	4.0	0.0	-0.9
New (marked *)		2.5	2.5	0.1	7.0	-0.1	2.5	4.5	4.3	0.0	-1.0
City		2.5	2.4	0.2	6.4	-0.1	2.4	4.1	3.9	0.0	-0.6
<b>Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>											
Highest		3.6	3.7	1.6	14.3	0.7	4.2	7.8	8.4	0.7	1.8
Lowest		1.6	1.0	-2.9	2.3	-0.8	0.9	1.6	-0.3	-0.8	-3.5
Median		2.4	2.3	0.0	6.0	-0.1	2.4	4.5	3.7	0.1	-0.7
<b>OBR</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-1.1</b>



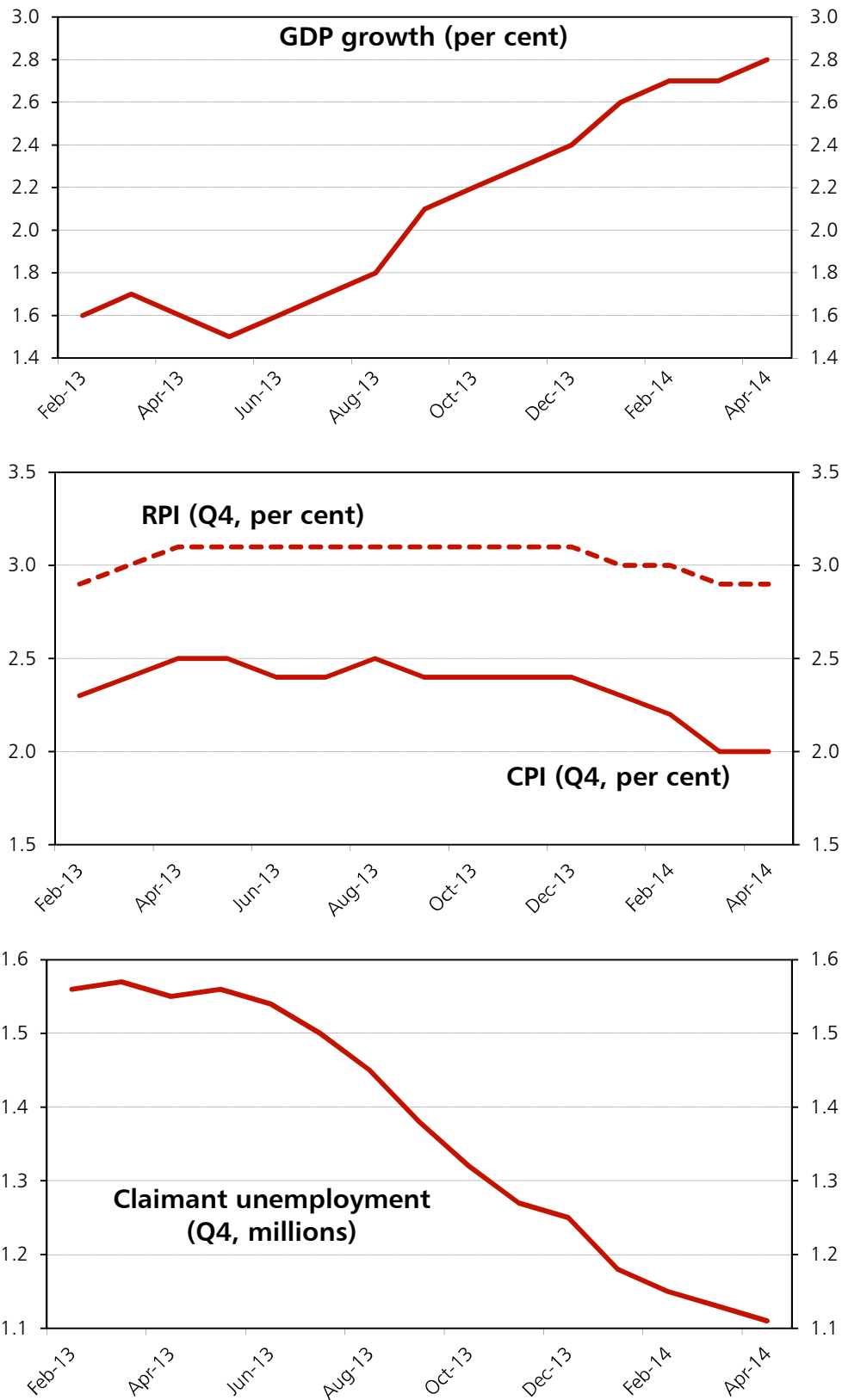
**Table 5 - 2015: Growth in prices and monetary indicators (% change)**

