



HM Treasury

Forecasts for the UK economy:

a comparison of independent forecasts



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ISBN 978-1-912809-94-3

PU797

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The next edition will be published on the 19th February 2019. It will also be available on the Treasury's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/data-forecasts>

ISBN 978-1-912809-94-3

FORECASTS FOR THE UK ECONOMY

This edition of the comparison contains 26 new forecasts, all of which were received between January 1st and January 10th 2020. The tables below summarise the average and range of independent forecasts for 2019 and 2020 and show the average of this month's new forecasts.

Forecasts for 2019					
	Independent⁺				Average of new* forecasts
	Averages		January		
	January	December	Lowest	Highest	
GDP growth (per cent)	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.3
Inflation rate (Q4: per cent)					
- CPI	1.6	1.7	1.4	2.0	1.5
- RPI	2.2	2.3	1.8	2.3	2.2
LFS unemployment rate (Q4: %)	3.9	3.9	3.7	4.2	3.9
Current account (£bn)	-96.1	-87.7	-104.1	-85.3	-96.7
PSNB (2019-20: £bn)	49.1	46.0	37.8	63.7	48.7

Forecasts for 2020					
	Independent⁺				Average of new* forecasts
	Averages		January		
	January	December	Lowest	Highest	
GDP growth (per cent)	1.1	1.1	0.5	1.9	1.1
Inflation rate (Q4: per cent)					
- CPI	1.8	1.9	1.4	2.5	1.8
- RPI	2.4	2.6	1.8	3.2	2.5
LFS unemployment rate (Q4: %)	4.0	4.1	3.7	4.4	4.0
Current account (£bn)	-85.8	-76.9	-121.6	-41.3	-86.4
PSNB (2020-21: £bn)	55.1	51.2	20.7	75.0	54.6

+ Independent averages, and the range of forecasts, are based on forecasts made in the last three months: October 1 institutions, December 7 institutions and January 26 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 - 2019: Growth in GDP and its components (% annual growth)

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		GDP	Quarterly GDP		Private consumption	Government consumption	Fixed investment	Inventories (contribution to GDP growth (ppt))	Domestic demand	Total exports	Total imports	Net trade (contribution to GDP growth (ppt))	Output Gap (as % of potential GDP)
			Q4	Q1									
City forecasters													
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Jan *	1.2	0.0	0.3	1.1	3.4	-0.1	0.8	-	-	-	-0.9	-
Barclays Capital	Jan *	1.3	0.2	0.4	1.2	2.9	0.8	0.4	-	-	-	-0.7	-
Bloomberg Economics	Jan *	1.3	0.1	0.4	1.2	2.9	0.7	-	-	1.9	4.2	-0.7	-0.3
Capital Economics	Jan *	1.3	0.0	0.2	1.2	2.9	0.7	0.0	1.9	1.0	3.5	-0.8	-
Citigroup	Dec	1.3	0.1	0.4	1.2	3.3	0.1	0.3	1.7	0.4	2.8	-0.7	-
Commerzbank	Jan *	1.3	0.1	0.3	1.2	2.8	0.3	0.0	1.9	1.9	4.1	-0.7	-0.6
Daiwa Capital Markets	Jan *	1.3	-0.1	0.3	1.1	3.0	0.8	0.3	1.4	2.9	4.2	-0.4	-0.3
Deutsche Bank	Jan *	1.2	0.0	0.4	1.2	2.9	0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goldman Sachs	Jan 19	1.5	-	-	0.8	1.4	1.8	-	1.2	0.8	0.7	-	-
HSBC	Jan *	1.2	0.0	0.4	1.2	3.3	0.1	-	1.7	0.4	2.8	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Jan *	1.4	0.4	0.3	1.2	3.0	0.7	-	2.1	1.1	3.5	-0.7	-
JP Morgan	Jan *	1.3	1.0	0.6	QoY 1.2	3.0	-	-0.3	1.2	2.0	3.2	-0.4	-
Morgan Stanley	Jan *	1.2	0.0	0.3	1.1	3.4	0.0	0.6	1.4	0.1	2.5	-0.7	-0.1
Natwest Markets	Jan *	1.3	0.2	0.3	1.3	3.3	0.0	-	1.7	0.5	2.7	-0.4	-0.5
Nomura	Dec	1.3	0.1	0.2	1.2	3.3	0.1	0.2	1.8	0.6	3.6	-0.9	-
Pantheon	Jan *	1.3	0.1	0.4	1.2	3.4	0.0	0.1	1.8	-0.3	2.4	-0.8	-
Santander GBM	Dec	1.3	0.2	0.2	1.2	3.3	0.1	0.0	1.7	0.6	2.9	-0.7	-0.4
Schroders Investment Management	Jan *	1.3	0.1	-0.2	1.2	3.3	-0.2	0.2	1.9	0.2	3.4	-1.0	-0.2
Societe Generale	Jan *	1.3	0.0	0.3	1.2	3.0	0.8	-0.6	1.6	2.1	3.5	-0.5	-0.2
UBS	Jan *	1.2	1.0	0.7	QoY 1.2	2.9	0.8	0.3	1.7	2.0	3.1	-0.4	-
Non-City forecasters													
British Chambers of Commerce	Jan *	1.3	0.2	0.3	1.1	3.3	0.1	-	-	0.3	3.2	-	-
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Jan *	1.3	0.2	0.9	1.3	3.4	0.9	-0.5	2.0	1.5	3.9	-1.0	-
Cambridge Econometrics	Aug	1.3	-	-	1.9	1.4	0.7	-	-	1.7	3.7	-	-
CBI	Jan *	1.3	0.2	0.3	1.2	3.3	0.1	0.0	1.8	0.4	2.9	-0.8	-0.1
CEBR	Sep	1.2	-	-	2.0	2.8	0.5	-0.4	1.8	3.3	6.5	-1.0	-
Economic Perspectives	Jan *	1.3	0.3	0.1	1.2	3.1	0.7	-0.1	1.9	1.1	3.2	-0.6	-
Experian Economics	Jan *	1.3	0.2	0.3	1.1	2.9	0.8	0.4	1.9	1.2	3.1	-0.6	n/a
EIU	Dec	1.3	0.1	0.5	1.7	1.7	0.3	5.0	1.3	0.1	2.2	-	-0.3
Heteronomics	Jan *	1.3	0.1	0.4	1.2	2.9	0.4	0.7	1.4	0.4	2.8	-0.8	0.6
IHS Markit Economics	Oct	1.2	0.1	-	1.6	2.4	-0.7	-	0.8	0.5	2.5	-	-
ITEM Club	Jan *	1.3	0.1	0.4	1.2	2.9	0.7	-	1.7	2.0	3.8	-0.4	-
Kern Consulting	Jan *	1.3	-	-	1.3	0.9	0.4	0.1	1.4	-	-	-	0.0
Liverpool Macro Research	Jan *	1.5	-	-	1.3	1.5	-1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
NIESR	Dec	1.4	0.3	-	1.3	2.8	0.6	0.9	2.4	0.9	3.6	-0.9	-
Oxford Economics	Jan *	1.3	0.0	0.2	1.2	3.0	0.9	0.0	2.0	2.0	4.7	-0.9	-0.8
PwC	Dec	1.2	-	-	1.2	3.4	-0.3	-	-	0.5	2.8	-	-
European Commission	Dec	1.3	0.3	-	1.3	3.1	0.9	0.0	1.5	1.3	2.8	-0.5	0.4
OECD	Oct	1.2	-	-	1.2	3.3	0.0	0.3	1.6	0.2	2.5	-0.7	-
IMF	Oct	1.2	-	-	1.6	2.8	-0.6	-0.3	1.4	2.4	3.1	0.0	-0.1
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months													
Independent		1.3	0.1	0.3	1.2	2.9	0.3	0.3	1.7	1.0	3.2	-0.7	-0.2
New (marked *)		1.3	0.1	0.3	1.2	2.9	0.4	0.1	1.7	1.2	3.4	-0.7	-0.2
City		1.3	0.1	0.3	1.2	3.1	0.4	0.2	1.7	1.1	3.3	-0.7	-0.3
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months													
Highest		1.5	0.4	0.9	1.7	3.4	0.9	5.0	2.4	2.9	4.7	0.0	0.6
Lowest		1.2	-0.1	-0.2	1.1	0.9	-1.8	-0.6	0.8	-0.3	2.2	-1.0	-0.8
Median		1.3	0.1	0.3	1.2	3.0	0.3	0.2	1.7	0.9	3.1	-0.7	-0.2
OBR	Mar	1.2	0.3	0.3	1.1	2.1	0.6	0.4	1.7	1.4	3.0	-0.5	-0.1

