
















Monthly bulletin: 20 August 2025

Latest data: Cost of living				Snapshot trend analysis	Next data update
Inflation	CPI inflation	3.8%		UK CPI Inflation was 3.8% in July, up from 3.6% in June. Transport, particularly air fares, made the largest upward contribution to the monthly change.	17/09/2025
	Food inflation	4.9%		Food inflation was 4.9% in July, up from 4.5% in the 12 months to June. This was the fourth consecutive increase in the annual rate and the highest recorded since February 2024.	17/09/2025
	Bank Rate	4%		Bank rate was 4% in Aug 2025, down from 4.25% the previous month.	18/09/2025
Fuel	Petrol (ppl)	134p		Average price of petrol was down by 57p in the week commencing 18 th Aug from its peak in Jul 2022.	Weekly
	Diesel (ppl)	142p		Average price of diesel was down by 57p in the week commencing 18 th Aug from its peak in Jul 2022.	Weekly
	Energy price cap	£1,720		Between 1 July and 30 September 2025, the energy price cap is set at £1,720 per year for a typical household who use electricity and gas and pay by Direct Debit. This is a decrease of 7% compared to the cap set between 1 April to 30 June 2025 (£1,849).	27/08/2025
Poverty & Income	Employment (16-64 working age group)	70.7%		In the year to Dec 2024, 364,700 people were estimated to be employed in Leeds, at a rate of 70.7% of the working age population. This was up from 69.6% in the previous quarter (Sept 2024) and below the national rate of 75.5%. Employment levels in Leeds have fallen since Apr-Mar 2023 when the rate was 76.4%.	Sept 2025
	Modelled Unemployment (16+ age group)	3.0%		In the year to Dec 2024, 11,800 people were estimated to be unemployed in Leeds, at a rate of 3.0%. This was below the national rate of 3.8%. This is one of its lowest rates both nationally and locally and is lower than its pre pandemic rate of 4.3% in Dec 2019.	Sept 2025
	UC claimants	101,964		103,761 people claimed UC in Leeds in June 2025. The number of UC claimants has increased by 16% since June 2024.	16/09/2025
	UC Claimants in work	33%	N/A	67.1% of claimants to UC were not in work, and 32.9% - 34,093 Leeds claimants were in-work in June 2025.	16/09/2025
	Real Living Wage	£12.60		From Apr 2025, the Real Living Wage for outside of London is £12.60 per hour. The National Living Wage for people over 21 is £12.21 per hour. In Leeds, the median average wage is £15.43. 51,377 residents earned below the RLW in 2024.	Nov 2025
Housing	Housing Affordability Ratio	6.46		With data to Sept 2024, Leeds house prices averaged £234,500 and wages averaged £36k, it cost the average full-time Leeds resident almost 6.5 times their income to afford a house. This is the lowest ratio recorded in the last 3 years.	Mar 2026
	Evictions	83		In Q1 2025, there were 83 evictions in Leeds. This is up from Q1 2024, when there were 78 evictions.	Sept 2025
Advice & Support	Welfare Rights Unit	310		In Jul 2025, 310 benefit checks were made by the WRU, down from 315 in Jul 2024. The annual figures show that queries are down 2% from the same point last year.	Sept 2025
	CAB enquiries	97,833		In 2024/25, total enquiries increased by 29.2% to 97,833 from 75,747 enquiries in 2023/24. Enquiries on Benefits & tax credits, Universal Credit, Debt, Utilities, Housing, Consumer and Foodbanks were the most sought areas of advice.	Sept 2025
	Food parcels	81,959		In 2023/24, 81,959 food parcels were given out informally. This is up 21% on the previous year.	Sept 2025
	Household Support Fund	74,496	N/A	In Q4 2024/25, HSF supported 74,496 households across Leeds. 78% of the support was on food and 13% on energy and water. YTD households supported is 265,427.	Sept 2025

Key:

Red arrow – negative trend

Amber arrow – trend remains the same

Green arrow – positive trend

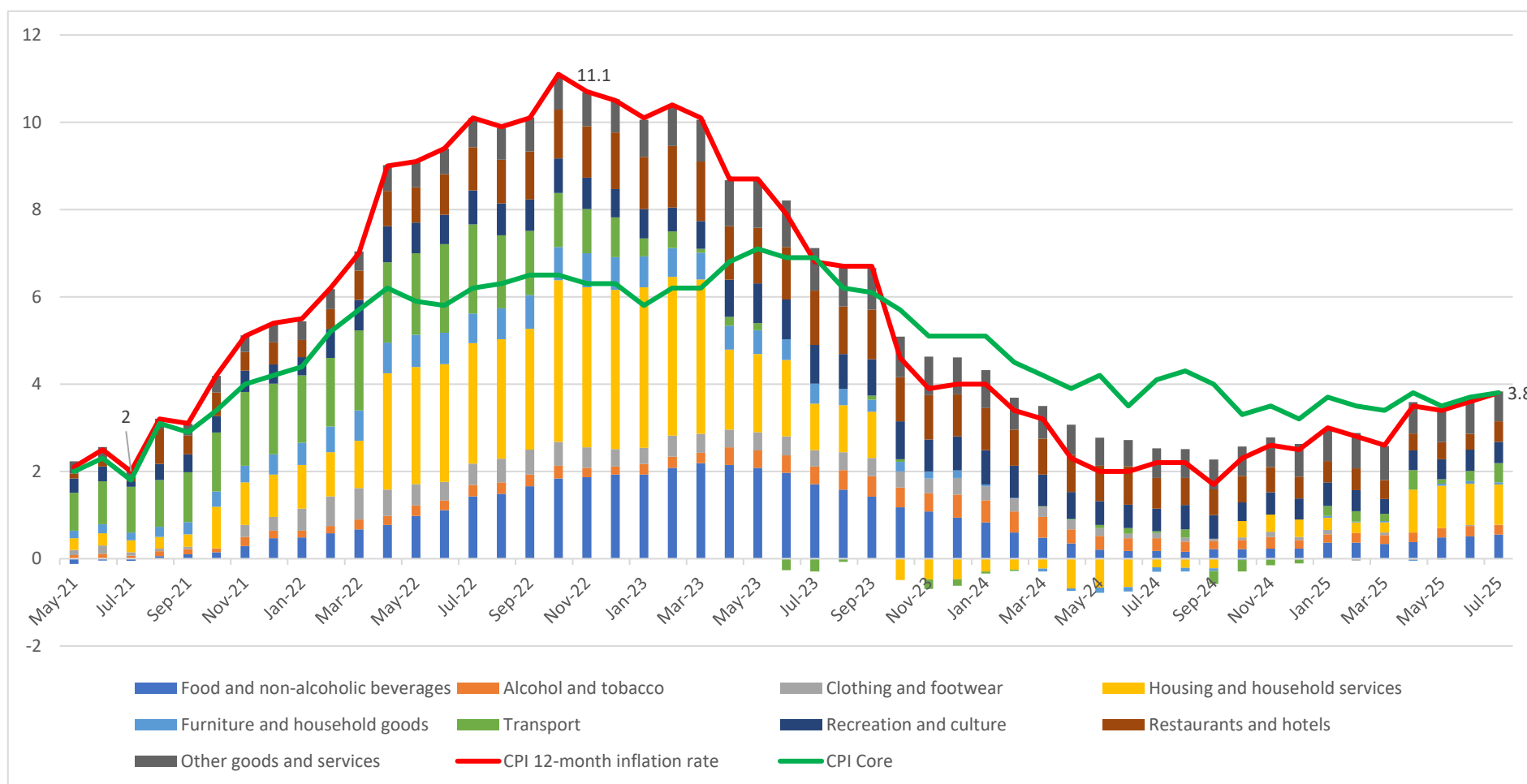
The next bulletin is due on 17th September to coincide with the next inflation release.

To access the live data, visit our dashboard: <https://observatory.leeds.gov.uk/home/cost-of-living/>

Monthly bulletin: 20 August 2025

Timeline of the Cost-of-Living Crisis

The Government target is to maintain inflation at 2%. This timeline graph displays key impacts on prices during the cost-of-living crisis. July 2021 coincides with Covid Lockdown rules easing and more spaces starting to reopen. From that point, supply and demand issues in the global economy, affecting fuel prices and food supplies started to push up prices and the cost-of-living crisis began to take effect, with inflation exceeding 2% and peaking at 11.1% in October 2022.



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Monthly bulletin: 20 August 2025

Trend analysis <i>The arrow direction reflects whether an indicator has gone up, down or remained the same. The RAG rating provides a visual analysis of whether a trend is positive, negative or remains unchanged.</i>				
RAG	Green arrow	Amber arrow	Red arrow	Further information
<i>CPI inflation</i>	Below 4%	Remains the same	Above 4%	Government target is 2%, however this bulletin is measuring performance since its peak in October 2022
<i>Food inflation</i>	Below 4%	Remains the same	Above 4%	Government target is 2%, however this bulletin is measuring performance since its peak in October 2022
<i>Bank Rate</i>	Below 5.25%	Remains the same	Above 5.25%	5.25% was the most recent peak for Bank Rate
<i>Petrol (ppl)</i>	Below 191.55	Remains the same	Above 191.55	191.55p is the peak price seen in July 2022
<i>Diesel (ppl)</i>	Below 199.22	Remains the same	Above 199.22	199.22p is the peak price seen in July 2022
<i>Energy price cap</i>	Below previous quarter	Remains the same	Up from previous quarter	This indicator is rated on a quarterly basis
<i>Employment (16-64 working age group)</i>	Up from previous quarter	Remains the same	Below previous quarter	This indicator is rated on a quarterly basis
<i>Modelled Unemployment (16+ age group)</i>	Below 4.3%	Remains the same	Above 4.3%	4.3% is the pre pandemic rate reached in Dec 2019
<i>UC Claimants</i>	-	-	-	This indicator is not RAG rated as UC claimants will continue to increase as more legacy benefits move to UC
<i>Real Living Wage</i>	-	-	-	This indicator is not RAG rated as RLW will continue to increase in line with the Cost of Living
<i>Housing Affordability Ratio</i>	Below previous year	Remains the same	Up from previous year	If this indicator increases, it shows that house prices are not affordable on current income levels
<i>Evictions</i>	Below previous year	Remains the same	Above previous year	RAG rating compares year to date evictions in Leeds to the same period the previous year as its baseline
<i>Welfare Rights Unit</i>	Below previous year	Remains the same/minimal change	Up from previous year	This RAG rating and arrow is based on the annual/YTD figures, as monthly/quarterly changes can be due to lack of resource rather than demand
<i>CAB enquiries</i>	Below previous year	Remains the same	Up from previous year	This RAG rating and arrow is based on the annual/YTD figures, as monthly/quarterly changes can be due to lack of resource rather than demand
<i>Food parcels</i>	Below previous year	Remains the same	Up from previous year	This indicator is rated annually
<i>Household Support Fund</i>	-	-	-	This indicator is not RAG rated as the data details the breakdown of how funding has been allocated

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