

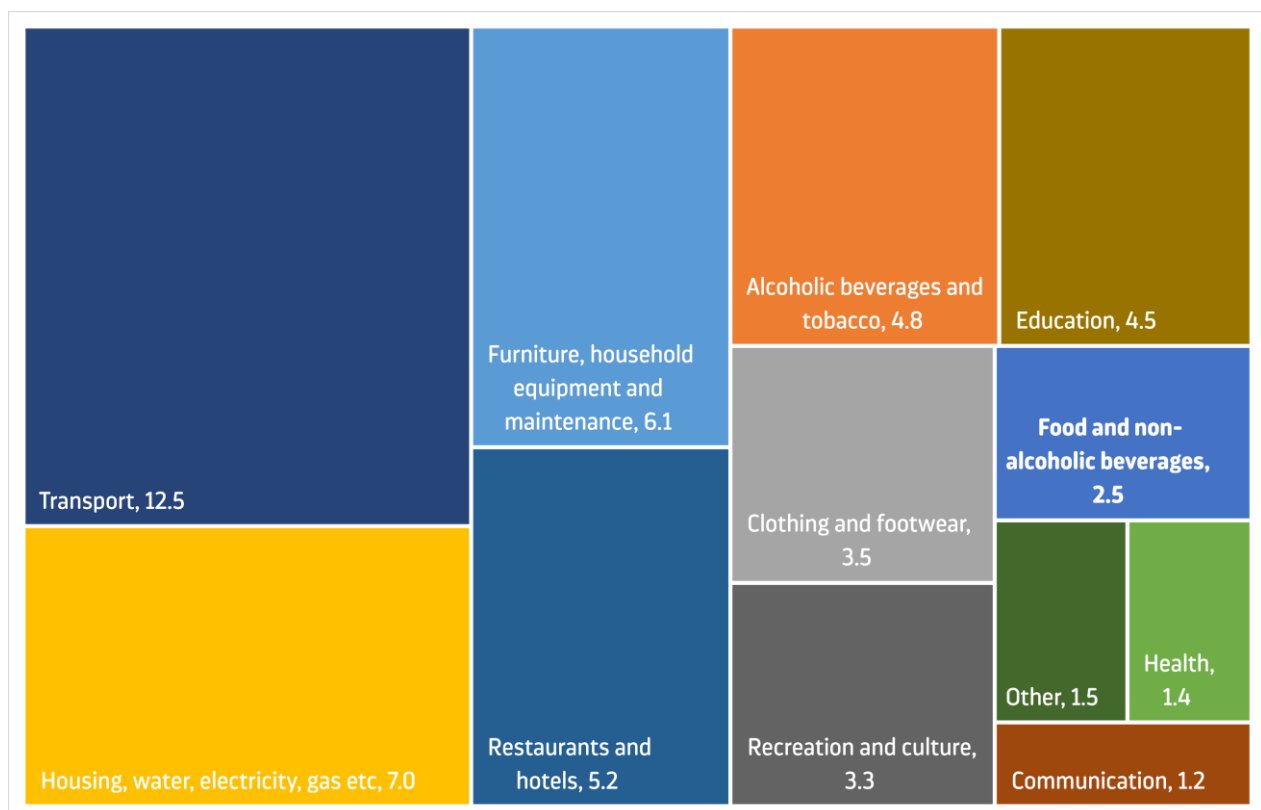
## CONSUMER INFLATION AND THE COLD CHAIN – NOVEMBER 2021

The latest inflation figures for the United Kingdom were released on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2021. They show that the Consumer Price Index (CPI) has hit 5.1% (year on year to November 2021), its highest level for more than 10 years. This briefing looks at the figures in more detail and how inflation is impacting products requiring cold chain. All the figures can be downloaded and explored on the [website for the Office of National Statistics](#).