Table 2 - 2019: Growth in prices and monetary indicators (% change)

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		CPI (Q4 on Q4 year ago, %)	RPI (Q4 on Q4 year ago, %)	Average earnings	Sterling index (Jan 2005=100)	Official Bank rate (level in Q4, %)	Oil price (Brent, \$/bbl)	Nominal GDP	House price inflation (Q4 on Q4 year ago, %)
City forecasters									
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Jan *	1.5	2.2	-	-	0.75	-	-	-
Barclays Capital	Jan *	1.5	2.3	-	-	0.75	64.0	-	-
Bloomberg Economics	Jan *	1.5	-	-	-	0.75	-	-	-
Capital Economics	Jan *	1.5	2.2	3.5	80.7	0.75	68.0	3.2	1.0 y
CitiGroup	Dec	1.5	2.0	3.4	-	0.75	65.0	-	-
Commerzbank	Jan *	1.4	2.1	3.5	78.9	0.75	64.3	3.2	0.9 y
Daiwa Capital Markets	Jan *	1.5	-	3.5	-	0.75	-	-	1.0 z
Deutsche Bank	Jan *	1.5	2.2	-	-	0.75	-	-	-
Goldman Sachs	Jan'18	1.9	2.8	-	-	1.00	56.0	-	-
HSBC	Jan *	1.5	2.2	3.5	-	0.75	-	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Jan *	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
JP Morgan	Jan *	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morgan Stanley	Jan *	1.5	2.3	3.6	-	0.75	-	-	-
NatWest Markets	Jan *	1.5	2.1	3.6	-	0.75	63.5	3.4	-
Nomura	Dec	-	-	3.5	-	0.75	-	-	-
Pantheon	Jan *	1.5	2.1	3.5	-	0.75	-	-	-
Santander GBM	Dec	1.4	2.1	3.6	-	0.75	64.0	-	-
Schroders Investment Management	Jan *	1.5	2.2	3.4	-	0.75	-	3.7	2.3 x
Societe Generale	Jan *	1.6	2.1	3.6	-	0.75	-	3.2	-
UBS	Jan *	1.5	2.3	3.6	-	0.75	63.6	1.9	-
Non-City forecasters									
British Chambers of Commerce	Jan *	1.5	-	2.9	-	0.75	-	-	-
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Jan *	1.5	2.2	3.5	79.5	0.75	64.1	3.3	0.7 z
Cambridge Econometrics	Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CBI	Jan *	1.4	1.9	3.6	75.5	0.75	63.1	-	0.6 z
CEBR	Sep	2.1	2.9	3.1	75.5	0.75	-	-	-
Economic Perspectives	Jan *	1.5	2.2	3.5	79.5	0.75	64.2	3.4	2.3 x
Experian Economics	Jan *	1.5	2.2	3.5	83.3	0.75	62.4	1.4	1.4 z
EIU	Dec	1.8	-	3.8	-	0.75	64.0	2.2	0.5 z
Heteronomics	Jan *	1.4	2.2	3.6	80.7	0.75	50.9	-	2.7
IHS Markit Economics	Oct	2.0	-	-	-	0.75	64.9	3.2	-
ITEM Club	Jan *	1.5	2.2	3.6	-	0.75	64.0	-	1.0 z
Kern Consulting	Jan *	1.9	-	3.5	-	0.75	72.0	-	1.1 z
Liverpool Macro Research	Jan *	1.9	-	3.6	80.6	1.00	-	-	-
NIESR	Dec	1.8	1.8	3.7	-	0.75	62.4	-	1.4 z
Oxford Economics	Jan *	1.5	2.2	3.5	79.5	0.75	64.3	3.4	0.8 k
PwC	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.2 z
European Commission	Dec	1.6	-	4.0	-	-	63.3	-	-
OECD	Oct	1.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IMF	Oct	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months									
Independent		1.6	2.2	3.5	79.8	0.76	63.8	3.0	1.3
New (marked *)		1.5	2.2	3.5	79.8	0.76	63.7	3.0	1.3
City		1.5	2.2	3.5	79.8	0.8	64.6	3.1	1.3
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months									
Highest		2.0	2.3	4.0	83.3	1.00	72.0	3.7	2.7
Lowest		1.4	1.8	2.9	75.5	0.75	50.9	1.4	0.5
Median		1.5	2.2	3.5	79.5	0.75	64.0	3.2	1.0
OBR	Mar	2.0	2.9	3.1	78.0	0.77	62.1	3.2	0.8

Table 3 - 2019: 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 (Q4, £bn)	Productivity (Output per hour)	PSNB (£bn 2019-20)
City forecasters											
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Jan *	-	-	3.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barclays Capital	Jan *	-	1.2	3.9	-	-	-	-91.0	-	-	-
Bloomberg Economics	Jan *	-	-	3.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Economics	Jan *	1.7	1.1	3.9	-	-	-	-97.7	435.0	-0.1	57.0
Citigroup	Dec	-	1.0	4.1	-	-0.7	-	-96.6	445.0	-	42.9
Commerzbank	Jan *	1.7	1.2	3.9	1.2	-0.8	4.9	-99.2	-	0.3	52.0
Daiwa Capital Markets	Jan *	-	-	3.8	-	-	-	-	445.0	-0.2	-
Deutsche Bank	Jan *	-	-	3.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	53.0
Goldman Sachs	Jan'18	-	0.4	4.0	-	-	-	-	-	0.9	-
HSBC	Jan *	-	-	3.9	-	-0.8	-	-	-	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Jan *	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
JP Morgan	Jan *	-	-	3.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morgan Stanley	Jan *	-	1.0	4.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Natwest Markets	Jan *	1.9	1.0	3.9	-	-0.6	-	-94.0	445.0	-	52.0
Nomura	Dec	-	-	3.8	-	-	-	-	435.0	-	-
Pantheon	Jan *	-	1.0	3.8	-	-	-	-103.0	445.0	0.3	42.5
Santander GBM	Dec	-	0.9	3.9	-	-0.7	-	-102.3	445.0	-	48.6
Schroders Investment Management	Jan *	-	1.6	3.8	1.2	0.4	-	-98.0	445.0	-0.2	45.6
Societe Generale	Jan *	1.8	1.0	3.8	-	-	-	-102.2	445.0	-0.2	47.2
UBS	Jan *	-	-	-	-	-0.7	-	-93.7	-	-	-
Non-City forecasters											
British Chambers of Commerce	Jan *	-	-	3.8	-	-0.4	-	-90.0	-	0.4	54.0
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Jan *	1.1	1.6	3.8	1.2	-0.4	1.8	-98.4	435.0	-0.3	50.4
Cambridge Econometrics	Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CBI	Jan *	1.5	1.0	3.9	-	-	-	-95.9	-	-	48.6
CEBR	Sep	2.1	1.0	3.9	1.2	-0.5	-	-	-	0.0	-
Economic Perspectives	Jan *	1.2	1.9	3.9	1.2	-0.7	-1.0	-95.0	425.0	-0.2	47.0
Experian Economics	Jan *	1.0	1.0	3.9	1.2	-0.1	-	-104.1	-	-	52.2
EIU	Dec	-	0.5	3.8	-	0.5	-	-89.6	-	0.8	-
Heteronomics	Jan *	-	1.0	3.8	-	-	-	-103.7	445.0	0.3	52.6
IHS Markit Economics	Oct	-	1.1	3.8	-	-0.3	-	-	-	-	-
ITEM Club	Jan *	1.1	1.0	3.8	-	-0.7	-	-96.6	445.0	-	46.0
Kern Consulting	Jan *	-	-	4.0	-	-0.1	2.4	-92.0	-	-	46.0
Liverpool Macro Research	Jan *	-	-	-	0.8	-	-	-86.5	-	-	37.8
NIESR	Dec	2.1	0.9	4.0	-	-	2.8	-85.3	-	0.2	63.7
Oxford Economics	Jan *	1.0	1.6	3.8	1.3	-0.8	1.8	-100.1	444.8	-	43.5
PwC	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Commission	Dec	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OECD	Oct	-	-	3.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IMF	Oct	-	-	3.8	-	-	-	-94.7	-	-	-
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months											
Independent		1.5	1.1	3.9	1.2	-0.4	2.1	-96.1	441.4	0.1	49.1
New (marked *)		1.4	1.2	3.9	1.2	-0.5	2.0	-96.7	441.3	0.0	48.7
City		1.8	1.1	3.9	1.2	-0.6	4.9	-97.8	442.8	0.0	49.0
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months											
Highest		2.1	1.9	4.2	1.3	0.5	4.9	-85.3	445.0	0.8	63.7
Lowest		1.0	0.5	3.7	0.8	-0.8	-1.0	-104.1	425.0	-0.3	37.8
Median		1.5	1.0	3.8	1.2	-0.7	2.1	-96.6	445.0	0.1	48.6
OBR	Mar	0.7	0.4	4.1	-	-	3.8	-110.2	-	0.8	29.3

