Bank of England

UK Economic Outlook 30 June 2023

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Inflation targeting worked...



... until recently



This inflation is not caused by strong demand and output... UK economy no bigger than before the pandemic



The pandemic, and then the war, led to very dramatic rises in the cost of imports



The price of what we buy from abroad rose very steeply, in 2021 and 2022, compared with the price of what we produce



Against a backdrop of a tight labour market...



...we have seen very marked "second-round effects" of high import prices/real income squeeze on growth of wages...



...and domestic prices (like those of services) as well

Headline and core annual CPI inflation



Some good news: at a wholesale level, prices of tradable goods – notably energy – have fallen quite a bit in recent months



Shipping costs, which rose dramatically after the pandemic, have fallen back significantly



The wholesale prices of manufactured goods have fallen... ..this has not yet been passed through to retail goods prices



Headline CPI inflation likely to fall in coming months

Average annual household utility bill (£)





May CPI inflation projection^(a)



(a) based on market interest rate expectations, other policy measures as announced

Summary

- Upside news in recent data
- A tight labour market and resilient demand
- We expect inflation to fall quickly this year
- But upside risks of persistent inflation remain
- We have raised interest rates to make sure inflation falls and stays low