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		CPI (Q4)	RPI (Q4)	RPIX (Q4)	Average earnings	Sterling index (Q4) (Jan 2005=100)	Official Bank rate (Q4, %)	Oil price (Brent, \$/bbl)	M4 xIOFC Growth	House price inflation (Q4)
<b>City forecasters</b>										
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barclays Capital	Apr *	1.9	-	-	3.8	-	1.25	-	-	5.6 y
Capital Economics	Apr *	1.6	3.1	2.2	3.0	88.0	0.75	85.0	5.0	5.0 y
Citigroup	Apr *	1.9	4.4	-	3.2	-	1.67	-	-	-
Commerzbank	Apr *	2.1	2.7	2.4	3.1	88.6	0.92	109.5	-	5.9 y
Credit Suisse	Apr *	2.6	4.1	3.7	-	-	1.00	-	-	-
Daiwa Capital Markets	Mar	1.8	-	-	-	-	1.50	-	-	-
Deutsche Bank	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fathom Consulting	Apr *	3.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	-	1.00	100.0	-	5.0 z
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	1.7	2.9	-	2.0	85.0	0.75	99.0	2.2	-
HSBC	Apr *	2.2	3.5	-	2.9	-	1.00	-	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	2.4	3.6	2.9	3.5	-	1.50	110.0	-	7.0 x
Lombard Street	Sep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morgan Stanley	Mar	2.1	2.9	-	3.1	-	1.00	-	-	-
Nomura	Apr *	1.9	3.3	2.8	2.9	-	1.75	-	-	6.9 z
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	2.1	3.4	3.2	2.8	82.0	1.00	102.0	-	-
Santander GBM	Mar	1.8	3.0	2.5	3.0	-	1.75	-	-	-
Schroders Investment Management	Apr *	2.6	3.1	3.2	2.8	-	0.50	-	-	4.8 x
Scotiabank	Mar	1.9	3.4	3.2	3.2	-	1.50	-	-	3.0 y
Societe Generale	Mar	3.2	4.2	-	2.3	-	1.50	110.0	-	-
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	1.8	-	-	-	-	1.25	110.0	-	-
UBS	Feb	1.9	3.0	-	2.0	-	1.50	-	-	7.0 x
<b>Non-City forecasters</b>										
British Chambers of Commerce	Mar	2.0	2.7	2.6	2.9	-	0.75	105.0	-	7.0 x
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	1.9	2.4	2.5	2.8	85.7	1.40	109.3	6.2	9.8 z
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	2.1 h	3.0 h	-	3.5	98.3 k	0.80 h	114.3	-	-
CBI	Feb	1.9	3.2	2.9	3.4	86.2	1.00	99.7	-	4.8 z
CEBR	Apr *	2.1	3.4	2.9	2.6	87.6	1.50	98.0	-	5.7 kz
Economic Perspectives	Feb	3.1	3.5	3.5	2.7	77.0	2.00	120.0	12.0	8.0 x
Experian Economics	Apr *	2.0	3.4	3.1	3.0	90.1	1.17	100.4	-	5.9 z
EIU	Mar	2.2	-	-	2.4	-	1.00	107.3	-	-
IHS Global Insight	Apr *	2.2	3.0	2.8	3.5	-	0.75	99.8	-	6.7 x
ITEM Club	Apr *	1.7	2.6	2.8	2.6	81.5	1.00	105.0	4.0	7.0 z
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	2.0	-	2.5	2.2	81.8	-	-	-	-
NIESR	Feb	1.6	3.1	2.2	3.3 j	88.2 k	1.00	103.2 n	-	3.2 hz
Oxford Economics	Apr *	1.8	3.2	2.9	3.2	86.8	0.91	103.0	-	4.4 z
EC	Mar	2.0 h	-	-	2.8	-	-	99.6	-	-
OECD	Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IMF	Apr *	1.9 h	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>										
Independent		2.1	3.3	2.9	3.0	85.0	1.19	104.3	5.9	5.9
New (marked *)		2.1	3.3	3.0	3.1	86.1	1.11	102.4	4.4	6.1
City		2.2	3.4	3.0	3.0	85.9	1.22	103.2	3.6	5.6
<b>Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>										
Highest		3.5	4.4	4.0	4.5	90.1	2.00	120.0	12.0	9.8
Lowest		1.6	2.4	2.2	2.0	77.0	0.50	85.0	2.2	3.0
Median		2.0	3.2	2.9	2.9	86.0	1.00	104.0	5.0	5.9
<b>OBR</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>85.7</b>	<b>1.20</b>	<b>102.0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7.1 z</b>

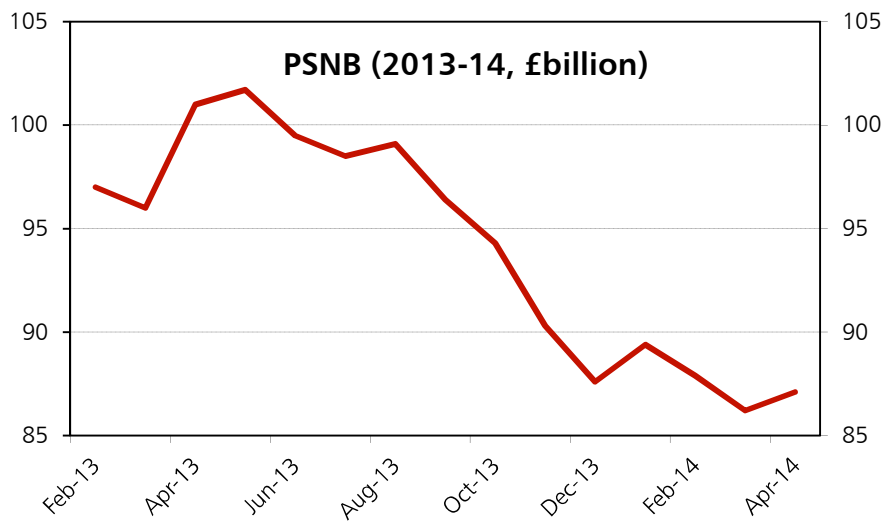
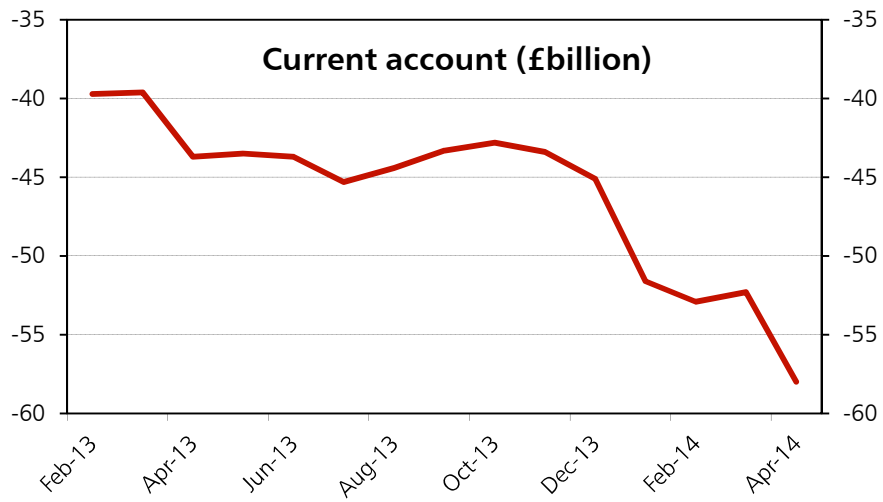
**Table 6 - 2015: Growth in other selected variables (% change)**