Table 4 - 2020: Growth in GDP and its components (% annual growth)

Forecasters and dates of forecasts		GDP	Private consumption	Government consumption	Fixed investment	Inventories (contribution to GDP growth (ppt))	Domestic demand	Total exports	Total imports	Net trade (contribution to GDP growth (ppt))	Output Gap (as % of potential GDP)
City forecasters											
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Jan *	0.9	1.4	3.0	-0.6	-1.5	-	-	-	1.0	-
Barclays Capital	Jan *	1.2	1.5	0.9	1.2	-0.7	-	-	-	0.7	-
Bloomberg Economics	Jan *	1.3	1.6	0.9	1.6	-	-	3.2	1.3	0.5	-0.5
Capital Economics	Jan *	1.0	1.6	2.5	1.9	0.0	1.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	-
Citigroup	Dec	0.9	1.2	2.2	0.9	-0.9	0.5	2.7	1.1	0.4	-
Commerzbank	Jan *	1.0	1.4	1.0	-0.5	0.4	0.6	3.6	1.8	0.5	-0.9
Daiwa Capital Markets	Jan *	0.8	1.1	1.7	0.4	-1.8	1.1	7.4	1.5	1.5	-0.3
Deutsche Bank	Jan *	1.0	1.0	2.1	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goldman Sachs	Jan'18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HSBC	Jan *	1.1	1.1	2.2	2.2	-	0.2	1.6	-1.4	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Jan *	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.3	-	0.7	2.1	0.3	0.5	-
JP Morgan	Jan *	1.1	1.2	2.3	-	-0.9	1.2	4.4	-0.8	1.6	-
Morgan Stanley	Jan *	1.4	1.3	3.0	2.2	-0.3	1.8	1.4	1.3	0.0	0.1
NatWest Markets	Jan *	1.3	1.6	2.5	0.2	-	0.1	2.1	-1.8	1.2	-0.7
Nomura	Dec	1.0	1.6	2.6	0.2	0.1	1.1	2.4	2.0	0.1	-
Pantheon	Jan *	1.2	1.4	2.4	0.6	-0.2	0.4	0.4	-2.2	0.8	-
Santander GBM	Dec	1.0	1.4	1.4	0.9	-0.7	0.0	2.9	-0.5	1.0	-0.7
Schroders Investment Management	Jan *	0.8	1.4	1.7	1.0	0.0	0.9	2.6	2.3	0.0	-0.9
Societe Generale	Jan *	0.7	0.9	2.1	0.1	-0.9	-0.6	4.1	-0.5	1.4	-0.8
UBS	Jan *	0.9	1.4	1.2	0.4	-1.8	-0.6	4.3	-1.1	1.6	-
Non-City forecasters											
British Chambers of Commerce	Jan *	1.1	1.3	3.0	0.3	-	-	1.1	1.4	-	-
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Jan *	1.6	2.1	2.7	1.6	-0.2	1.8	3.4	4.0	-0.4	-
Cambridge Econometrics	Aug	1.3	2.1	1.4	2.1	-	-	1.8	3.1	-	-
CBI	Jan *	1.2	1.2	2.0	0.7	-0.4	0.4	1.8	-1.0	0.8	-0.3
CEBR	Sep	1.2	1.7	1.6	2.4	0.1	1.2	0.9	0.1	0.2	-
Economic Perspectives	Jan *	0.8	0.3	4.0	0.6	0.2	0.6	-1.2	-2.3	0.4	-
Experian Economics	Jan *	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.6	-0.8	0.5	2.1	-1.2	1.0	-
EIU	Dec	1.3	3.5	3.5	1.6	4.0	1.9	0.8	2.7	-	-0.5
Heteronomics	Jan *	1.2	1.9	0.6	-1.7	-0.5	1.1	-1.1	-3.2	0.7	0.4
IHS Markit Economics	Oct	0.5	0.7	1.5	-2.4	-	0.3	0.5	-1.5	-	-
ITEM Club	Jan *	1.2	1.4	2.5	1.1	-	0.8	3.4	2.1	0.4	-
Kern Consulting	Jan *	1.2	1.3	1.3	0.6	0.1	1.3	-	-	-	0.0
Liverpool Macro Research	Jan *	1.9	1.4	1.6	-3.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
NIESR	Dec	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.3	-0.5	1.0	1.1	-1.2	0.7	-
Oxford Economics	Jan *	1.0	1.6	1.5	1.0	0.4	1.2	-2.0	-1.5	-0.1	-0.9
PwC	Dec	1.0	1.4	2.7	-0.5	-	-	3.3	0.0	-	-
European Commission	Dec	1.4	1.8	2.3	0.5	0.0	1.7	2.3	3.1	-0.3	0.2
OECD	Oct	1.0	1.0	3.1	0.0	-1.5	-0.3	1.2	-2.8	1.3	-
IMF	Oct	1.4	1.4	2.9	0.6	-0.1	1.7	1.8	1.2	-0.2	0.0
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months											
Independent		1.1	1.4	2.1	0.5	-0.3	0.8	2.1	0.1	0.6	-0.4
New (marked *)		1.1	1.3	2.0	0.6	-0.5	0.7	2.1	0.0	0.7	-0.4
City		1.0	1.3	1.9	0.8	-0.7	0.6	2.8	0.2	0.8	-0.6
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months											
Highest		1.9	3.5	4.0	2.2	4.0	1.9	7.4	4.0	1.6	0.4
Lowest		0.5	0.3	0.6	-3.0	-1.8	-0.6	-2.0	-3.2	-0.4	-0.9
Median		1.1	1.4	2.2	0.6	-0.4	0.8	2.1	0.0	0.6	-0.5
OBR	Mar	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.8	0.0	1.6	1.7	2.1	-0.2	-0.2

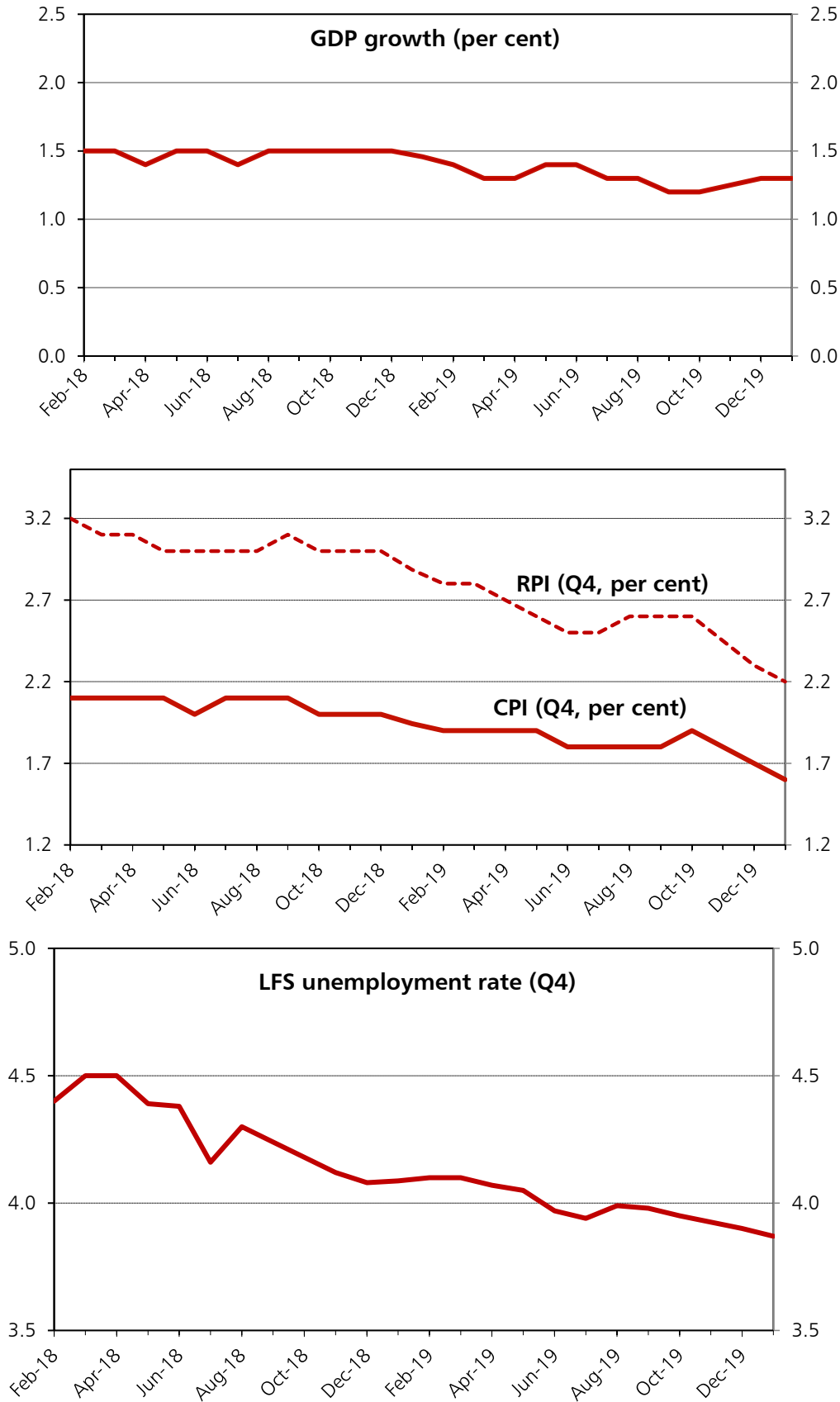
Table 5 - 2020: Growth in prices and monetary indicators (% change)