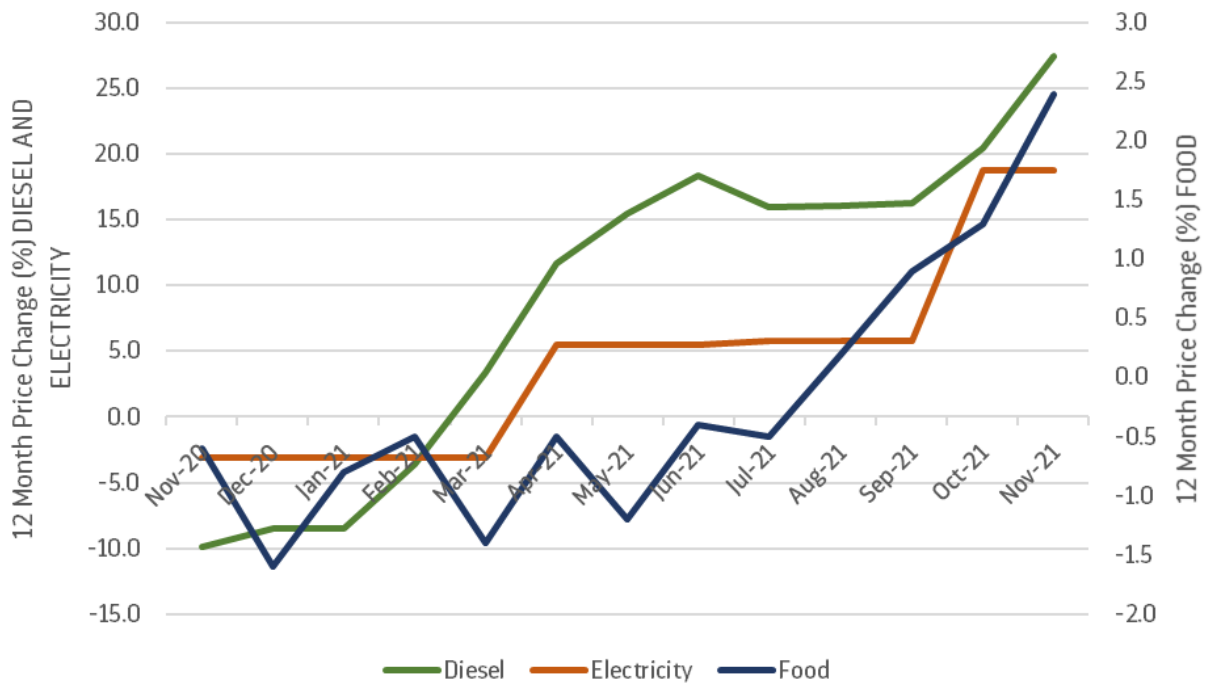
### Headlines:

- The Consumer Price Index (CPI), charting how the cost of living is changing has risen to 5.1% in November 2021, meaning that the cost of living has risen by this amount since November 2020.
- Overall, the rises are mainly being driven by transport (fuel) and utilities (gas and electric bills), with food seeing a 2.4% increase (2.5% when non-alcoholic drinks are included).
- After negative rates for the first half of 2021, food inflation has risen rapidly since August. The primary causes for this are likely to be corresponding increases in operating costs for food businesses most notably from diesel, electricity and labour.
- For some individual food products inflation is much higher than average and these are dominated by products requiring cold chain.
- Food inflation is being kept down to some extent by deflation in some ambient products such as flour and pasta caused by high prices in 2020 when they were in short supply due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