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		Real household disposable income	Employment growth	LFS Unemployment rate (Q4)	Claimant unemployment (Q4,millions)	Manufacturing output	World trade in goods and services	Current account (£bn)	Size of APF purchases (£bn)	PSNB (£bn 2015-16)
<b>City forecasters</b>										
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barclays Capital	Apr *		1.1	6.2	1.30	2.5	-	-56.0	-	63.2
Capital Economics	Apr *		1.0	6.6	1.20	3.0	3.6	-45.0	375.0	65.0 ac
Citigroup	Apr *	2.5	-	4.4	-	-	-	-58.3	371.0	57.2
Commerzbank	Apr *	2.2	1.2	6.5	0.88	0.5	5.3	-41.7	-	61.0
Credit Suisse	Apr *	-	-	6.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Daiwa Capital Markets	Mar	-	-	6.3	-	-	-	-	375.0	-
Deutsche Bank	Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fathom Consulting	Apr *	2.8	-	5.6	0.78	-	-	-70.0	-	-
Goldman Sachs	Apr *	-	1.3	6.4	0.94	2.8	-	-63.0	-	63.0
HSBC	Apr *	-	-	6.6	-	2.7	-	-55.0	360.0	69.0
ING Financial Markets	Apr *	2.0	1.3	5.7	0.95	2.9	-	-60.0	375.0	62.0
Lombard Street	Sep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morgan Stanley	Mar	1.6	0.6	-	-	3.4	-	-	375.0	87.0
Nomura	Apr *	-	1.5	5.9	-	0.9	-	-63.8	-	73.0
RBS Global Banking & Markets	Apr *	2.2	1.4	6.4	0.80	1.6	5.0	-39.0	375.0	72.0
Santander GBM	Mar	-	1.8	5.7	0.87	2.0	-	-58.2	-	-
Schroders Investment Management	Apr *	-	0.8	6.6	1.00	2.4	-	-60.0	375.0	75.0
Scotiabank	Mar	-	1.5	5.6	0.93	1.6	-	-45.0	375.0	-
Societe Generale	Mar	-	1.3	6.0	0.89	-	-	-39.4	370.0	68.0
Standard Chartered Bank	Apr *	-	-	5.8	-	-	-	-	-	72.0
UBS	Feb	-	-	6.7	1.30	-	-	-44.0	-	70.0
<b>Non-City forecasters</b>										
British Chambers of Commerce	Mar	-	-	6.2	-	1.4	4.3	-45.0	375.0	84.0
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Apr *	2.9	1.1	6.6	1.00	-0.3	9.7	-70.9	375.0	100.6 k
Cambridge Econometrics	Mar	1.4	0.2	-	1.40 h	2.4	3.7 k	-	-	-
CBI	Feb	1.7	0.6	6.6	1.11	2.2	-	-41.7	-	80.1 ac
CEBR	Apr *	1.6	0.8	6.3	1.00	1.4	5.8	-52.0	375.0	80.0
Economic Perspectives	Feb	0.5	0.5	6.0	1.40	1.1	7.0	-30.0	375.0	90.0 ac
Experian Economics	Apr *	1.8	1.2	6.1	0.88	1.9	-	-63.1	-	82.0
EIU	Mar	2.1	0.7	6.2	-	0.7	-	-56.3	375.0	72.4
IHS Global Insight	Apr *	2.6	1.5	6.4	0.92	2.6	-	-41.1	375.0	70.2
ITEM Club	Apr *	1.7	1.3	6.1	1.00	3.2	5.0	-41.0	-	68.0
Liverpool Macro Research	Mar	-	-	-	1.30	-	-	-63.5	-	94.6
NIESR	Feb	2.2	0.9	6.5	2.14 hp	-	7.4	-77.6	-	68.6
Oxford Economics	Apr *	2.1	0.9	6.5	1.03	2.2	5.5	-56.1	355.2	69.9
EC	Mar	-	1.0	6.5 h	-	-	-	-3.2 a	-	-4.2 a,ab
OECD	Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- k
IMF	Apr *	-	1.1	6.6 h	-	-	-	-66.9 k	-	-72.7 h
<b>Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>										
Independent		2.0	1.1	6.2	1.02	2.0	5.9	-53.2	372.4	71.9
New (marked *)		2.2	1.2	6.2	0.98	2.0	5.7	-55.1	371.1	69.2
City		2.2	1.2	6.1	0.99	2.2	4.6	-53.2	372.6	68.6
<b>Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months</b>										
Highest		2.9	1.8	6.7	1.40	3.4	9.7	-30.0	375.0	94.6
Lowest		0.5	0.2	4.4	0.78	-0.3	3.6	-77.6	355.2	57.2
Median		2.1	1.1	6.3	1.00	2.2	5.4	-56.0	375.0	70.1
<b>OBR</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>1.10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>-33.8</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>68.3</b>

