



BANK OF ENGLAND

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News release

TARGET two
2.0 point
zero

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THE 12TH NATIONAL FINAL OF TARGET 2.0 – A CHALLENGE FOR STUDENTS

On Thursday 15 March six finalists will compete in the national final of Target 2.0: the Bank of England and The Times Interest Rate Challenge. The six teams are from: Brighton College; Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School, Elstree; Merchiston Castle School, Edinburgh; Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall; St Paul's School, Barnes; and The Grammar School at Leeds.

Looking ahead to the 12th national final of the competition, Charles Bean, Deputy Governor of the Bank said: "These are challenging times for policy-makers, and there are difficult judgements to be made about the course of the economy and the outlook for inflation. Each team will no doubt be preparing hard to analyse the current issues and data. The judges are looking forward to hearing the views, arguments and conclusions of the six finalist teams."

The teams take on the role of the Monetary Policy Committee. They present their assessment of the economy and the outlook for inflation to justify their monetary policy decision to a panel of four judges. Charles Bean, the Bank's Deputy Governor for monetary policy and member of the MPC will chair the panel and will be joined by Paul Fisher, Executive Director, Markets, and member of the MPC, Dr Martin Weale an external member of the MPC, and Anatole Kaletsky, Editor-at-Large of The Times.

Mr Bean will present the Interest Rate Challenge Trophy to the winning team along with a cheque for £10,000 for their school or college.

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Notes to Editors

1. There will be an opportunity for photographs and interviews with the teams at the Bank on 14 and 15 March, although space is limited: please contact the Press Office on 020 7601 4411.
2. If you would like to contact the participating teams, please contact the Bank of England Press Office for details.
3. Further information on the Interest Rate Challenge can be found on the **Target Two Point Zero pages**