Forecasters and dates of forecasts	CPI (Q4 on Q4 year ago, %)	RPI (Q4 on Q4 year ago, %)	Average earnings	Sterling Index (Jan 2005=100)	Official Bank rate (level in Q4, %)	Oil price (Brent, \$/bbl)	Nominal GDP	House price inflation (Q4 on Q4 year ago, %)	
City forecasters									
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Jan * 1.4	1.9	-	-	0.25	-	-	-	
Barclays Capital	Jan * 1.8	2.6	-	-	0.75	62.0	-	-	
Bloomberg Economics	Jan * 1.8	-	-	-	0.75	-	-	-	
Capital Economics	Jan * 1.7	2.2	3.6	86.4	0.75	75.0	2.6	1.5 y	
Citigroup	Dec 1.4	1.8	3.4	-	0.50	59.0	-	-	
Commerzbank	Jan * 1.7	2.1	3.3	76.8	0.50	61.2	3.3	0.9 y	
Daiwa Capital Markets	Jan * 1.4	-	3.2	-	0.50	-	-	2.2 z	
Deutsche Bank	Jan * 1.4	2.4	-	-	0.50	-	-	-	
Goldman Sachs	Jan'18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HSBC	Jan * 1.6	2.2	3.3	-	0.50	-	-	-	
ING Financial Markets	Jan * 1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
JP Morgan	Jan * 1.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Morgan Stanley	Jan * 2.1	2.8	3.9	-	1.00	-	-	1.0	
Natwest Markets	Jan * 1.4	2.3	3.0	-	0.50	59.0	3.0	-	
Nomura	Dec -	-	3.2	-	0.50	-	-	-	
Pantheon	Jan * 1.7	2.5	3.2	76.0	0.75	-	-	-	
Santander GBM	Dec 1.6	2.4	3.4	-	0.75	64.0	-	-	
Schroders Investment Management	Jan * 1.4	1.9	2.9	-	0.75	-	2.6	4.8 x	
Societe Generale	Jan * 2.0	2.4	3.5	-	0.25	-	2.5	-	
UBS	Jan * 1.9	2.7	3.6	-	0.50	63.5	2.0	-	
Non-City forecasters									
British Chambers of Commerce	Jan * 1.6	-	2.8	-	0.75	-	-	-	
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Jan * 2.2	2.9	3.7	81.9	1.00	65.0	4.6	3.1 z	
Cambridge Econometrics	Aug -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CBI	Jan * 2.3	3.0	3.2	77.5	1.00	56.5	-	1.6 z	
CEBR	Sep 2.3	3.1	2.6	80.9	1.00	-	-	-	
Economic Perspectives	Jan * 2.5	3.2	4.0	82.5	1.25	70.0	4.0	-3.0 x	
Experian Economics	Jan * 2.0	2.5	3.3	89.5	0.75	64.8	1.4	2.5 z	
EIU	Dec 1.8	-	2.4	-	0.50	63.0	3.7	1.3 z	
Heteronomics	Jan * 1.5	2.7	2.9	82.3	1.00	65.1	-	3.4	
IHS Markit Economics	Oct 2.2	-	-	-	0.75	63.8	2.9	-	
ITEM Club	Jan * 1.8	2.6	3.4	-	0.75	65.0	-	2.5 z	
Kern Consulting	Jan * 2.1	-	3.3	-	0.75	75.0	-	1.3 z	
Liverpool Macro Research	Jan * 2.1	-	3.1	80.6	1.25	-	-	-	
NIESR	Dec 2.0	2.2	3.8	-	0.50	56.2	-	3.9 z	
Oxford Economics	Jan * 1.5	2.5	3.0	82.5	0.75	64.3	3.0	2.0 k	
PWC	Dec -	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.1 z	
European Commission	Dec 2.4	-	3.3	-	-	57.4	-	-	
OECD	Oct 2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
IMF	Oct 2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months									
Independent	1.8	2.4	3.3	81.6	0.70	63.7	2.7	1.9	
New (marked *)	1.8	2.5	3.3	81.6	0.73	65.1	2.9	1.8	
City	1.7	2.3	3.3	79.7	0.6	63.4	2.7	2.1	
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months									
Highest	2.5	3.2	4.0	89.5	1.25	75.0	4.6	4.8	
Lowest	1.4	1.8	2.4	76.0	0.25	56.2	0.0	-3.0	
Median	1.8	2.5	3.3	82.1	0.75	63.8	2.9	2.0	
OBR	Mar	1.9	2.8	3.0	-	0.88	61.6	3.3	1.3

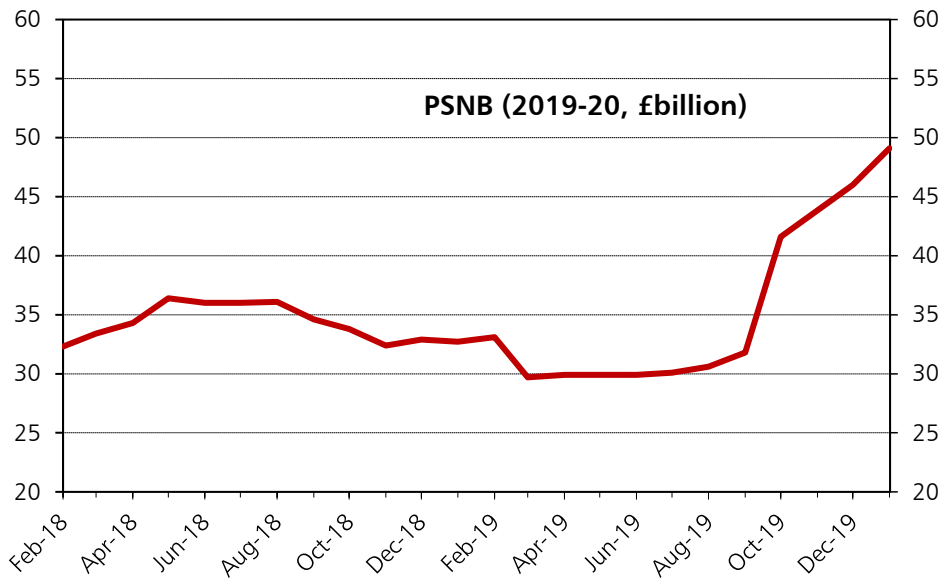
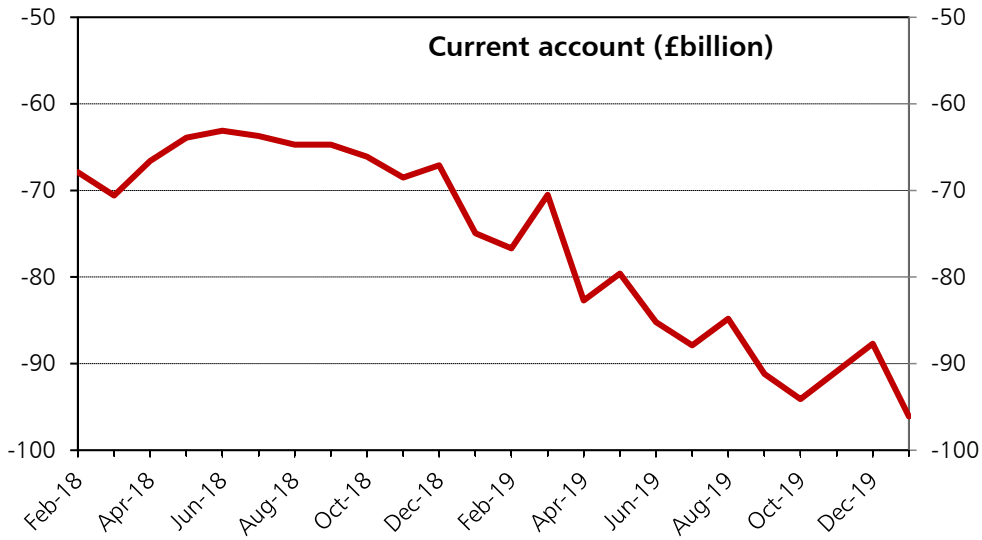
Table 6 - 2020: Growth in other selected variables (% change)

