



# Consultation on planned changes to the Agents' national scores

August 2017

## Overview of existing and proposed scores:

Existing scores	Proposed scores
<b>Demand and output</b>	
Retail sales values	Consumer goods (values)
Consumer services turnover	Consumer services (values)
<i>The name of the above two scores will change — this is intended to provide clearer, more consistent labelling. There will be no change to the definition of the scores.</i>	
Business services turnover — professional and financial	Total business services including exports (values)
Business services turnover — other	
<i>The existing business services scores will be discontinued and replaced by one new score covering total business services. This score will continue to include exports.</i>	
	Total services exports (values)
<i>There will be a new score isolating export activity for the services sector.</i>	
Manufacturing output — domestic	Total manufacturing output including exports (volumes)
<i>The existing domestic manufacturing score will be discontinued and replaced by one new score covering total manufacturing output. This score will include exports.</i>	
Manufacturing output — export	Manufacturing exports (volumes)
Construction output	Construction output
Investment intentions — manufacturing	Investment intentions
Investment intentions — services	
<i>The existing investment intentions scores will be discontinued and replaced by one new score covering the whole economy, including construction and primary production as well as services and manufacturing.</i>	
<b>Costs and prices</b>	
Material costs	Material costs
Cost of imported finished goods	Cost of imported finished goods
Total labour costs per employee — manufacturing	Total labour costs per employee
Total labour costs per employee — services	
<i>The existing total labour costs scores will be discontinued and replaced by one new score covering the whole economy, including construction and primary production as well as services and manufacturing.</i>	
Manufacturers' domestic prices	Manufacturers' domestic prices
Retail goods prices	Consumer goods prices
Retail services prices	Consumer services prices
<i>The name of the above two scores will change — this is intended to provide clearer, more consistent labelling. There will be no change to the definition of the scores.</i>	
Business to business service prices	Business to business service prices

Existing scores	Proposed scores
<b>Profit margins</b>	
Profit margins — manufacturing	Profit margins
Profit margins — services	
<p><i>The existing profit margins scores will be discontinued and replaced by one new score covering the whole economy, including construction and primary production as well as services and manufacturing.</i></p>	
<b>Labour market</b>	
Recruitment difficulties	Recruitment difficulties
Employment intentions — manufacturing	Employment intentions
Employment intentions — business services	
Employment intentions — consumer services	
<p><i>The existing employment intentions scores will be discontinued and replaced by one new score covering the whole economy, including construction and primary production as well as services and manufacturing.</i></p> <p><i>This measure will cover employment in twelve months' time compared to the past three months, instead of the existing time period of six months' time compared to the past three months. This change should mitigate the risk that the score is influenced by purely seasonal factors.</i></p>	
<b>Factor utilisation</b>	
Capacity utilisation — manufacturing	Current capacity utilisation
Capacity utilisation — services	
<p><i>The existing capacity utilisation scores will be discontinued and replaced by one new score covering the whole economy, including construction and primary production as well as services and manufacturing.</i></p> <p><i>This measure will move from being a forward-looking score covering expected utilisation to capturing current utilisation over the past three months. Contacts typically have greater visibility on current utilisation and this revised score should therefore provide more reliable information.</i></p>	
<b>Corporate financing</b>	
Credit availability — <i>small</i>	Credit availability — <i>small</i>
Credit availability — <i>medium</i>	Credit availability — <i>medium</i>
Credit availability — <i>large</i>	Credit availability — <i>large</i>