

Funding the Future

Article URL

Published: January 12, 2026, 5:14 pm

As the [Guardian notes](#) this morning:

Britain's retailers are suffering the sharpest drop in spending since the depths of the coronavirus pandemic as hard-pressed consumers tighten their belts as a result of soaring inflation.

The monthly health check from the British Retail Consortium (BRC) reported a third successive drop in activity as the cost of living crisis continued to bite.

But still, no doubt, the sadists at the Bank of England will be slathering over more interest rate rises this month, seeking to create further distress in an economy already suffering too much.