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 (Q4, £bn)	Productivity (output per hour)	PSNB (£bn 2020-21)
City forecasters											
Bank of America - Merrill Lynch	Jan *	-	-	4.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barclays Capital	Jan *	-	0.4	4.2	-	-	-	-78.7	-	-	-
Bloomberg Economics	Jan *	-	-	3.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Economics	Jan *	2.0	0.6	3.9	-	-	-	-112.8	435.0	0.7	75.0
Citigroup	Dec	-	0.4	4.2	-	-1.6	-	-87.1	445.0	-	44.6
Commerzbank	Jan *	1.5	1.0	4.0	1.4	-0.5	3.0	-90.9	-	0.6	56.0
Daiwa Capital Markets	Jan *	-	-	4.0	-	-	-	-	445.0	0.7	-
Deutsche Bank	Jan *	-	-	4.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	59.1
Goldman Sachs	Jan'18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HSBC	Jan *	-	-	4.4	-	-0.5	-	-	-	-	-
ING Financial Markets	Jan *	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
JP Morgan	Jan *	-	-	3.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morgan Stanley	Jan *	-	0.7	3.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Natwest Markets	Jan *	1.1	0.3	4.2	-	0.3	-	-76.0	445.0	-	71.0
Nomura	Dec	-	-	4.0	-	-	-	-	435.0	-	-
Pantheon	Jan *	-	0.5	3.8	-	-	-	-90.0	445.0	0.7	50.0
Santander GBM	Dec	-	-0.1	4.4	-	-0.4	-	-78.0	445.0	-	59.5
Schroders Investment Management	Jan *	-	0.6	4.0	1.4	0.7	-	-95.0	445.0	0.5	65.5
Societe Generale	Jan *	0.0	-0.1	4.3	-	-	-	-94.1	445.0	1.0	58.4
UBS	Jan *	-	-	-	-	-0.2	-	-68.0	-	-	-
Non-City forecasters											
British Chambers of Commerce	Jan *	-	-	4.0	-	0.3	-	-95.7	-	1.0	53.0
Beacon Economic Forecasting	Jan *	2.0	0.7	3.8	1.2	0.2	5.9	-91.4	435.0	0.8	48.7
Cambridge Econometrics	Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CBI	Jan *	0.6	0.4	4.1	-	-	-	-73.5	-	-	53.4
CEBR	Sep	1.7	0.5	4.2	1.3	-0.8	-	-	-	0.7	-
Economic Perspectives	Jan *	0.5	0.4	4.3	1.4	0.7	1.0	-70.0	425.0	0.5	65.0
Experian Economics	Jan *	0.9	0.5	3.9	1.2	0.8	-	-121.6	-	-	46.7
EIU	Dec	-	0.2	4.0	-	0.2	-	-101.9	-	1.1	-
Heteronomics	Jan *	-	0.4	3.8	-	-	-	-92.7	445.0	0.8	51.0
IHS Markit Economics	Oct	-	0.2	4.3	-	0.2	-	-	-	-	-
ITEM Club	Jan *	1.8	0.2	3.8	-	0.5	-	-87.4	445.0	-	55.0
Kern Consulting	Jan *	-	-	4.1	-	0.2	2.5	-88.0	-	-	54.0
Liverpool Macro Research	Jan *	-	-	-	0.8	-	-	-41.3	-	-	20.7
NIESR	Dec	2.2	0.2	4.0	-	-	3.4	-64.6	-	1.3	69.0
Oxford Economics	Jan *	1.8	0.3	3.8	1.3	-0.9	2.5	-88.2	444.5	-	46.2
PWC	Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Commission	Dec	-	0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OECD	Oct	-	-	4.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IMF	Oct	-	-	3.8	-	-	-	-99.6	k	-	-
Average of forecasts made in the last 3 months											
Independent		1.3	0.4	4.0	1.2	0.0	3.1	-85.8	441.4	0.8	55.1
New (marked *)		1.2	0.5	4.0	1.2	0.1	3.0	-86.4	441.3	0.7	54.6
City		1.2	0.4	4.1	1.4	-0.3	3.0	-87.1	442.8	0.7	59.9
Range of forecasts made in the last 3 months											
Highest		2.2	1.0	4.4	1.4	0.8	5.9	-41.3	445.0	1.3	75.0
Lowest		0.0	-0.1	3.7	0.8	-1.6	1.0	-121.6	425.0	0.5	20.7
Median		1.5	0.4	4.0	1.3	0.2	2.8	-88.1	445.0	0.8	54.5
OBR	Mar	1.1	0.5	4.1	-	-	3.9	-114.0	-	0.9	21.2

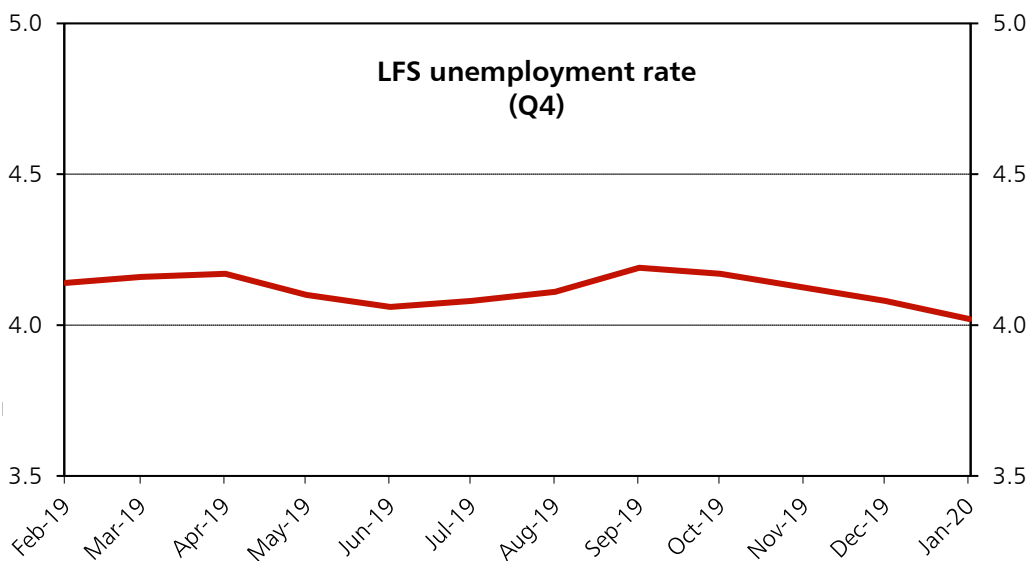
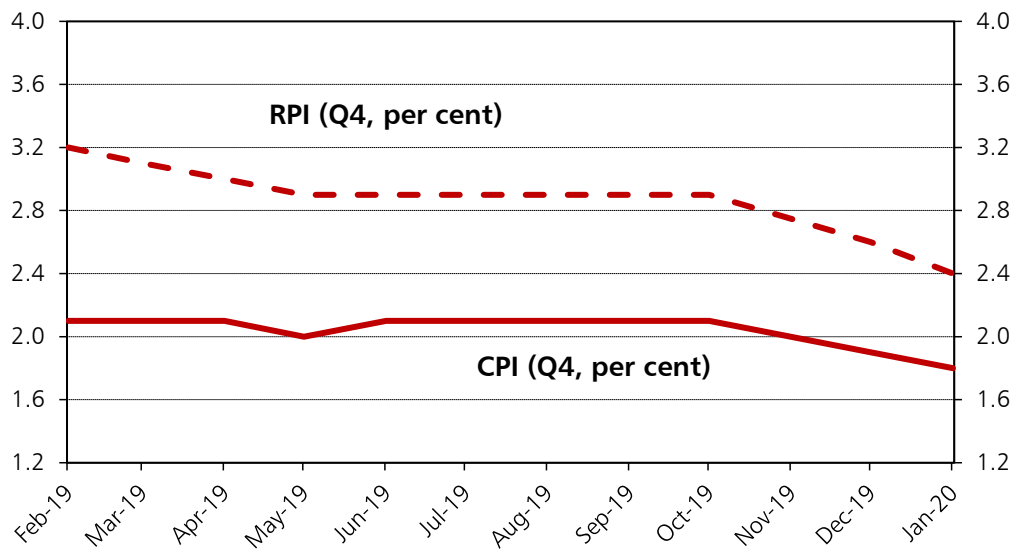
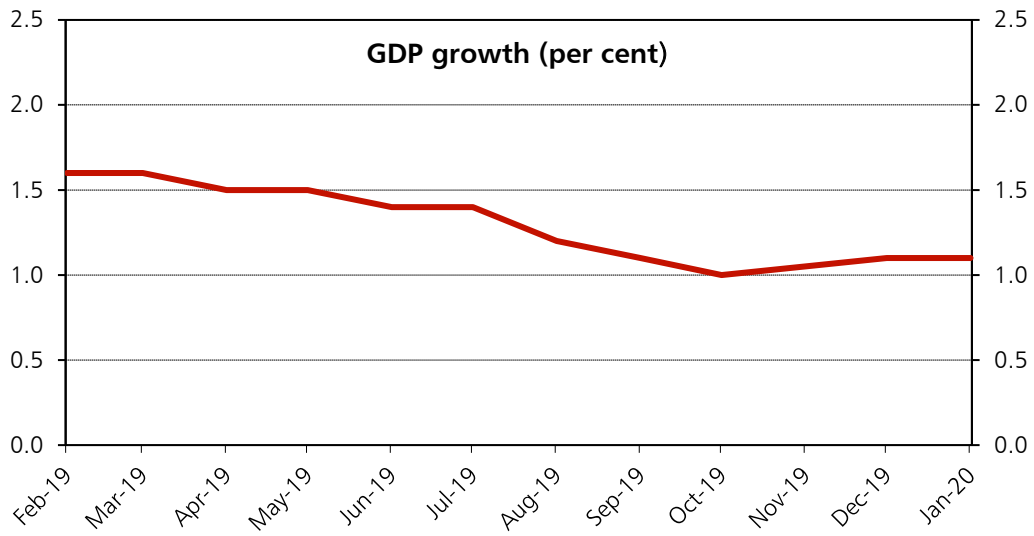
Average of independent forecasts for 2019; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation and unemployment



