

RPI and SDLT – the silver lining of a flawed measure of inflation

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Keeping It Real Estate

With the Retail Prices Index back in the news again after rail commuters were hit by the biggest annual increase in fares for five years, the debate has resurfaced about whether it is time for the RPI to “RIP”. The Office for National Statistics has reiterated its assertion that the index is a “flawed” measure of inflation, but has observed that its use remains prevalent in both commercial and public sector contracts. Legislation compels the ONS to continue producing the RPI while at the same time also publishing its preferred Consumer Prices Index and the new CPIH Index which covers consumer price inflation including owner-occupiers’ housing costs.

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