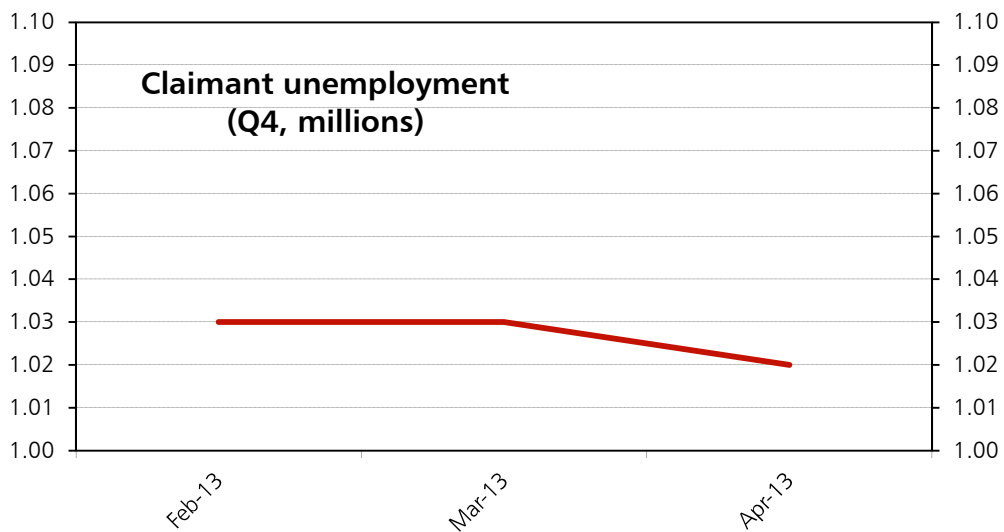
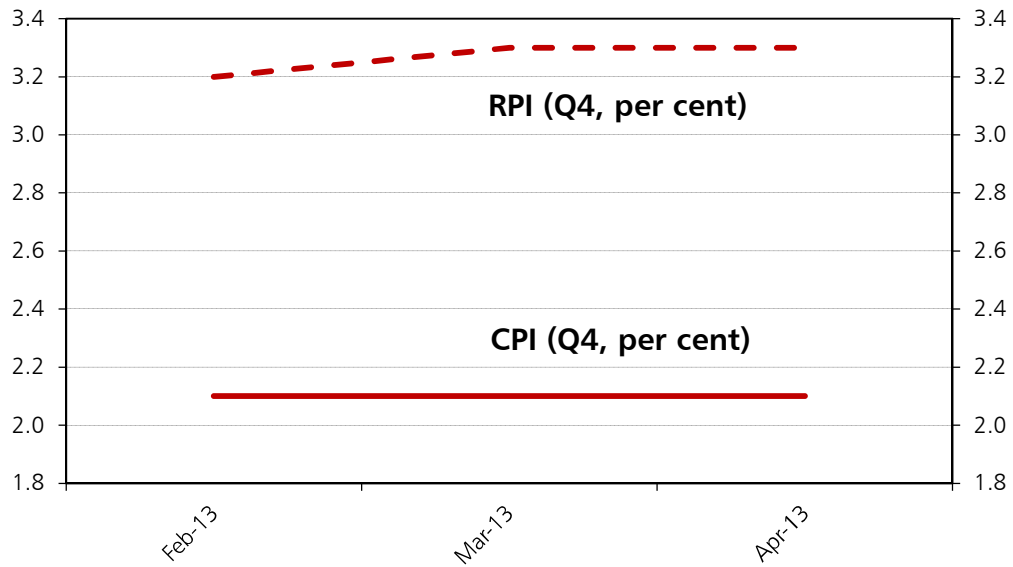
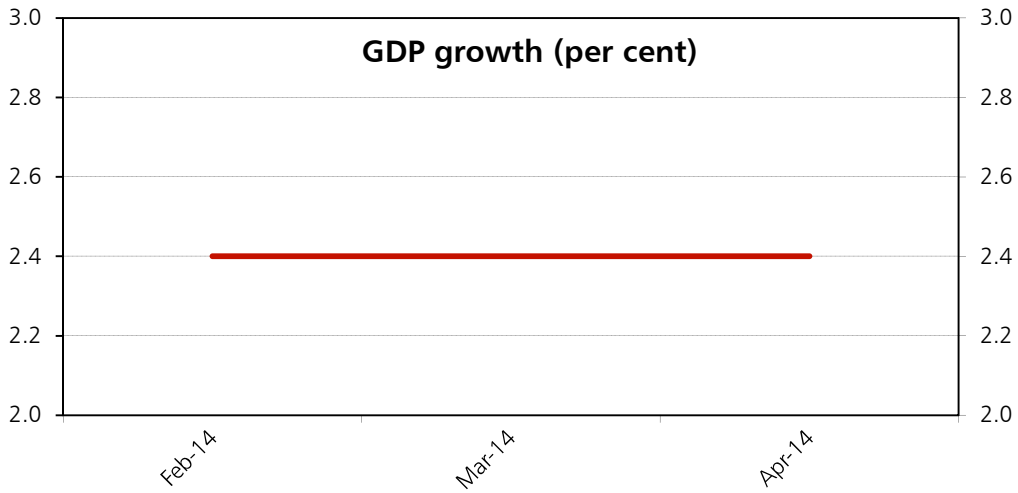
**Average of independent forecasts for 2014; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation and claimant unemployment**



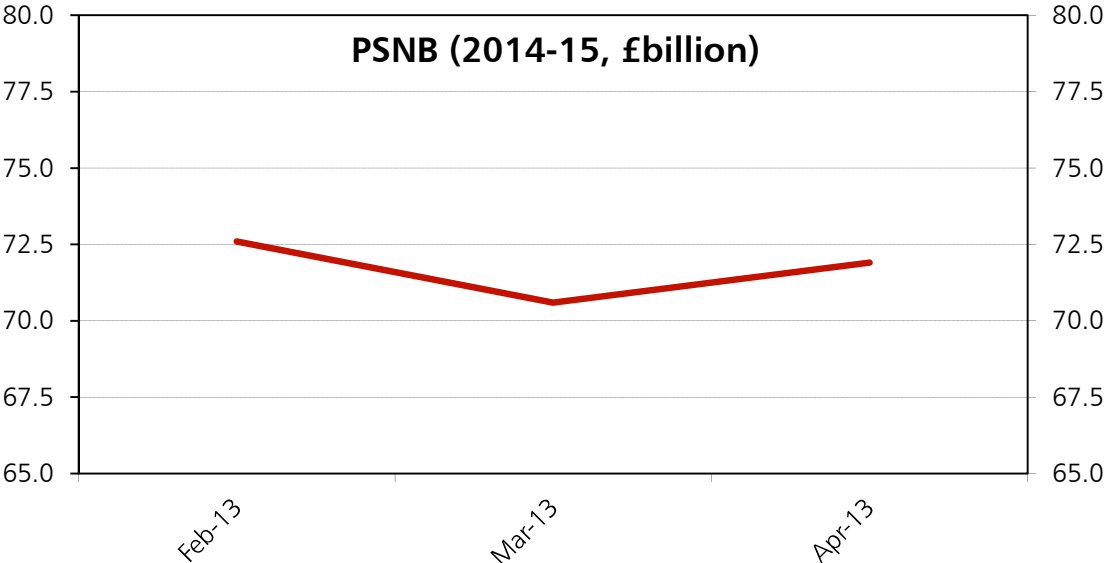
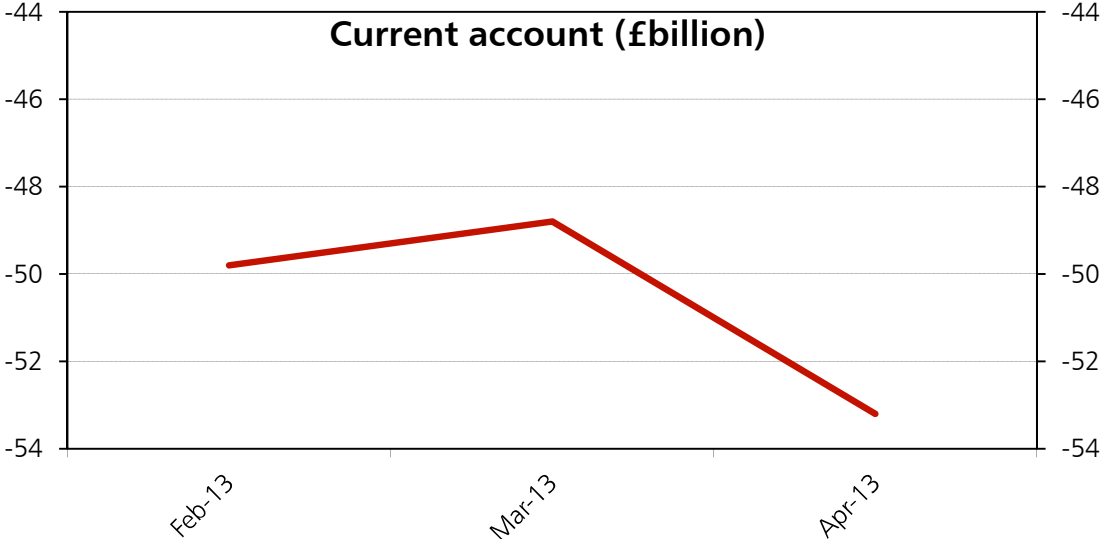
### Average of independent forecasts for 2014; Current account and PSNB (2014-15)