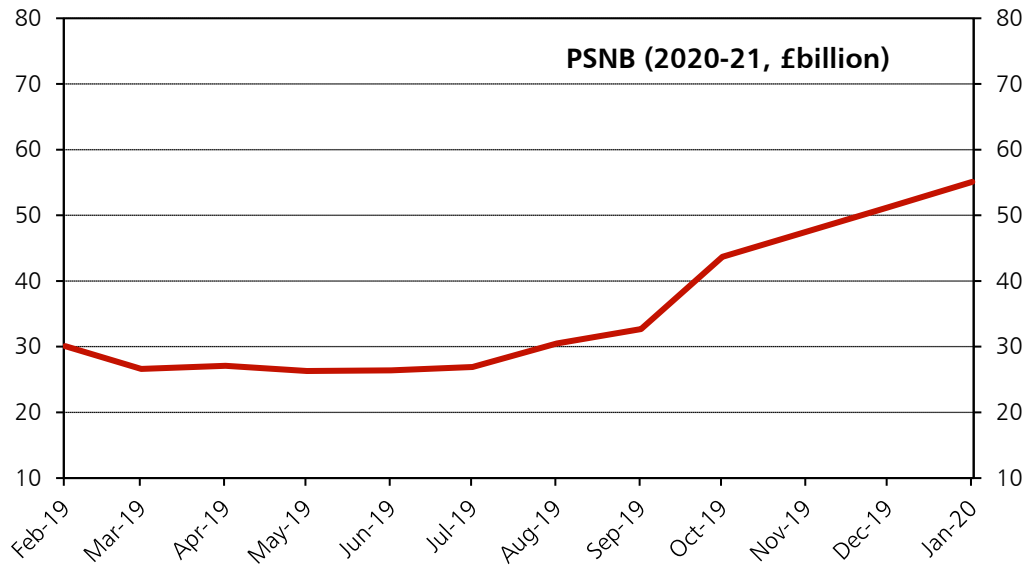
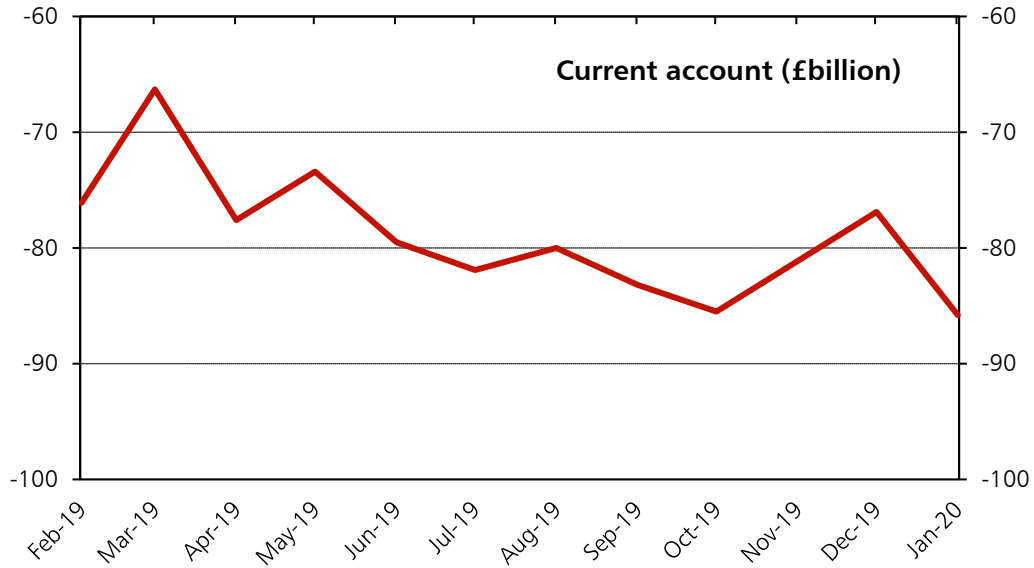
Average of independent forecasts for 2019; Current account and PSNB (2019-20)



