

News release

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TARGET two 2.0 point zero

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The 16th national final of Target 2.0 – a challenge for students

On Tuesday 22 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: Kesteven & Grantham Girls' School, Loreto College, Coleraine, Magdalen College School, Oxford, Pate's Grammar School, Cheltenham, Saffron Walden County High School and The Tiffin Girls' School, Kingston-upon-Thames.

The teams take on the role of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). They present their assessment of the economy and the outlook for inflation to justify their monetary policy decision to a panel of four judges, three of whom sit on the MPC. Ben Broadbent, Deputy Governor for Monetary Policy, will chair the panel and will be joined Andy Haldane, Chief Economist and Member of the MPC, Martin Weale External Member of the MPC and Philip Aldrick, Economics Editor, The Times.

Looking ahead to the 16th national final of the competition, Ben Broadbent said: "I'm looking forward to hearing how the six finalist teams judge the outlook for growth and inflation, the balance of risks in the economy, and the implications for monetary policy. The presentations at the Target 2.0 Final never fail to impress and it is always an enjoyable day for the judges – I'm sure this year will be no different."

Mr Broadbent will present the Interest Rate Challenge Trophy to the winning team along with a cheque for £5,000 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 21 and 22 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 at: <u>http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/education/Pages/targettwopointzero/default.aspx</u>