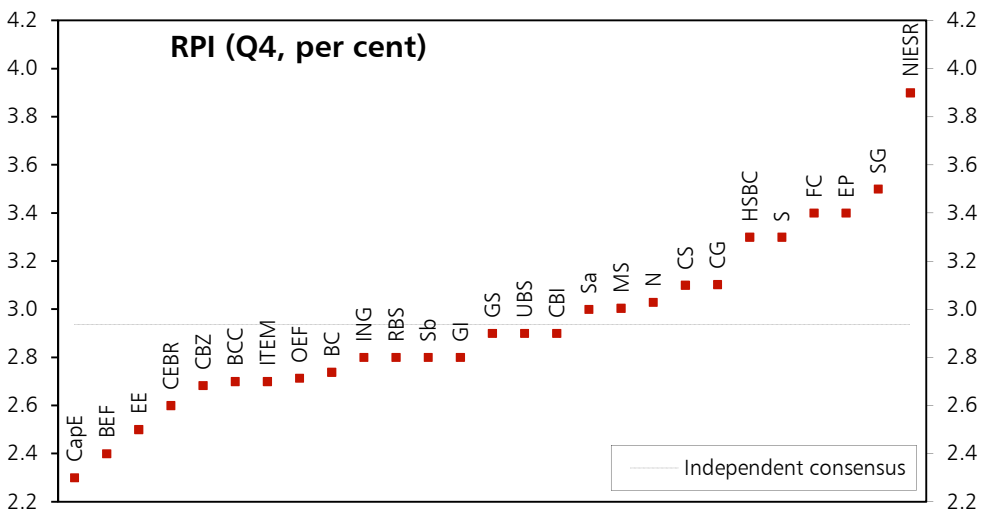
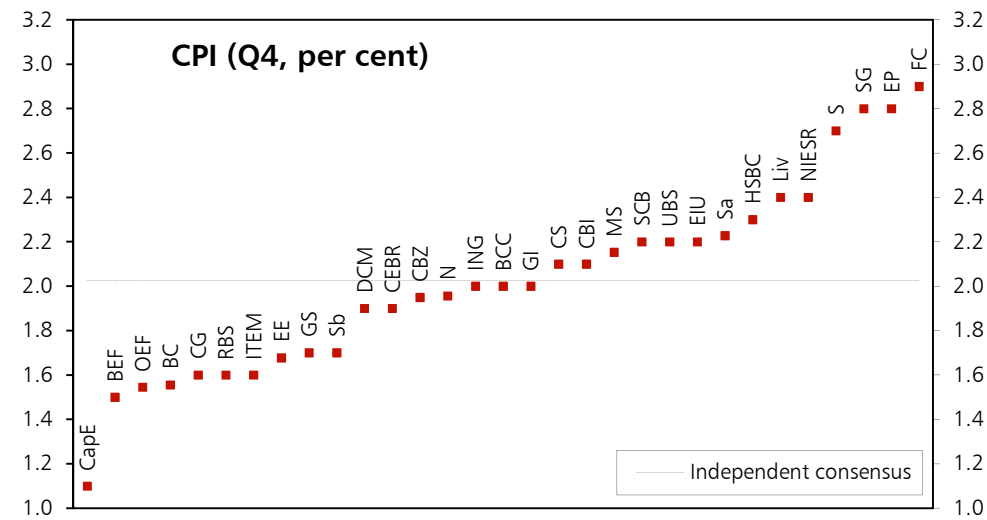
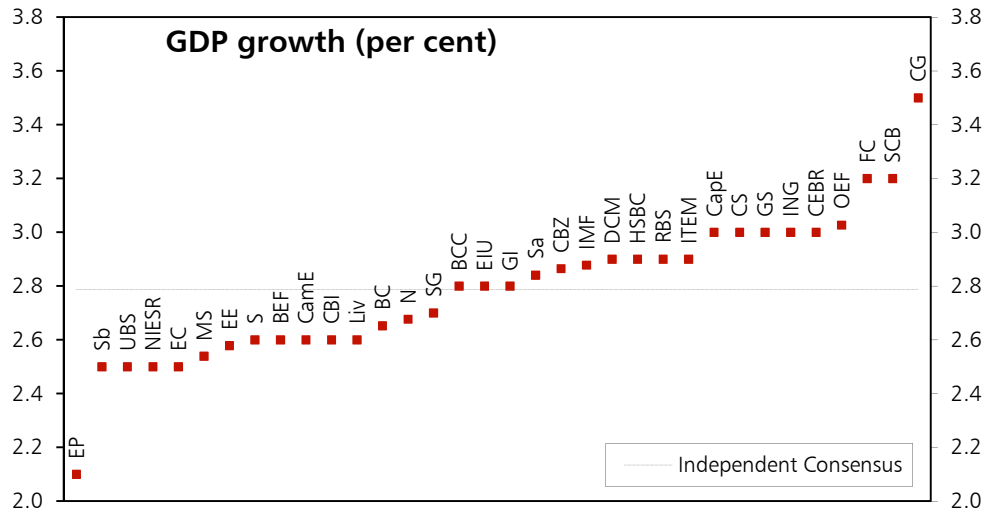
## Average of independent forecasts for 2015; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation and claimant unemployment