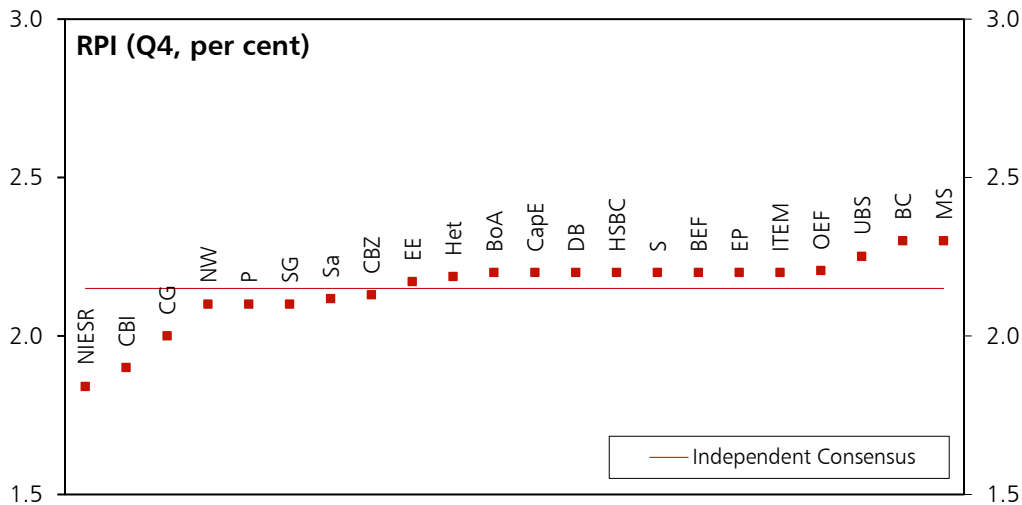
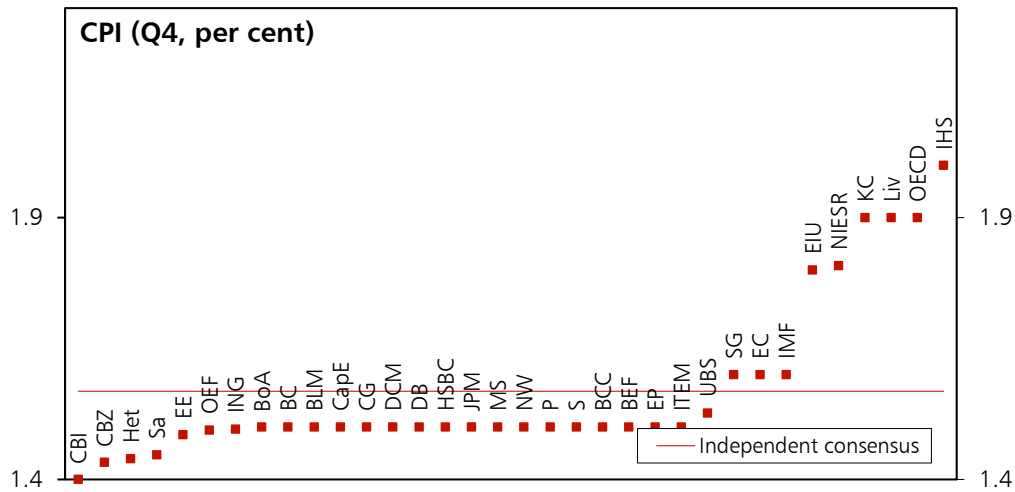
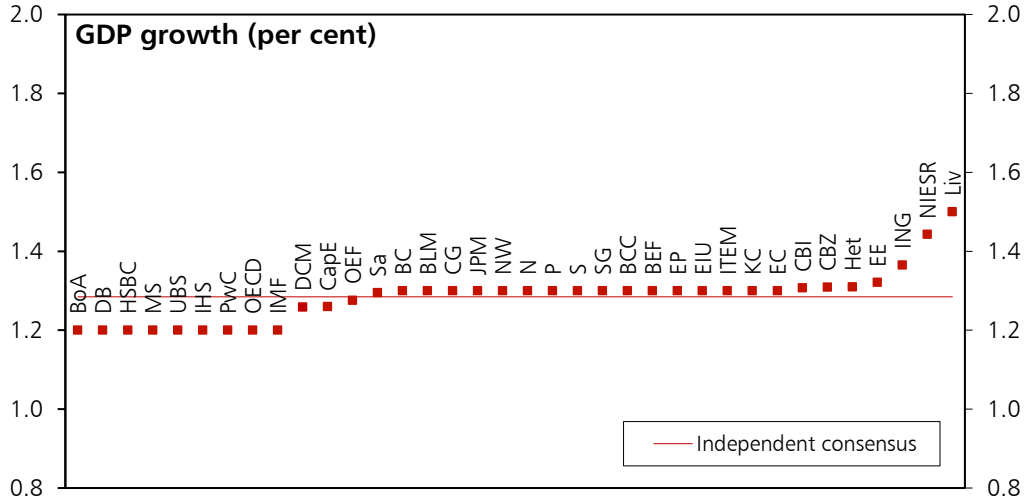
Average of independent forecasts for 2020; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation and unemployment



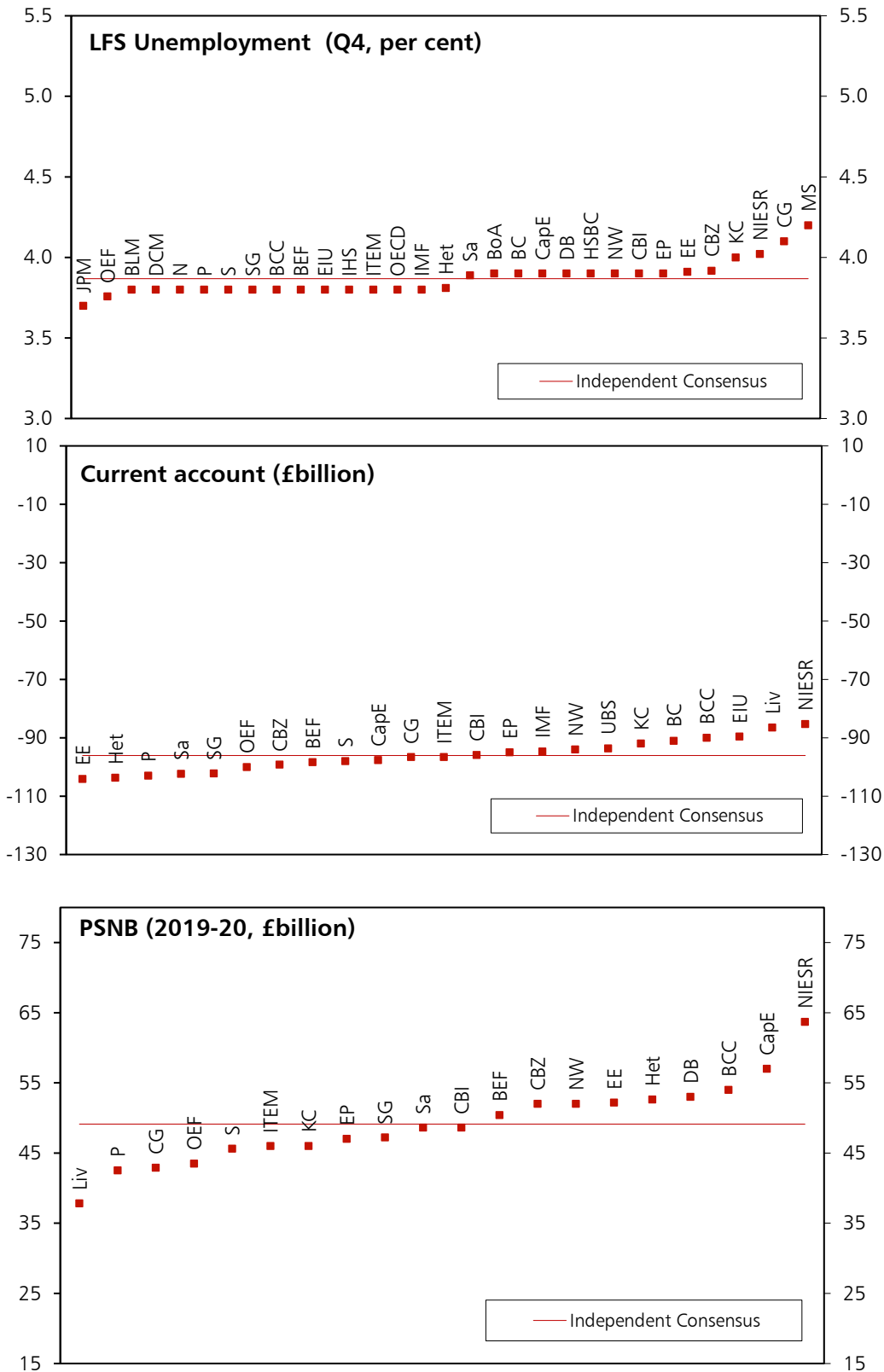
Average of independent forecasts for 2020; Current account and PSNB (2020-21)