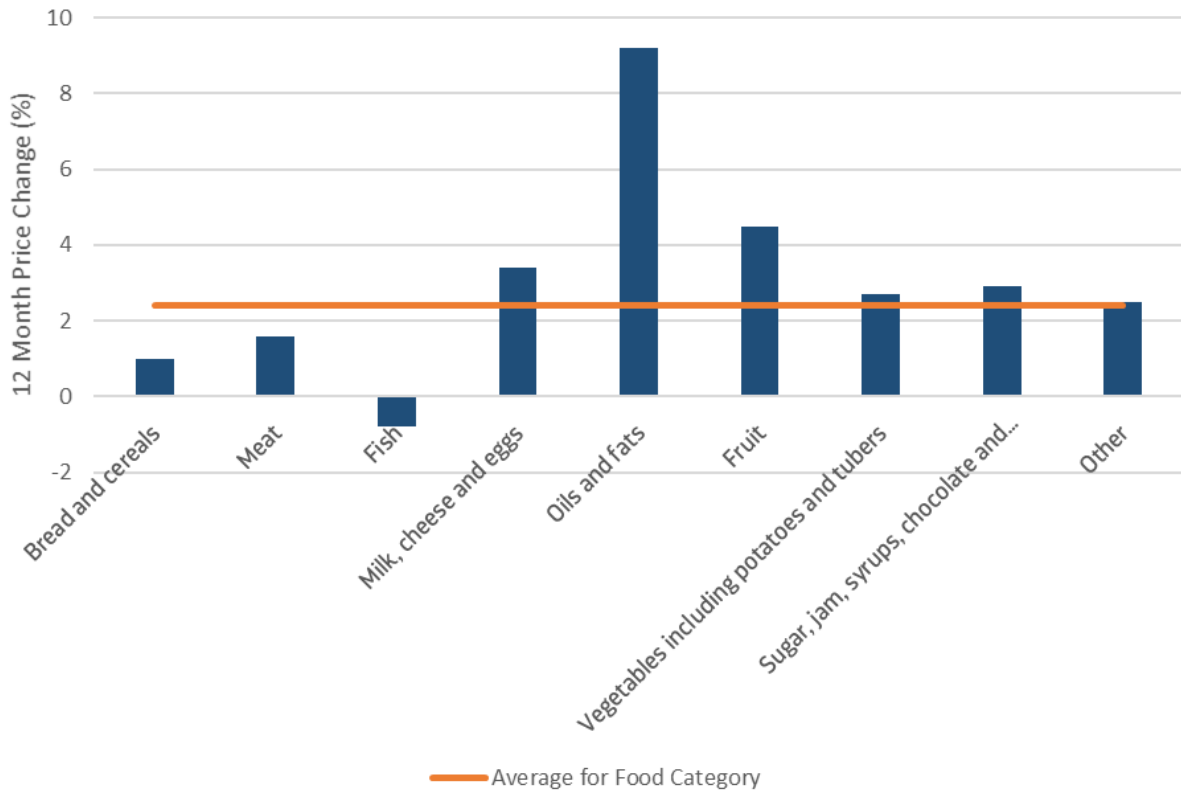
### 12 MONTH INFLATION IN CONSUMER PRICE FOR UK GOODS AND SERVICES (Nov 20 to Nov 21)



### 12 MONTH INFLATION IN CONSUMER PRICE FOR FOOD, DIESEL AND ELECTRICITY SINCE NOVEMBER 2020



### 12 MONTH INFLATION IN CONSUMER PRICE FOR FOOD CATEGORIES (Nov 20 to Nov 21)



## 12 MONTH INFLATION IN CONSUMER PRICE FOR FOOD PRODUCTS

### PRODUCTS WITH HIGHEST RATES OF INFLATION

Product	Y-O-Y Price increase Nov 20 to Nov 21 (%)
Margarine and other vegetable fats	14.5
Edible ices and ice cream	9.1
Butter	8.9
Edible offal	7.3
Crisps	7.3
Lamb and goat	6.9
Yoghurt	6.7
Whole milk	5.7
Eggs	5.4
Low fat milk	5.2
Beef and veal	5.1
Ready-made meals	5.1
Fresh or chilled fruit	5.0
Olive oil	3.8
Jams, marmalades and honey	3.8

\*Green denotes products requiring cold chain

### PRODUCTS WITH DEFLATION

Product	Y-O-Y Price increase Nov 20 to Nov 21 (%)
Cheese and curd	-0.2
Potatoes	-0.4
Dried, salted or smoked meat	-0.9
Other preserved or processed fish and seafood - based preparations	-1.0
Other tubers and products of tuber vegetables	-1.4
Fresh or chilled fish	-1.8
Other food products	-1.8
Pasta products and couscous**	-5.2
Pizza and quiche**	-7.6
Flours and other cereals**	-10.3

\*Blue denotes products requiring cold chain

\*\*Products subject to significant inflation in 2020 due to pandemic shortages