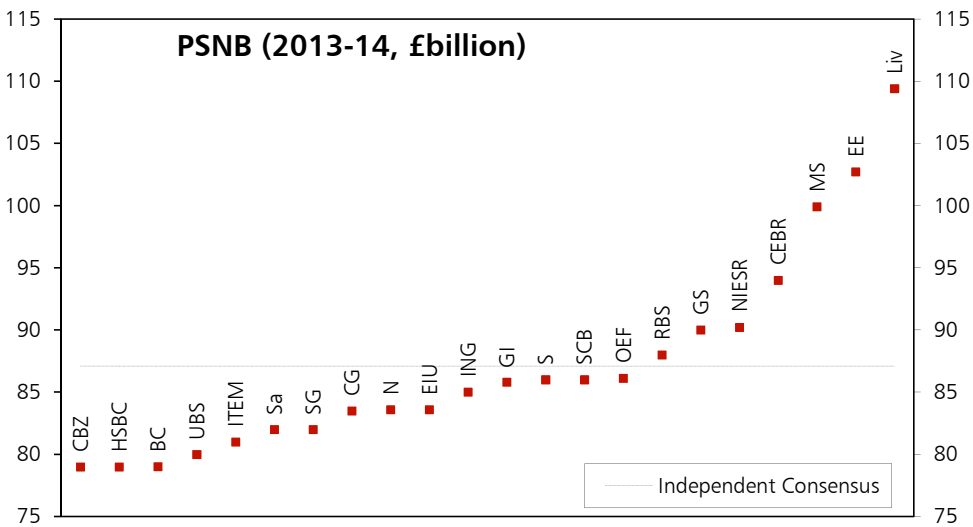
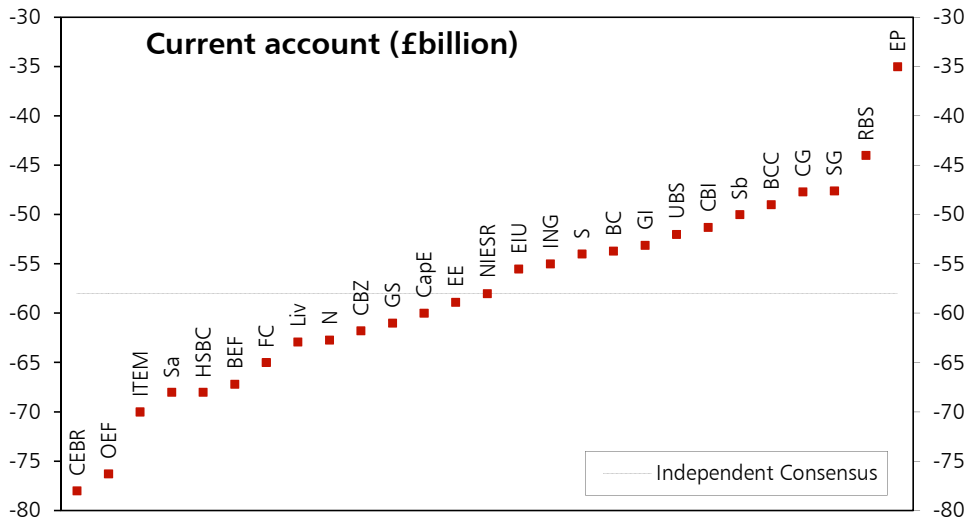
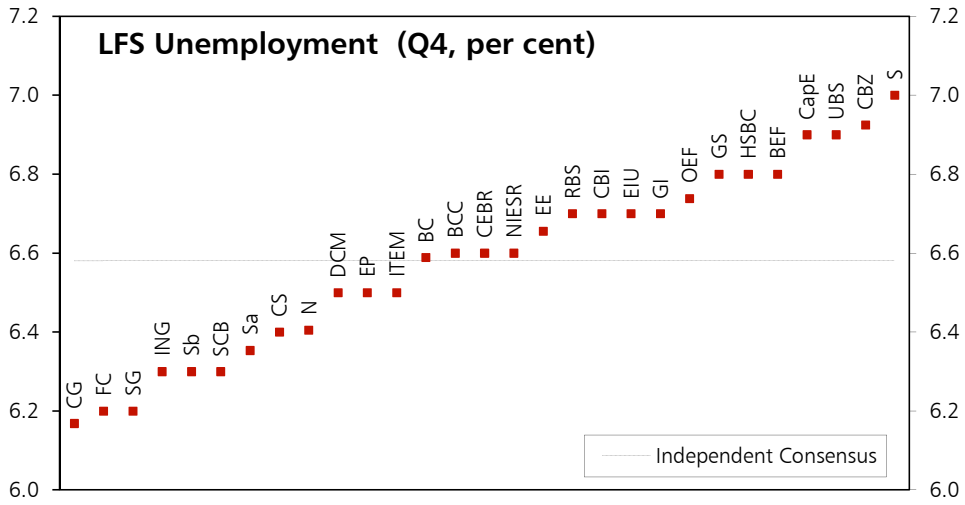
**Average of independent forecasts for 2015; Current account and PSNB (2015-16)**



**Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2014; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation made in the last 3 months**