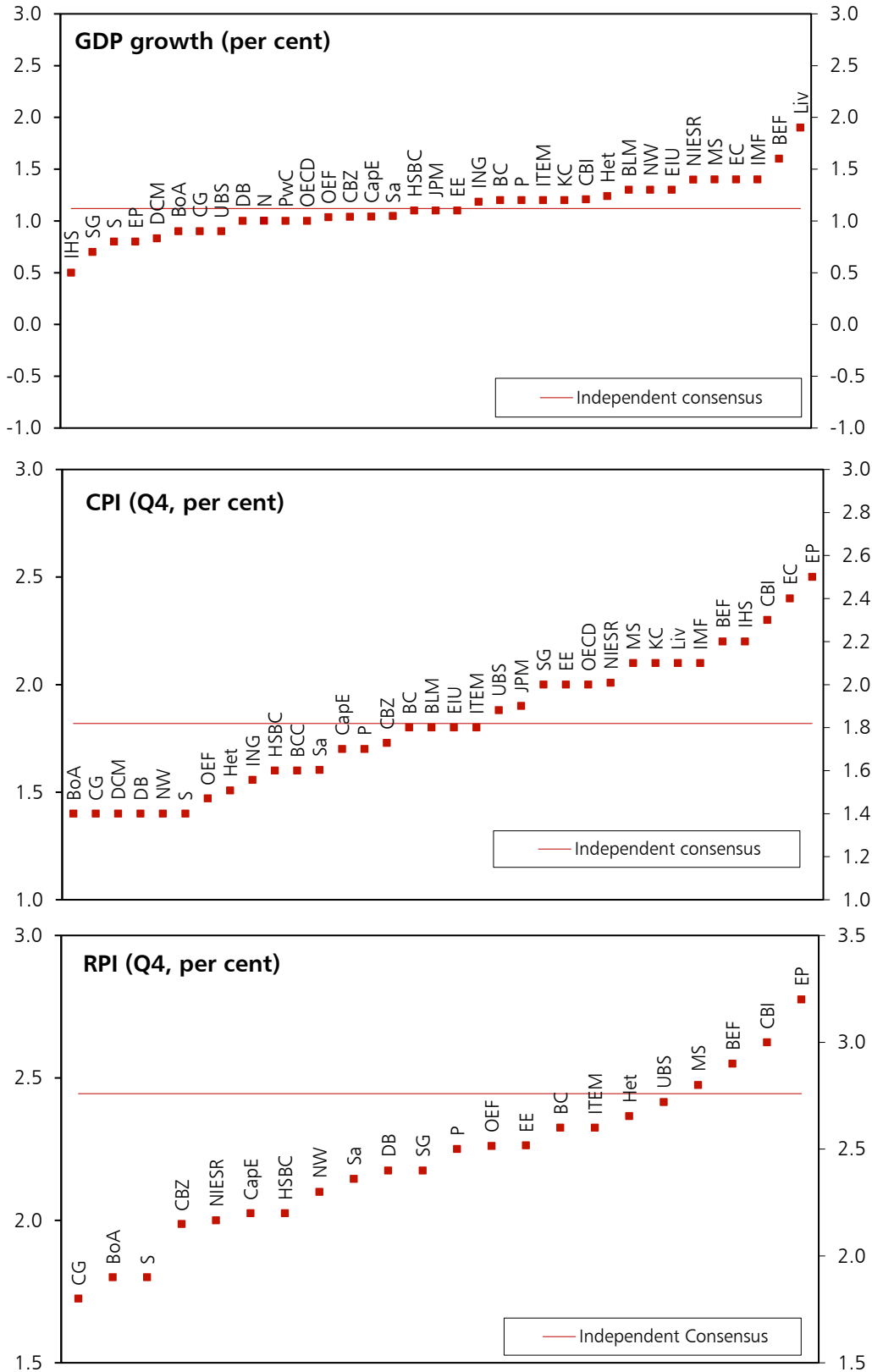
Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2019; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation made in the last 3 months



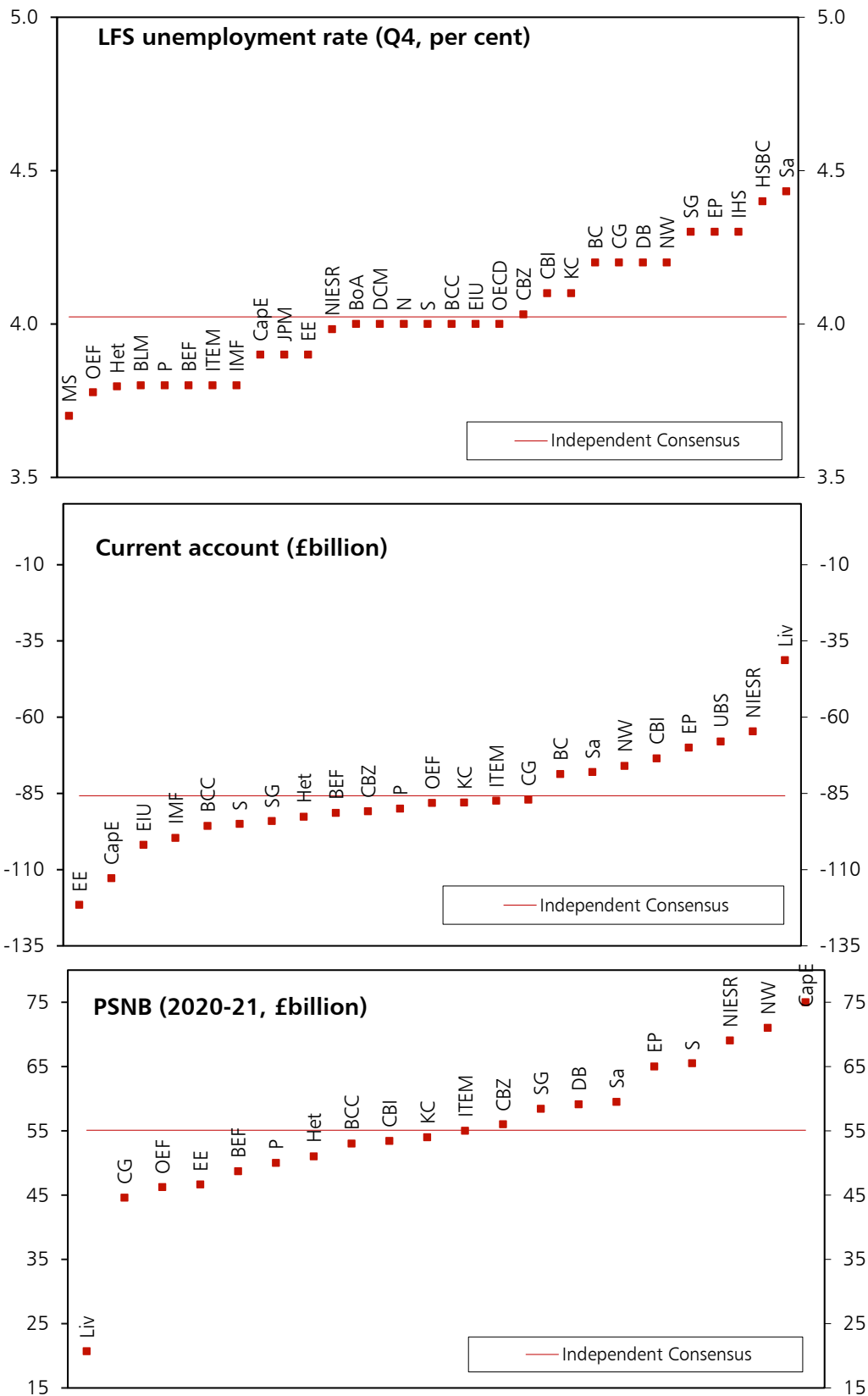
Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2019; LFS unemployment, current account and PSNB (2019-20) made in last 3 months



Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2020; GDP growth, CPI and RPI inflation made in the last 3 months



Dispersion around the independent consensus for 2020; LFS unemployment, current account and PSNB (2020-21) made in last 3 months



Annex 1: Forecasting institutions

BoA	Bank of America - Merrill Lynch
BC	Barclays Capital
BCC	British Chambers of Commerce
BEF	Beacon Economic Forecasting
BLM	Bloomberg Economics
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
IHS	IHS Markit Economics
GS	Goldman Sachs
Het	Heteronomics
HSBC	HSBC Global Research
ING	ING Financial Markets
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ITEM	EY ITEM Club
JPM	JP Morgan Chase
KC	Kern Consulting
Liv	Liverpool Macro 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
P	Pantheon
NW	NatWest Markets
Sa	Santander GBM
S	Schroders Investment Management
SC	Scotiabank
SG	Societe Generale

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 2, Code D7G7
RPI (Q4)	Consumer Price Indices release, Table 2, Code CZBH
Whole Economy Average Weekly Earnings (Total Pay)	Labour market statistics, Table 15, Code KAB9
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
Nominal GDP growth	National accounts, Code IHYM
Productivity	Measured as output per hour worked
House price inflation	Q4 on Q4 annual percentage change in house prices
RHDI	National accounts, Table J2, Code NRJR
Employment growth	Labour market statistics, Table JOBS01, Code DYDC
LFS unemployment rate (Q4, per cent)	Labour market statistics, Table 1, Code MGSX
Claimant unemployment (Q4, mn)	Labour market statistics, Table CLA01, Code BCJD
Manufacturing Output	National accounts, Table B1, Code L2XX
World trade in goods and services	Annual growth of world trade in goods and services
Current account (£bn)	Balance of payments release, Table A, Code HBOP
Size of APF purchases (£bn)	http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/markets/apf/index.htm
Public Sector Net Borrowing	Public sector finances, Table PSA 1, Code J5II

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
- q: Quarter on quarter a year ago
- 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 UK house price index
- aa: claimant unemployment rate
- ab: treaty deficit
- ac: Excluding Royal Mail Pension Fund & APF transfers
- ad: M4 growth
PSNB excludes the impact of financial sector interventions, but includes flows from APF of the Bank of England. Includes impact of Royal Mail's pension fund
- ae: of the Bank of England. Includes impact of Royal Mail's pension fund
- af: Excludes corporate bonds

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