

Wednesday 22 June 2022

Stian Westlake, Chief Executive of the Royal Statistical Society, said:

“Today’s figures help us understand the cost of living crisis, but they fail to give the full picture. The CPI was never designed to capture the actual experiences of households and it gives greater weight to people who spend more - so the experiences of those on lower incomes get edged out.

“Poorer households are being hit hardest by the crisis, so it’s essential we have an index that takes those of all incomes into account so the right policy choices can be made.”

Notes to editors:

- The RSS is calling for the development of the Household Cost Indices (HCIs) – currently published as experimental statistics by ONS – to be accelerated. The HCIs – unlike CPI and CPIH – are designed to capture the costs of different household groups.
- The latest experimental HCI figures show that in the last quarter of 2021, nearly all household groups experienced higher inflation than official figures indicated. Read the RSS’s release on this: [https://rss.org.uk/RSS/media/File-library/News/2022/We%20ad need faster development of- the Household Costs Indices if we’re to tackle the cost of living crisis says RSS 04-03-22.pdf](https://rss.org.uk/RSS/media/File-library/News/2022/We%20ad%20need%20faster%20development%20of%20the%20Household%20Costs%20Indices%20if%20we%20re%20to%20tackle%20the%20cost%20of%20living%20crisis%20says%20RSS%2004-03-22.pdf)