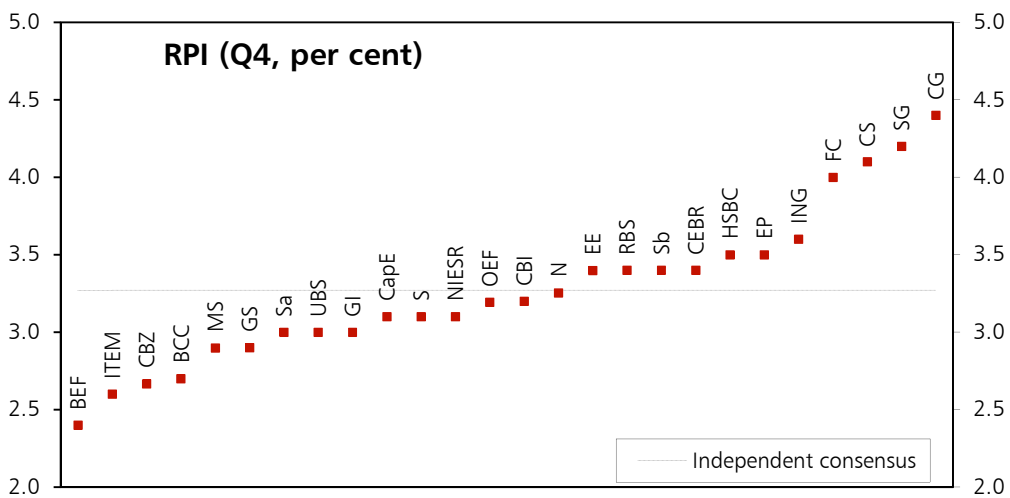
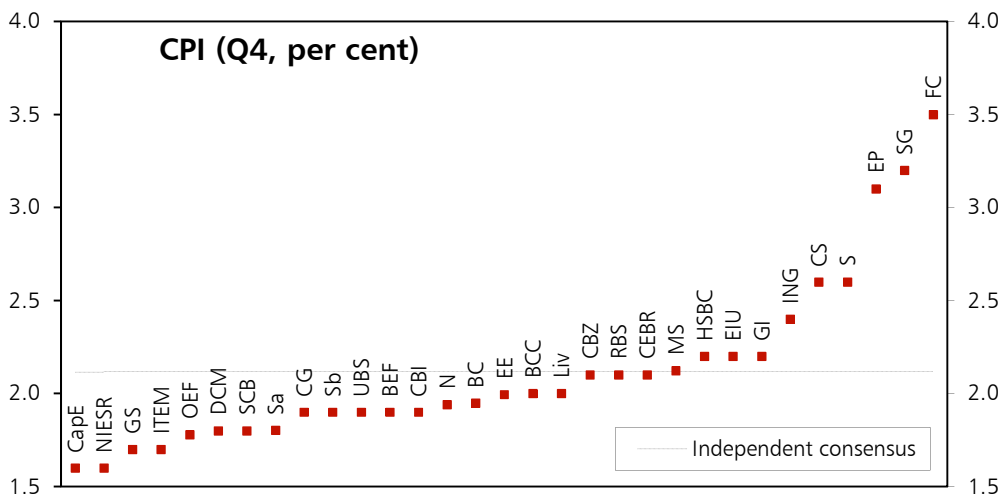
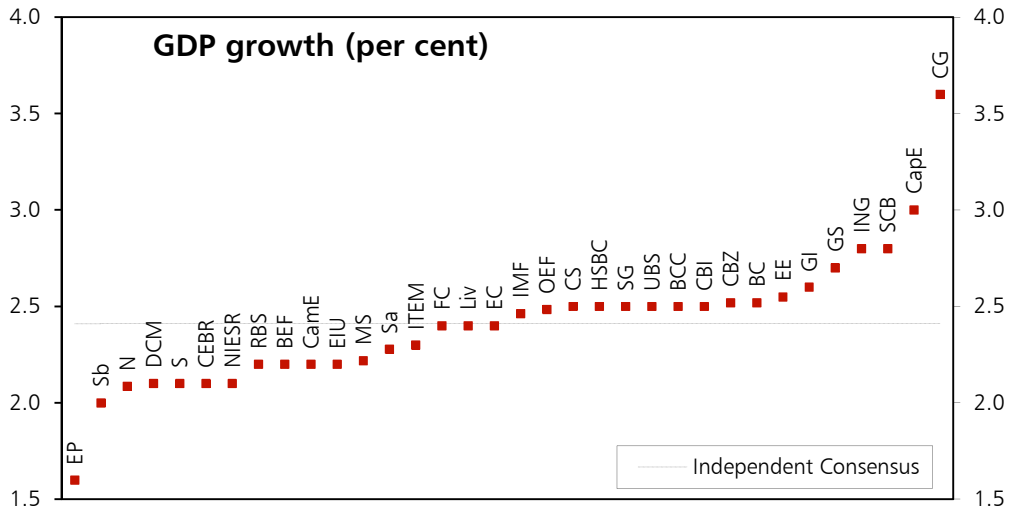


**Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2014; LFS unemployment, current account and PSNB (2014-15) made in last 3 months**

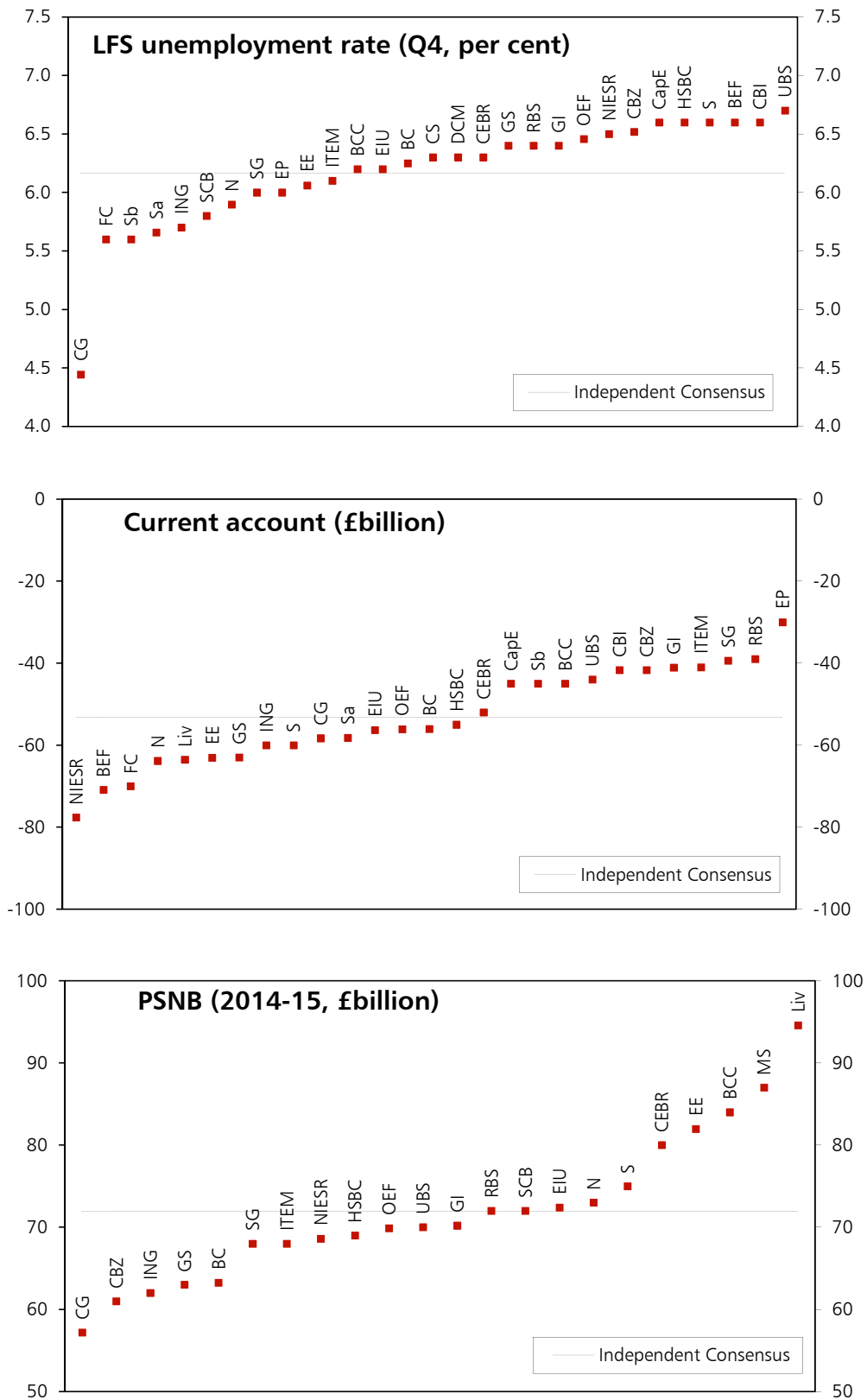




**Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2015; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation made in the last 3 months**



**Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2015; LFS unemployment, current account and PSNB (2015-16) made in last 3 months**



## Annex 1: Forecasting institutions referred to in charts and tables

BoA	Bank of America - Merrill Lynch
BC	Barclays Capital
BCC	British Chambers of Commerce
BEF	Beacon Economic Forecasting
BP	BNP Paribas
CamE	Cambridge Econometrics
CapE	Capital Economics
CG	Citigroup
CBI	Confederation of British Industry
CEBR	Centre for Economics and Business Research
CBZ	Commerzbank
CS	Credit Suisse
DCM	Daiwa Capital Markets
DB	Deutsche Bank
EE	Experian Economics
EC*	European Commission
EIU	Economist Intelligence Unit
EP	Economic Perspectives
FC	Fathom Consulting
GI	IHS Global Insight
GS	Goldman Sachs
HSBC	HSBC Global Research
ING	ING Financial Markets
IMF*	International Monetary Fund
ITEM	ITEM Club
JPM	JP Morgan Chase
Liv	Liverpool Macro Research
LS	Lombard Street Research
MS	Morgan Stanley
N	Nomura
NIESR	National Institute of Economic and Social Research
OECD*	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OEF	Oxford Economic Forecasting
RBS	Royal Bank Of Scotland Global Banking & Markets
Sa	Santander GBM
S	Schroders Investment Management
SC	Scotiabank
SG	Societe Generale
SCB	Standard Chartered Bank
UBS	UBS

\* Forecasts from the EC, IMF and OECD are updated when a full forecast is produced.

## Annex 2: Data definitions

GDP	National accounts, Table C2, Code ABMI
Private consumption	Households + NPISH, National accounts, Table C2, Code ABRJ+HAYO
General government consumption	National accounts, Table C2, Code NMRY
Gross fixed investment	National accounts, Table C2, Code NPQT
Change in inventories	National accounts, Table C2, Code CAFU
Domestic demand	National accounts, Table C2, Code YBIM
Exports (goods and services)	National accounts, Table C2, Code IKBK
Imports (goods and services)	National accounts, Table C2, Code IKBL
Output Gap	The gap between actual output and trend (or potential) output, expressed as a percentage of trend (or potential)
CPI (Q4)	Consumer Price Indices release, Table 1, Code D7G7
RPI (Q4)	Consumer Price Indices release, Table 1, Code CZBH
RPIX (Q4)	Consumer Price Indices release, Table 1, Code CDKQ
Whole Economy Average Weekly Earnings (Total Pay)	Labour market statistics, Table 15
Sterling index (Q4, Jan 2005=100)	Bank of England Monetary and Financial statistics division Code BK67
Official Bank Rate (Q4)	(Previously Bank of England repo rate (Q4)), Code BEDR
Oil price (\$ per barrel)	Brent crude, annual average
M4 growth excluding intermediate OFCs	Bank of England Monetary and Financial statistics division Code VVWP, calendar year (previously financial year)
House price inflation	Q4 on Q4 annual percentage change in house prices
RHDI	National accounts, Table J2, Code NRJR
Employment growth	Workforce jobs, Labour market statistics, Table 4, Code DYDC
LFS unemployment rate (Q4, per cent)	Labour market statistics, Table 1, Code MGSX
Claimant unemployment (Q4, mn)	Labour market statistics, Table 10, Code BCJD
Manufacturing Output	National accounts, Table B1, Code CKYY
World trade in goods and services	
Current account (£bn)	Balance of payments release, Table A, Code HBOP
Size of APF purchases (£bn)	<a href="http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/markets/apf/index.htm">http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/markets/apf/index.htm</a>
Public Sector Net Borrowing	Public sector finances release, Table PSF 1 / Public sector accounts, Table PSAT 1, Code -J511

### Annex 3: Notation used in tables

- a: as a percentage of GDP
- b: non-durable consumption
- c: consumer expenditure less expenditure on durables and housing
- d: private sector investment, stockbuilding and durable consumption
- e: investment and stockbuilding combined
- f: contribution to GDP growth - percentage points
- g: end period
- h: calendar year
- i: financial year
- j: compensation of employees/head
- k: different definitions; refer to forecasters for details
- l: 3 month interbank rate
- m: general government current and capital expenditure plus stockbuilding
- n: average of spot price of Brent crude and Dubai light crude
- o: world trade in manufacturing
- p: ILO unemployment - millions
- r: PSNCR (Formerly PSBR)
- s: PSNB including the effect of financial interventions
- t: world GDP
- u: OPEC average
- v: final domestic demand
- w: percentage change
- x: based on Halifax house price index
- y: based on Nationwide house price index
- z: based on CLG house price series
- aa: claimant unemployment rate
- ab: treaty deficit
- ac: Excluding Royal Mail Pension Fund & APF transfers
- ad: M4 growth

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